**DURBAN FILM OFFICE**

**BLUE ECONOMY STUDENT SHORT FILM CHALLENGE**

**ENTRY FORM**

**Theme: *“Beneath the Surface”***

**1. TEAM DETAILS**

* **Team Name**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* **Institution**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* **Course / Department**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* **Team Leader (Primary Contact)**:
  + Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  + Student Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  + Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  + Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**2. TEAM MEMBERS (max 7 additional members)**

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| **Full Name** | **Student Number** | **Contact No.** | **Email** |
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**3. FILM DETAILS**

* **Proposed Film Title**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* **Genre** (tick): ☐ Documentary ☐ Drama ☐ Animation ☐ Experimental ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_
* **Duration**: \_\_\_\_\_\_ minutes (must be 5–10 min)
* **Short Synopsis** (max 150 words):

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**4. DECLARATION**

By signing below, we confirm that:

* All team members are registered students at the institution stated above.
* The submitted film is original work and does not infringe copyright.
* We grant the eThekwini Municipality and Durban Film Office non-exclusive rights to screen, promote, and distribute the film for educational and promotional purposes.
* We agree to abide by the official competition Terms & Conditions.

**Team Leader Signature**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Institution Representative / Lecturer Name & Surname:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Institution Representative / Contact Number:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Institution Representative / Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**COMPLETED ENTRY FORMS AND DOWNLOADABLE LINKS TO THE FILM BE SUBMITTED TO:** [**DFO.Marketing@durban.gov.za**](mailto:DFO.Marketing@durban.gov.za)

**TERTIARY INSTITUTION STAMP**

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| **Judging Criteria** | **Score** |
| **Creativity / Originality**   * Is the premise or story idea unique and handled in a creative way? * Is imagination effectively used to create a fresh and engaging film? | /30 |
| **Technical Execution**   * Is the visual composition, lighting, framing, and camera movement high-quality and supportive of the narrative? * Is the editing effective, providing good flow and transitions? * Is the dialogue clear, and is the music or sound effects well-suited to the film and narrative? | /20 |
| **Storyline**   * Does the film tell a coherent, engaging story with a clear beginning, middle, and end, including well-structured event/s and conflict/s? * Is the story coherent, well-told, and engaging? * Does the plot move forward with clear actions and turning points? | /20 |
| **Audience Engagement**   * Does the film keep the audience's attention and evoke an emotional response? * Is the film enjoyable, thought-provoking, or compelling to watch? | /20 |
| **Adherence to Competition Guidelines**   * Does the film meet any specific themes or objectives set by the competition? * Does the film comply with all other guidelines and rules of the competition? | /10 |
| **TOTAL** | /100 |

**Terms & Conditions**

1. *No late submissions will be accepted.*
2. *Prizes are non-transferable and cannot be exchanged for cash.*
3. *The Judges’ decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into.*
4. *Films containing foul language, discriminatory, or prejudicial content will be disqualified.*
5. *The competition is open only to currently registered students at recognized tertiary institutions.*
6. *All submitted work must be original and must not infringe on any third-party rights, including copyright, trademark, or intellectual property.*
7. *By entering, participants grant the eThekwini Municipality and Durban Film Office non-exclusive rights to screen, promote, and distribute the film for educational and promotional purposes.*
8. *Teams may consist of a maximum of 8 members (1 leader + up to 7 members).*
9. *Films must adhere to the theme* ***“Beneath the Surface”*** *and have a duration of* ***5–10 minutes****.*
10. *Use of AI:*
    1. *The competition is designed to showcase the creativity, storytelling, and filmmaking skills of students. AI may be used as a supportive tool, but the final film must reflect the student’s originality, vision, and authorship*
    2. *Limits: AI may be used for pre-production (e.g., brainstorming, concept art). No fully AI-generated scripts, films, or dialogue without significant student input. AI may be used for Pre-production: Idea generation, research, concept art, storyboarding assistance. Production support: Script formatting, scheduling, or logistical planning. Post-production support: Editing aids, sound design enhancements, subtitling, or visual effects touch-ups.*
    3. *No AI-generated performances (e.g., deepfake actors, cloned voices) unless used as a minor creative effect and clearly credited.*
    4. *No plagiarism through AI (e.g., prompting AI to mimic another filmmaker’s copyrighted work).*
    5. *Transparency: Students can use AI but must disclose how and where they used it. All AI tools used in any stage of the film must be fully disclosed in the submission form.*
    6. *Students are responsible for ensuring that all AI-generated elements (music, images, footage) do not violate copyright or intellectual property laws.*
    7. *Responsible and innovative use of AI will be recognized, but films that overly depend on AI with minimal student effort will be marked down.*
11. *By submitting, participants agree to abide by all competition rules and guidelines.*