

7th International Cellphilm Festival

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The call for the 7th edition of the International Cellphilm Festival was launched on 25th June, 2019 inviting submissions that explored how participants pictured change in their neighbourhood, communities, or planet. By November 25th around seventeen cellphilms were received and the judges selected those that met the criteria including the coherence of narrative, creative use of cellphone, appropriateness to theme, and creative use of aesthetic devices. The Institute for Human Development and Well-Being (IHDW) celebrated the International Cellphilm Festival on January 21st at McGill University.

The event started with a workshop led by Dr. Joshua Schwab-Cartas who shared his knowledge about using cellphilm as a method to empower communities. After being introduced to basic steps of cellphilm making and seeing examples of videos that successfully transmitted a message using a cellphone camera and video free editing apps, participants of the workshop worked in small groups to create a storyboard of a cellphilm under the subject “What is important for you?” Afterwards, everyone shared their impressions of the exercise.

Following the workshop, the audience had a chance to get to know the winners who explained the selection criteria. As a bonus, the winners shared the details of shooting each video. The audience appreciated learning the stories of how the idea was born and how each person contributed with their particular talents to concretize the idea into a cellphilm.

Dr. Schwab-Cartas has recently completed his PhD in the Faculty of Education at McGill University; his research explored Indigenous language revitalization strategies through community-based video with Diidxazá (Zapotec) Speakers, a civilization from the Mexican Valley of Oaxaca. He has also been involved in the production of five short documentaries on the Zapotec community. To know more about his work, you can access the article [Keeping Up with the Sun: Revitalizing Isthmus Zapotec and Ancestral Practices through Cellphilms](#).



Congratulations to this year's winners!

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| 1 st Prize: | “Be Green, Be Sustainable”
Produced by Huiling Su |
| 2 nd Prize: | “What are we moving on with?”
Produced by Queency Fernandes & Oko Moncar |
| 3 rd Prize: | “Be Kind to Bees”
Produced by Vanessa Gold & Mitchell McLarnon |
| Honourable Mention: | “Don’t Litter”
Produced by Brady, Henry, and Daniel |

