

## 2018 Storyfest Award

### Official Rules

**NO ENTRY FEE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN.**

**VOID WHERE PROHIBITED.**

1. **Description.** The George Washington University (“University”) through Planet Forward (a project within the Center for Innovative Media at the University’s School of Media and Public Affairs) offers the 2018 Storyfest Award (the “Award”) as an opportunity for current undergraduate and graduate students in the United States.
2. **Eligibility.** The Award is open to any person who is (i) eighteen (18) years of age or older at the time of participation, or a team of up to four (4) such persons, and (ii) currently enrolled in an accredited undergraduate or graduate program located within the United States (“Entrants”). The Award is void where prohibited or otherwise restricted by law, rule, or regulation. All applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations apply. By participating, Entrants agree to be bound by these Official Rules.
3. **How to Enter and Qualify.** To enter and qualify for the Prize, Entrants must complete and submit (i) an online Award entry form and (ii) produce an original story about inventions and/or innovations that can move the planet forward (the “Story”). The Story should:
  - a) be on any of the following six (6) topics:
    - i. *Food*: How can people feed the planet, grow better food, and stop wasting so much of it?
    - ii. *Water*: How should people use water, conserve it, clean it, and get it to places that do not have enough of it?
    - iii. *Energy*: What are new ways to generate energy, make it cleaner, and use it more efficiently?
    - iv. *Mobility*: What is a better way for people to get around, reduce congestion, and minimize the impact on the environment and the climate?
    - v. *The built environment*: To build for the future, what are new materials, technologies, or designs that will make better homes, offices, neighborhoods, and cities?

- vi. *Biodiversity*: How do people recognize life, nature, and climate as a varying, but integrated system?
- b) fit into any of the following award categories:
- i. *Most Compelling Character*: Awarded to Entrants that create a Story featuring the most compelling main character (or characters).
  - ii. *Most Creativity in the Art of Environmental Storytelling*: Awarded to Entrants whose Story most creatively tells an environmental narrative using ingenious media formats or storytelling techniques.
  - iii. *Best Use of Science or Data in Environmental Storytelling*: Awarded to Entrants whose Story best exemplifies explanatory storytelling through either scientific innovation or quantitative data.
  - iv. *Best Scalable Innovation*: Awarded to Entrants whose Story best features a scalable and inspiring innovation that has the greatest chance to change the world within the next five (5) years.
  - v. *Most Ambitious Idea*: Awarded to Entrants whose Story best presents an ambitious idea or plan to improve the future.
  - vi. *The GW Prize*: Awarded to Entrants from the University who tell the best Story.
- c) be presented in one (1) or more mediums that best convey the Story including:
- i. *Video/Audio*: All video and audio submissions are limited to four (4) minutes of run time. If the entry is a documentary or a longer podcast, a trailer must also be created that satisfies the run time requirement.
  - ii. *Writing*: All written submissions should not exceed one thousand (1,000) words.
  - iii. *Photograph*: All photograph submissions should be a minimum of one hundred and fifty (150) dots per inch (dpi) and consist of between five (5) and fifteen (15) photographs with detailed captions.

All Story submissions must be original works produced by the Entrants that do not infringe the ownership rights of any other person or entity. All

data, facts, and claims must be cited through reliable sources in order to be eligible for the Award and Prize.

All Story submissions must be submitted in a format that easily allows for posting to the Planet Forward website. Entrants are allowed a maximum of three (3) Story submissions. The period to submit a Story for the Award begins on Friday, September 1, 2017, at 12:00 AM EDT and ends Friday, March 2, 2018, at 11:59 PM EST ("Submission Period"). Only Story submissions posted during the Submission Period will be considered for the Award.

4. **Selection of Winners.** A committee of journalists and sustainability experts unaffiliated with Planet Forward or the University will select and award the Prize to the Entrants with the best overall Story submissions (the "Winners"). The selection of the Winners will be at the sole discretion of the selection committee and based on the following criteria:
  - a) Quality of information and production;
  - b) Creativity in presentation;
  - c) Impact of storytelling; and
  - d) Scalability of the innovation shared.

There will be six (6) Winners from among the Entrants who compete in the Award. A Winner shall be selected for each of the categories noted in Section 3.b.

5. **Prize.** The Winners will receive a trip to Alaska aboard a ship with Lindblad Expeditions for a storytelling expedition (the "Prize"). The Prize specifically consists of a week's worth of lodging, food, and tuition on the ship; and costs associated with relevant expedition-led experiences in Alaska. Winners also may be eligible for airfare assistance to Alaska, on a case-by-case basis, after consultation with Planet Forward staff. All Winners are otherwise responsible for costs associated with air and ground transportation and all other personal expenses. Alcoholic beverages onboard ship, purchases in the ship's global gallery, gratuities, wellness treatments, internet cards and travel insurance are not included.

*For Winners that are part of a team, only one Prize will be available for the entire team. For the avoidance of doubt, the Winners from a team must designate only one team member to receive the entire Prize. In no instances shall a cash equivalent be provided to Winners from a team in lieu of the Prize or in exchange for the Prize's cash value.*

All Winners will be required to agree to and abide by all of Lindblad Expeditions' standard terms and conditions as a condition to redeeming their respective Prizes and embarking on the applicable voyages.

All federal, state, local, and other taxes associated with the acceptance and use of the Prize are the sole responsibility of the Winners. There are no Prize substitutions or options available. The Winners shall not be permitted to replace the Prize with another item or cash equivalent. The Prize is not transferable. The University reserves the right, exercisable at any time in its sole discretion, to substitute a prize (or portion thereof) of comparable or greater value if the Prize becomes unavailable. All Prize awards are at the University's sole discretion.

- 6. Winner Notification.** Finalists for the Prize will be announced on Friday, March 9, 2018 via email. The Winners will be notified at the Planet Forward Summit hosted at the University on Thursday, April 5, 2018, and Friday, April 6, 2018.

Additionally, if a potential Winner is found to be ineligible or if the potential Winner does not comply with these Official Rules, such potential Winner will be disqualified and, at the University's discretion, an applicable runner-up will be notified. All Entrants agree to comply fully with each provision in these Official Rules. Any Entrants attempting to defraud or in any way tamper with this Award and any Entrants who do not comply with these Official Rules, will be ineligible for the Prize. If during the Submission Period, for reasons beyond the University's control, the Award is not capable of running as originally planned, the University, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to cancel or modify the Award without liability, and to the extent feasible, will determine the Winners and award the Prize among Story submissions received prior to cancellation or modification.

- 7. License.** All Entrants, and specifically each Winner as a condition of receiving the Prize, hereby grants both the University and Lindblad Expeditions a transferable, irrevocable, perpetual, non-exclusive, fully paid-up, and royalty-free license to copy, distribute, publish, and display their individual Story on the Planet Forward or Lindblad Expeditions website (as applicable), at the Planet Forward Summit, and in other Planet Forward and Lindblad Expeditions marketing materials.
- 8. Use of Name and Likeness.** The Winners agree to allow both the University and Lindblad Expeditions to use their names and images on future Award promotional materials, with regards to the Planet Forward Summit and on their respective websites for promotional purposes.
- 9. Release of Liability and Issues of Law.** By participating, all Entrants release the University, Lindblad Expeditions, and each of their respective officers, directors, employees, and agents (collectively, "Released Parties") from any and all liability with respect to and in any way arising from participating in this Award and/or acceptance or use of the Prize. Released Parties are not responsible for lost, late, incomplete,

inconsistent, damaged, inaccurate, stolen, delayed, undelivered, or garbled Story submissions; or for lost, interrupted, or unavailable network, server, internet service provider, website; or for other errors or difficulties of any kind whether human, mechanical, electronic, computer, network, typographical or otherwise relating to or in connection with the Award, including, without limitation, errors or difficulties which may occur in connection with the administration of the Award, the Story submission, or the announcement of the Winners. Released Parties also are not responsible for any incorrect or inaccurate information, whether caused by other Entrants, tampering, hacking, or by any equipment or programming associated with or utilized in the Award. Released Parties are not responsible for injury or damage to any Entrants' computer or tracking device related to or resulting from participating in this Award. Entrants who tamper with or abuse any aspect of the Award, who act in an unprofessional or disruptive manner or who are in violation of these Official Rules, as solely determined by the University, will be disqualified. Should any portion of the Award be, in the University's sole opinion, compromised by virus, worms, bugs, non-authorized human intervention, or other causes which, in the sole opinion of the University, corrupt or impair the administration, security, fairness, or proper play, the University reserves the right at its sole discretion to suspend, modify, or terminate the Award and, if terminated, at its discretion and to the extent possible, determine Winners from all eligible Story submissions received prior to action.

**10. Governing Law; Parties in Interest.** This Award is governed by all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations. The local and federal courts of the District of Columbia shall have sole jurisdiction of any controversies regarding the Award and laws of the District of Columbia shall govern the Award. All Entrants waive any and all objections to jurisdiction and venue in those courts and hereby submit to the jurisdiction of those courts. Lindblad Expeditions shall be a third party beneficiary of these Official Rules for purposes of the third paragraph of Section 5 and all of Sections 7-10.

**11. Communications.** Any Entrants with questions or comments regarding the Award should contact [storyfest@planetforward.org](mailto:storyfest@planetforward.org).