
WIPO VIDEO PRIZE FOR INDIGENOUS YOUTH 2026

THE RULES

1. DEFINITIONS

- 1.1. **WIPO:** The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is an intergovernmental organization and a specialized agency of the United Nations. It has 194 Member States, and it is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. WIPO's mission is to lead the development of a balanced and effective global intellectual property ecosystem to promote innovation and creativity for a better and more sustainable future for all.
- 1.2. **Participant:** the individual or group of individuals that submit an entry under the present rules (the Rules).
- 1.3. **The Competition Platform:** The dedicated Competition Platform is accessible via <https://www.wipo.int/en/web/traditional-knowledge/youth-prize/2026>
- 1.4. **The Entry:** The submitted Video and associated information as outlined in <https://youth-prize.wipo.int>

2. PURPOSE

- 2.1. The WIPO Video Prize for Indigenous Youth 2026 (the Competition) refers to a video competition open to young individuals of Indigenous Peoples located in one of [WIPO's Member States](#).
- 2.2. Through the Competition, WIPO aims to celebrate and make widely known the creativity of young members of Indigenous Peoples, as well as raise awareness among them on how they can use copyright to protect the creativity expressed in their videos.
- 2.3. The theme of the Competition is "*Indigenous Peoples' Know How and Creativity in Action*". The entries would allow Indigenous Peoples' youth to showcase the traditional, yet creative, contemporary and dynamic nature of Indigenous know-how and creativity.

3. GENERAL

- 3.1. By entering the Competition, the Participant acknowledges having read and understood these Rules and agrees to be bound by them.
- 3.2. WIPO may amend these Rules at any time. Unless stated otherwise, amendments shall take effect immediately upon publication of the new Rules on the Competition Platform.
- 3.3. Entry in the Competition is free of charge.
- 3.4. Participants' personal information will be used by WIPO under the [Personal Data and Privacy Policy](#).

4. ELIGIBILITY

The Competition is open to individuals or groups of individuals who comply with the following criteria for eligibility:

- 4.1. The individual or group of individuals are members of an Indigenous People located in one of WIPO's Member States and are aged between 18 and 35 years old on the closing date for entries. Participants may be required to provide, upon request, an official document to prove their age.
- 4.2. The Entry must be received by WIPO by November 6, 2026, at 23:59 (CET). WIPO reserves the right to extend this deadline and will notify it on its website and via the Competition Platform.
- 4.3. A Participant may submit one individual Entry or join with others to submit a group Entry, but may not do both. Only one Entry per individual or group is allowed. Groups may include a maximum of 10 participants. The details of each group member must be included in the Entry form.
- 4.4. Employees of WIPO, its contractors directly involved in the organization of the Competition, the Judges referred to in Clause 6.5 below, their relatives up to the third civil degree (including by affinity), and anyone otherwise connected with the organization of the Competition are not eligible to participate.
- 4.5. At any point of the Competition, if the Participant does not comply with one of the requirements contained in these Rules, their Entry will be withdrawn as ineligible.

5. ENTRY PROCESS

In addition to eligibility criteria, Entries must meet the following conditions:

- 5.1 The Video must relate to the theme "*Indigenous Peoples' Know How and Creativity in Action*" and must meet the following conditions:
 - 5.1.1. The Video has not been published previously online.
 - 5.1.2. The Video has not been recognized and/or won an award in another platform.

- 5.1.3. The Participant must be the sole author of the Video, meaning that it is created solely by the Participant or, in the case of a group Entry, by the members of the group.
- 5.1.4. The Participant holds all rights in the Video (see Section 9) and has obtained permission to use any third-party content that it may include. Entries that feature background music must supply proof of authorization to use such recordings.
- 5.1.5. The Video does not include watermarks or any other similar markings.
- 5.1.6. The Video is in MP4 format and is between 1 and 3 minutes long.
- 5.1.7. The Video does not contain any subtitles or captions.
- 5.1.8. For videos that contain audio narrative, a script must be provided in the original language in addition to either Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese, Russian, or Spanish if the audio narrative is not in one of these languages. The script may be provided either in an SRT file or in the template word document available at <https://www.wipo.int/en/web/traditional-knowledge/youth-prize/2026>
- 5.2. Artificial Intelligence (AI) and other software generated videos are not accepted. Participants must declare any AI tools used in editing their video Entry.
- 5.3. Entries must be submitted before the closing date via the Competition Platform by completing all the required fields on the Entry form at: <https://youth-prize.wipo.int> and uploading the required documents as indicated in the Competition Platform.
- 5.4. The Entry must contain all the following elements in written form in either Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish or Portuguese:
 - 5.4.1. Title of the Video (the Title).
 - 5.4.2. A brief description by the Participant of how the Video is related to the theme and how it expresses the Participant's vision about the theme (up to 100 words) (the Story).
 - 5.4.3. A brief personal profile of the Participant, written by the Participant (up to 100 words) (the Bio). Where the Entry is submitted by a group of individuals, a brief personal profile for each of them needs to be submitted.
 - 5.4.4. A brief description by the Participant of the Indigenous People to which the Participant belongs, including the way(s) in which they are involved in the community and how their community would benefit if they were to win the Competition (up to 150 words) (the Affiliation).
 - 5.4.5. The full name, email address, postal address, telephone number, Indigenous People of the Participant, location, and country of the Participant. Information about the general equipment used to make the Video, e.g. video or photo camera, tablet, mobile phone.
- 5.5. Short-listed candidates or potential winners may be asked to provide a profile photo of themselves in JPG, JPEG formats (the Profile Photo), and a letter of support from their Indigenous People, such as an organization or other representative body, confirming that the Participant is a member of the Indigenous People in question.
- 5.6. Together the Video, the Title, the Story, the Bio, and the Affiliation are collectively referred to as the "Submission Documents".

6. ADMISSION/VOTING PROCESS

- 6.1. WIPO will review and decide, in consultation with the Judges referred to below, if the Entry complies with the requirements stated in the present Rules. WIPO may decide to remove without previous notice any Entry from the Competition if the Entry does not comply with the present Rules.
- 6.2. Entries that contain content that is infringing, threatening, false, misleading, abusive, harassing, libelous, defamatory, vulgar, obscene, scandalous, inflammatory, pornographic, or profane will be rejected.
- 6.3. Accepted Videos may be published by WIPO on its website and/or on the designated Competition Platform and/or in a video exhibition together with the Participant's full name and, where appropriate and possible, the Submission Documents. WIPO retains full discretion as to whether and when to publish any or all the accepted Videos in accordance with the present Rules.
- 6.4. Accepted Videos will be judged by a panel of three Judges referred to in Clause 6.5 below during the judging period, according to the Schedule referred to in Section 8.
- 6.5. The three Judges will be internationally recognized Indigenous video makers with suitable experience in judging and reviewing video competitions.
- 6.6. Accepted Videos will be judged based on their expression of the theme, originality, creativity, and artistic expression, inspirational power, visual appeal, and community-related impact, among others. The Story and the Affiliation accompanying each Video will also be taken into account.
- 6.7. Accepted Videos will be judged on a technology-neutral basis, that is, without considering the use of professional or special equipment.
- 6.8. Accepted Videos will not be judged by assessing the Participant's technical and practical experience or writing skills (in so far as the Story, the Bio and the Affiliation are concerned).
- 6.9. The Videos shortlisted by the Judges will be announced according to the Schedule referred to in Section 8 on the WIPO website. The shortlisted Participants will be informed about this through the Competition Platform, and/or by email, and/or by telephone.
- 6.10. The shortlisted Videos will also be published by WIPO on the Competition Platform for the purpose of an online public vote to select the winner of the People's Choice Prize. The Video that attracts the highest number of votes in the online public vote will be declared the winner of the People's Choice Prize.
- 6.11. Among the shortlisted Videos, the Judges will select the winners, who will be announced according to the Schedule referred to in Section 8 on the WIPO website. The winners will be informed about this through the Competition Platform, and/or by email, and/or by telephone.
- 6.12. The Judges and WIPO will decide the final number of winners.
- 6.13. All decisions by WIPO and the Judges are final.

7. AWARDS

7.1. The winners will receive awards as follows:

- 7.1.1. First Prize: digital equipment to the maximum value of USD 4,000.
- 7.1.2. Second Prize: digital equipment to the maximum value of USD 3,000.
- 7.1.3. Third Prize: digital equipment to the maximum value of USD 2,000.
- 7.1.4. People's Choice Prize: digital equipment to the maximum value of USD 1,000.
- 7.1.5. The producers of the top 15 Entries will benefit from training opportunities offered by the WIPO Academy.

7.2. In addition to the above awards, and depending on the number of Entries received, the Judges and WIPO may select a number of "honorable mentions" and decide on the nature and allocation of awards accordingly.

7.3. Awards are non-transferable to another person.

7.4. Winners will be contacted by email to confirm the address to which the prizes are to be dispatched. The shipping costs of the prizes for the top three winners and the People's Choice Prize shall be borne by WIPO. Delivery times may vary depending on the destination country. WIPO is not responsible for any delays in delivery. Winners are responsible for the payment of any other prize-related expenses, including taxes in their home country.

7.5. In the event that a winner is unreachable, ineligible, or declines the prize, WIPO reserves the right to offer the prize to another Participant in the Competition.

8. SCHEDULE

WIPO will make its best efforts to follow the Schedule of the Competition as indicated below.

Competition launch	September 21, 2026
Closing date for submitting Entries	November 6, 2026, 23:59 CET
Evaluation of the submitted Entries and the selection of the shortlisted and the winning Entries by the Judges	November 25, 2026
Announcement of the shortlisted Entries (the Finalists)	November 30, 2026
Opening of the online public vote for the People's Choice Prize	November 30 to December 15
Announcement of the winning Entries (the winners)	March 2027

9. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

9.1. The Participant acknowledges, warrants, and represents that:

- 9.1.1. The Participant owns all copyright and any other rights necessary for the submission of the Entry and the grant of the license referred to in Clause 9.4 below. The Participant further confirms that all necessary permissions have been obtained from the relevant right holders to the extent that the Entry contains content protected by copyright and other intellectual property rights.
- 9.1.2. The Entry does not violate any copyrights, trademarks, patents, trade secrets, industrial designs, distinctive signs, contractual obligations, including Indigenous Peoples' customary law that protects traditional knowledge and/or traditional cultural expressions, or any other intellectual property rights or other proprietary rights of any third-party.
- 9.1.3. The Entry does not violate any person's rights of privacy, including but not limited to names or other characteristics identifying celebrities or other public figures, living or dead.
- 9.1.4. The Participant does not impersonate or attempt to impersonate another person or group of people when entering the Competition.
- 9.1.5. The Video was taken in a cruelty-free environment without harming or threatening to harm any person, animal, or plant.
- 9.1.6. Any individuals identified or identifiable in the Video have consented to be included as shown in the Video, for the purpose of entry into the Competition and the license granted to WIPO in Clause 9.4 below.
- 9.1.7. The Indigenous People has, if required by them, consented to the use and/or display of traditional knowledge and/or traditional cultural expressions in the Video. The same applies to the use and/or display in the videos of (i) the likeness, image and/or name of any deceased member of the Indigenous People and (ii) any sacred, secret or sensitive content.
- 9.1.8. All other relevant permissions must have been obtained.
- 9.2. Each Participant agrees to release and hold WIPO harmless from and against all claims, expenses and liabilities relating to infringement of any intellectual property rights or any other rights of any third party arising out of their participation in the Competition and the content of their Entry.
- 9.3. WIPO does not obtain or claim any copyright in the Videos or the Submission Documents.
- 9.4. Participants hereby grant WIPO a non-exclusive, non-commercial, royalty-free, and worldwide license as from the date of Entry to use, publicly display, exhibit, reproduce, distribute, communicate to the public, broadcast, translate, and store their Videos in any format, medium or form. Any such uses by WIPO shall be solely for the purpose of its educational, promotional, and capacity-building work as an intergovernmental organization and a specialized agency of the United Nations (the Purpose) and related archive use. WIPO shall not make commercial use of the Videos and/or the Entries.
- 9.5. Participants grant WIPO the same license as that referred to in Clause 9.4 above to use the Submission Documents, provided the use of these Documents is made in conjunction with the Participant's Video and is for the Purpose mentioned in Clause 9.4 above.
- 9.6. WIPO will attribute the Participant whenever it uses the Participant's Video and the Submission Documents. The Participant agrees and consents to WIPO's use of their name and likeness in any communication, publication, or promotion of the Competition and/or the Video, without any compensation or notice.

- 9.7. WIPO will make reasonable efforts not to compromise the integrity of the Video. No changes, edits, or alterations will be made to the Video without the prior written consent of the Participant, except for reasonable changes to the Video necessary for the medium in which the Video is used.
- 9.8. When using, displaying, or reproducing a Video, and if so requested by the Participant, WIPO will make an attribution in respect of traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions in a Video in accordance with paragraph 9.1.7 above.
- 9.9. Participants are advised that basic information on copyright is available on the Competition Platform and are encouraged to study that material before submitting an Entry.

10. GENERAL DISCLAIMER

- 10.1. No Participant is allowed to use the WIPO name or logo on Videos produced by them or on any other creative works without prior written permission from WIPO.
- 10.2. While WIPO makes every effort to ensure that its Competition Platform and online services are free of any software virus, it cannot guarantee that they are free from any or all software viruses. WIPO is not responsible for any loss or damage caused by the use of its Competition Platform.
- 10.3. WIPO will not be held responsible for any unauthorized use made by a third party of the Videos submitted to the Competition.
- 10.4. WIPO may cancel the Competition at any time without any future obligation.
- 10.5. Nothing in or relating to these Rules shall be deemed or interpreted as a waiver of any of the privileges and immunities accorded to WIPO as an intergovernmental organization and a specialized agency of the United Nations.

11. DISPUTES

Any dispute relating to these Rules shall be referred to and finally determined by arbitration in accordance with UNCITRAL Rules, then in force. The appointing authority shall be the Secretary General of the Permanent Court of Arbitration. The place of arbitration shall be Geneva. The Parties shall be bound by any arbitration award rendered as a result of such arbitration as the final adjudication of such a dispute.