



MEDIA RELEASE

Filmmakers asked Why Newcastle?

The Real Film Festival (RFF) is back for a 6th year with three short film competitions totaling almost \$30,000 in prizes.

These short film competitions give locals the opportunity to get their stories off a hand held device and onto the big screen.

"In this digital age when authenticity is sometimes questioned, it's refreshing to delve into the real stories and real people," festival organizer Annette said.

The Real Film Festival's flagship Short Film Competition invites filmmakers of all levels to find inspiration in the everyday and uncover the essence of daily life in the Hunter.

Each year this competition ignites creativity and sparks the relationship that exists between filmmaking and storytelling.

The competition is divided into three age categories: 5-12years, 13-18 years and open category (19+ years). This year, organisers have created an additional award for the best business story told through film. But hurry, entries for this competition close October 19.

"We encourage businesses and the general community to discover and create a short film that shares 'Why Newcastle' is the place to be. We want to hear your story, whether you are the local gelato man, artisan, designer, accountant or restaurateur, we want to share your story with the rest of the world" Annette said.

"These competitions give people a chance to show us, in their own way, what are the true stories that make our city great," she said.

"It also gives us a chance to showcase the immense talent we have in this region." The Real Film Festival has also partnered with the Office of Environment and Heritage for an environmental-themed award called Pitch'n.

Young people aged 12-18 are asked to showcase their ideas about the future of clean energy, and protecting threatened species.

The competition closes October 19 and could include examples of community groups, volunteer groups or youth groups that are advocating these solutions in NSW.

Six films will be selected as finalists in this category and will win a share in \$8000 in cash and prizes. The winning films for all competitions will have their films screened at this year's Real Film Festival closing night.

Media contact:

For further information relating interviews and photo opportunities with industry professionals contact Annette Hubber on <mailto:annette@realfilmfestival.com.au> or 0423 020 191.

Real Film Festival Website: www.realfilmfestival.com.au Media contact:

For further information contact **Annette Hubber** on **0423 020 191**.

Interviews and photos with industry professionals can also be arranged by contacting Annette.

A full program list is available via Real Film Festival Website: www.realfilmfestival.com.au

Check out the trailer for the 2017 Real Film Festival: <https://vimeo.com/233756554>