

In conjunction with  
APECS International  
Polar Week,  
USAPECS is proud to  
welcome you to the  
2024 Polar Film Fest



September 23-27, 2024

The Polar Film Fest (PFF) is a showcase of some of the best recent films about the polar and alpine regions produced by researchers, community members, Indigenous Peoples, organizations, and institutions. Join us at:  
<https://www.usapecs.org/polar-film-festival-2024>

All films are freely available for viewing for the entirety of APECS's International Polar Week.

We are also excited to announce our Filmmaker Online Roundtable on Wednesday, September 23, 2024, from 9:00/10:00 Alaska/13:00-14:00 Eastern/17:00-18:00 GMT. Filmmakers will discuss their films followed by a public question and answer session.

NEW IN 2024: Filmmaker Mini-Blog series in which filmmakers can discuss their films and the filmmaking process in short-written blogs. Available through the PFF 2024 website.

## PFF 2024 Selected Films

### **CAESAR: Life on an Arctic Field Project**

*Short Film (7:04); English*

Join the CAESAR project team in Kiruna, Sweden and learn all about the day-to-day logistics of running an atmospheric science field project in the Arctic.

### **Fjord Girls**

*Medium Length Film (11:00); English*

A group of eight high school girls spend a week in Alaska's Kenai Fjords National Park learning about glaciers, art, and themselves. Throughout Girls\* in Icy Fjords, they not only develop and grow as scientists but also gain confidence in their outdoors skills.

### **International Geophysical Year, 1957-1958: Drifting Station Alpha**

*Medium Length Film (33:00); English*

This film, produced by Frans Guus Van Der Hoeven and Norbert Untersteiner, documents life and research at Drift Station Alpha. Alpha was established during the International Geophysical Year between 1957 and 1958, and was the first long-term scientific base on arctic pack ice operated by a Western country. This footage gives us a rare look into the foundations of modern sea ice camps and research.

## **The Mystery of the Upwelling Plumes**

*Short Film (9:06); English*

In this video we explore the process of upwelling plumes at tidewater glaciers, and how this type of subglacial feature is connected to Arctic ecosystems. This video is part of a series of short educational videos about glaciers and was filmed in Svalbard, Norway during the summer of 2021. This is the result of a close partnership between science educator Mark Goldner and UMass Amherst professor Dr. Julie Brigham-Grette.

## **On the Edge: Lewis Pugh**

*Short Film (9:20); English*

What does it take to become the first human to swim under the Antarctic ice sheet wearing nothing but a cap, goggles, and a speedo?

On the Edge follows endurance swimmer and UNEP Patron of the Oceans, Lewis Pugh, in his toughest swim ever.

## **Paños de Agua Azul / Water Blue Cloths**

*Medium Length Film (14:00); Spanish/English*

"Paños de Agua Azul" is a short film that invites us to reflect on the importance of preserving our natural and cultural heritage. Through it, we discover a world where art and glaciological science intertwine to create works that move and inspire us.

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## **Reverence – to the Feeling of Baikal**

*Short Film (3:09); English*

In the heart of Siberia, the world's oldest, deepest lake, Lake Baikal evokes a powerful feeling that Buryats, Russians, and others have conveyed in their art, literature, spirituality, and science for thousands of years. Takata-Glushkoff embodies that feeling through place-based improvisational dance, honoring Baikal's shapes, textures, and contours, along with its symphony of rumbling, creaking, and blowing snow-covered ice. Lake Baikal initially appears still and calm, but the 25-million-year-old continental rift zone dynamically sustains life for over 2000 endemic species through the water column 1600 meters beneath its frozen crust.

## **Reverie of Yukon**

*Medium Length Film (25:00); English*

In the far north, the mighty Yukon river flows through Eric Nicolier's life. Mushing, rafting, carpentering, and playing music is Eric's way to composing his life of reverie.

## **Robotic-based invESTigation and mOnitoring of Ross sEa with PROTEUS – The RESTORE project**

*Medium Length Film (17:00); Italian/English*

Our film showcases the innovative use of the PROTEUS unmanned marine vehicle (UMV) during the XXXVIII Italian Expedition in Antarctica (2022-2023). Highlighting its versatility in extreme polar conditions, the film follows PROTEUS as it transitions between configurations to conduct vital scientific surveys in the Ross Sea, contributing valuable data to the global scientific community.

## **The Science of CAESAR**

*Short Film (5:01); English*

Sometimes cold air moves from the poles towards the equator as part of the global circulation of air around our Earth. This is called a cold-air outbreak (CAO) and they are common in mid-to high latitudes during winter. The cold air, when moving over open water, forms unique clouds, and can result in heavy snowfall and strong winds. Learn from the lead scientists of the CAESAR field project about CAOs and running a field project in Arctic Sweden.

### **Sherpas Amidst the Mist**

*Medium Length Film (12:00); Nepali/English Subtitles*

Facing some of the grimmest climatic conditions 3500mts. and above the last family residing in the village of Darjeeling hills (India), across the Indo-Nepal border in the Himalayan region is dedicated to the age-old practice of yak herding. The documentary delves into unique cultural heritage and traditional livelihoods of indigenous Sherpa people in the Third Pole region. The film is a tribute to the perseverance and cultural significance of indigenous communities and their invaluable contributions to the global heritage.

### **Subglacial Features: Clues from the Past**

*Medium Length Film (11:14); English*

This educational film explores how Ice Age geologic features in New England are directly connected to glacier systems in the Arctic. The video was shot in the summer of 2021 in Svalbard, Norway, and in various locations in New England. It is part of a video series which is the result of a close partnership between science educator Mark Goldner and UMass Amherst professor Dr. Julie Brigham-Grette.

### **Taught By The Glaciers**

*Medium Length Film (36:51); English*

In the world's northernmost university center, follow Nele, Jorge, Aaro, Casimir, Tessa, Sullivan and the other students of this Arctic Geophysics course in their journey of measuring the glaciers Tellbreen and Blekumbreen. Will they be able to fulfill their mission despite the harsh conditions of Svalbard?

### **We Are Antarctica**

*Short Film (8:00); English*

Uninhabitable to humans, yet impacted by every action we take, today Antarctica stands at a crossroads. We are Antarctica takes a look at our history with the ice covered continent and invites us to reimagine our relationship with this great land and listen to the ancient wisdom of those fighting to protect our last wild areas. If Antarctica had a voice, what would she say?

