



Environment, n.

1 : the circumstances, objects, or conditions that surrounds one

2 a : the cluster of physical, chemical, and living factors (as climate, soil, and living things) that act upon an organism or an ecological community and ultimately determine its form and survival

2 b : the sum of social and cultural conditions that influence the life of an individual or community

Calling all youth filmmakers!

The Listen Up! Youth Media Network, in partnership with [Adobe Youth Voices](#), a global philanthropic youth media initiative, will launch **Beyond Green**, an international documentary film project that asks filmmakers worldwide, ages 13-19, to explore the environment in which they live. They'll answer two important questions:

How do you and people in your community interact with the environment? Is there a better way?

Listen Up! will select up to 15 production teams worldwide to each make a short documentary film that explores the physical and cultural environments around them. The teams will be given a \$10,000 production award, lots of support, and an opportunity to have their work broadcast on TV.

Deadline for Submission EXTENDED to Friday July 13th at 5:00pm EST
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About

Listen Up! is looking for talented filmmakers, ages 13-19, to tell personal stories about teenagers who've made it their business to learn about the environment around them...and what they're doing about it. The goal? To produce a broadcast quality 4-6 minute film that answers two important questions:

How do you and people in your community interact with the environment? Is there a better way?

We're not looking solely for stories about youth who have it all figured out. For some, thinking and working on the environment around them comes naturally. For others, it might be new territory. Listen Up! also wants stories from every corner of the planet and from a wide range of cultures, languages, religions and political philosophies.

No matter where they're from or how easy or difficult it may be, the featured youth must talk openly about how their lives, community and culture impact the environment...and how they're attempting to reshape the future.

History

At Listen Up! our mission is to connect young video producers and their allies to resources, support, and projects in order to develop the field and achieve an authentic youth voice in the mass media. With the support of our parent non-profit production company, Learning Matters, Inc., and its award-winning documentary filmmakers, Listen Up! has a history of helping youth get their work on TV:

[Can you put a graphic for each film listed below?]

- 2002 "America's Youth Speak Out" public service campaign
<http://www.listenup.org/screeningroom/index.php?view=bc07ca6898c6c71e88dbc3ebcf086daa> ["Do Stuff."]
- 2004 "The Way We See It: Youth Speak Out on Education,"
<http://www.listenup.org/screeningroom/index.php?view=841c8eee5526b9d6c64e3081d80909e0>] ["A Story of Promise."]
- 2006 "Beyond Borders: Personal Stories from a Small Planet,"
<http://www.listenup.org/screeningroom/index.php?view=2c95035daaa5dcc00ca2fab8aa7c99f4>] ["Sahar: Before the Sun."]

Support

If selected, your organization will receive a US\$10,000 award for the production of a 4-6 minute documentary film. Plus:

Software Adobe editing software

Peer Support Filmmakers will support each other online, by phone and exchange of films.

Adult Mentorship Filmmakers will be supported by local adult mentors.

Listen Up! Listen Up! will be on hand to support you throughout the production process.

Site Visits Listen Up! may arrange for a site visits subject to need and availability.

Timeline

If selected, you will work with other youth teams worldwide over four months to produce the final 4-6 minute documentary film.

May 18 th - June 29 th	Application online
June 29 th	Deadline for applications
July 2 nd - August 15 th	Selected sites notified; final production timelines identified

Sept 3rd - Nov 16th
Nov 16th - Dec 14th
December 14th

Principal Development and Production
Re-shoots and Editing
Final Cut Deadline

Terms and Eligibility

Site Selection

- Only current members of the Listen Up! Youth Media Network are eligible for production awards. (Not a member? Sign up (**link to: membership application here.**)
- Listen Up! will consider any youth media organization that has a proven track record willing to (link to : application) join our network.
- Not a youth media organization? Organizations working around issues of the environment can either partner with local youth media organizations or demonstrate that they have the capacity and experience to execute this project. Awards will not be made to individual persons.
- The production award will be dispersed in three payments: 1) upon completion of story treatment (US\$4000) 2) upon review of rough-cut film (US\$3000) and 3) upon submission of a final cut film and project evaluation (US\$3000). Each allocation is dependent on completion of project deadlines and production tasks. Failure to meet the deadlines and tasks may mean forfeiture of all or part of the award payment.
- Producers from all nations and languages are encouraged to apply and we want your film to be told in your native language. However, we require that:
 - **your team have at least one person with excellent English language skills during live conference calls and written correspondence with the Listen Up! team
 - **English subtitles be provided during all stages of production (rough cuts as well as final cut).

Production Teams

- All stories must be conceived, written and produced by youth, ages 13-19.
- Youth must be principal camera, audio, lighting and editing crew.
- All organizations must provide adult mentorship in the craft of filmmaking.
 - Digital still photos of meetings, shoots, editing sessions, and screenings are required.
- Films must be edited using PC-based Adobe editing software.
- Each team will produce several rough cut versions of their video with the goal of producing a broadcast quality 4-6 minute documentary.
 - Teams must organize and hold two public presentations of their films upon completion.
- With few exceptions, we expect youth to be experienced filmmakers -- Beyond Green will not be their first film.
- Even after your fieldwork for Beyond Green is complete and your work is “in the can,” we will ask teams for further support. Production of a full-length documentary may last a year after fieldwork is complete. While youth filmmakers may move on, we’ll need the continued support of your organization.

Technical Requirements

- Selected sites receive a \$10,000 production award to offset equipment needs and production costs.
- Listen Up! will provide a production guide outlining all of our technical requirements and offering technical strategies for each stage of production.
- All teams must shoot and edit using DV digital video format (widescreen).

- All teams must use external mics. Artificial lighting in most cases is also required. (These elements discussed in detail in the production guide.)
- Projects must be edited using Adobe PC-based products: Premiere Elements & Premiere Pro (provided by Listen Up! and Adobe Youth Voices).
- Each team should have frequent access to email. While broadband Internet is not required, the ability to upload images and video is a big part of participating in the project. We will do our best to overcome any digital divide.

Copyrights & Licensing Requirements

- Signed releases from all youth media producers (or their parents or guardians if they are under 18) are required.
- Signed releases from all interviewees (or their parents or guardians if they are under 18) are required.
- Absolutely no copyrighted music, images, or video can be used without licensing fees paid or written clearances from copyright owners. Original clearances must be submitted to Listen Up!
- In the case of music and video, remember that correct licensing may include Master as well as Sync licensing – it may not be enough to get the permission of the artist or performer.
- Listen Up!'s parent non-profit production company Learning Matters, Inc., will be the sole owner of the final short documentary.
- Listen Up! and the documentary filmmakers at our parent non-profit production company, Learning Matters, Inc., will have executive approval on content and technical quality. That is, we get "final cut." We have exceptionally high technical standards for both sound and picture. We have even higher standards for storytelling.
- In post-production, the broadcast master of each piece will be compiled at editing facilities in New York. To do this, contracted teams must submit original master interview and b-roll tapes as well as the producer's final edited segment. Dubs of original tapes must be made by your organization and can be used for local projects.

Adobe Youth Voices

In 2006, Listen Up! was a founding partner of Adobe Youth Voices. We are proud to be aligned with progressive-thinking institutions that believe in the power of young people to speak out and make change.

Adobe Youth Voices is Adobe's signature, global philanthropy program. Over the next five years, Adobe Youth Voices is bringing documentary filmmaking, photography, print journalism, radio diaries, web communications and other media to underserved communities around the globe.

With a focus on empowering youth, Adobe Youth Voices supports young people in and out of school and encourages the use of cutting edge multimedia tools to communicate and share their ideas, demonstrate their potential, and take action where they live.

Apply

Check back soon! Youth filmmaker and adult mentor co-applications online May 18th.

We're now developing activities that will help filmmakers and their organizations think deeper about the environment that surrounds them. We want filmmakers and people concerned with their environment to think beyond green and grasp original ideas that reflect the physical and cultural environments that they live in. We encourage youth to

investigate environment considerations *for themselves*, to add their voices to mainstream media.

Both youth filmmakers and adult mentors will write co-applications to apply for Beyond Green. So, check back soon!

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