

Call for Entries of Film Festival ökofilmtour 2012 (German Environmental Film Tour 2012)

Seventh Annual Festival of Environmental and Nature Films **Global Environmental Protection – Biodiversity – Climate Change – Renewable Energies – Social Justice – Sustainable Future – Business and Peace**

Filmmakers, producers, television journalists, authors and editors from around the world are invited to take part in „ökofilmtour 2012“ (*Environmental Film Tour 2012*). This festival of nature and environmental films will take place January – April, 2012 in more than 70 festival locations in Germany. Two separate initiatives of the UN World Decade 2005-2014, “Education for Sustainable Development,” have provided an opportunity to create this festival: first, a competition for filmmakers to submit nature and environmental films, and second, the Brandenburg Children’s Environmental Cinema, which will be presenting these films during and after the festival to children in schools throughout Brandenburg, Germany.

Application: DVD copies of films produced no earlier than January 2009 may be submitted **until September 30, 2011**. The film topics should be thoroughly researched, highlight problems, and approach solutions in original, open-minded ways that take into account issues of life and survival. Film topics should be open to discussion, and lead to an exchange of ideas. *ökofilmtour 2012* is designed to be “Germany’s longest festival”, set up to engage all viewers, even children at preschool age, in a dialogue about the films.

Environmental and nature films, just like environmental education and developing a sensitivity about nature, fit the vision of the UN World Decade “Education for Sustainable Development,” which is “to provide educational opportunities to all people and to make it possible to acquire knowledge, values and ways of interacting to ensure a sustainable society.” Therefore, experts on environmental and natural protection, scientists, teachers and politicians will be invited to take part in discussions related to the films. The winning filmmakers will also be welcome to participate in the discussions, and are requested to notify the festival if they plan to do so.

Films of all genres will be considered, both film and television formats. Forty films will be nominated for the competition, including twenty films for children and young people in varying age groups. The nominations will be announced by the end of 2011. The festival intends, finances allowing, to acknowledge each winning film with a 5,000 Euro award. Five films will be selected by an independent jury led by Monika Griefahn; there will also be an audience award.

The prime minister of the federal state of Brandenburg Matthias Platzeck is the patron of the seventh Festival again.

Follow the competition online at www.oekofilmtour.de, where all screenings and venues will be announced.

We hope we have sparked interest in the competition, and are looking forward to exciting submissions! We wish all applicants the best of luck!

**Förderverein für Öffentlichkeitsarbeit
im Natur- und Umweltschutz (FÖN e.V.)**

Potsdam, August 1, 2011

Instructions for Submitting Films for the 2012 Festival

Submission of a film entails acceptance of the following terms and conditions.

1. **FÖN**, the Non-Profit Association for Public Awareness of Natural and Environmental Protection, was founded in 1991. It is a consortium of filmmakers, television journalists, authors, and educators. Using public outreach, literary and artistic methods, the members advocate for the protection of nature and basic living standards. They also promote training and education in the arena of environmental protection and conservation of nature. The directors of FÖN will coordinate the events which its environmental protection and nature conservation member organizations are organizing from January – April 2012.
2. **Film Selection:** The competition will consider and screen films as described the call for entry: nature documentaries, nature films, films for children and youth, feature films, short and animated films. There is no restriction regarding length, format, or genre. The production of the entries must have been completed after January 1, 2010. This includes the first broadcast or film premiere. The jury is responsible for selecting which films will be included in the program.
3. **Application:** The submission deadline is **September 30, 2011**. The submitter agrees to cover all submittal costs. The application requirements include providing a DVD of the film in screenable quality (even HD or Blue Ray) in German language or German subtitles and a paper copy of the completed application form. The form should also be attached to the emailed digital version of the film, along with two or more photos from the film for use in the program brochure and press materials. A short description of the film's contents and a biography of the director are required. Submitters whose films are chosen for the competition must provide five additional copies for the jury and five additional copies for screening at the different locations if the original version was copy protected.
4. **Video Archive:** All films submitted to the competition remain in the archives of FÖN. Submitters give FÖN the right to screen the film for noncommercial purposes and to distribute publicly and privately. Payment requirements (including licenses) are not included in this agreement.
5. **Video Library:** All DVDs which are submitted are automatically the property of the video library in Potsdam's Haus der Natur and in the Library of the Eberswalde University of Applied Sciences (HNE). During the festival, the films will be available for individual viewing (not for loan).
6. **Regulations:** The organizer, FÖN e.V., makes all final decisions regarding any questions that may arise, in accordance with the international guidelines for film festivals.

**Förderverein für Öffentlichkeitsarbeit
im Natur- und Umweltschutz (FÖN e.V.)**

Potsdam, August 1, 2011

Submission Address:

Förderverein für Öffentlichkeitsarbeit im Natur- und Umweltschutz (FÖN e. V.)

Festival Director: Ernst-Alfred Müller Dr. Jutta Schölzel
Haus der Natur
Lindenstr. 34 D - 14467 Potsdam Germany
Telephone: + 49 331-2015535 Fax: + 49-331-2015536
Email: foenpotsdam@googlemail.com Internet: www.oekofilm tour.de

ökofilm tour - Festival Awards:

- Potsdam City Award for Best Artistic Performance
- Hoimar von Ditfurth Award for the Best Journalistic Performance
- Award from the Brandenburg NaturSchutzFonds for the Best Nature Film
- Award for the Best Children and Youth Film
- Special Award from the viewers

Sponsors:

