

Entries for the seventh edition of Cairns Regional Council's Understory Film Festival are now open.

As government restrictions ease, filmmakers are encouraged to get out and get creative.

Aspiring, emerging and professional filmmakers in Far North Queensland have until October to submit films for

the chance to have them shown on the big screen and to be in the running to receive awards and recognition.

With all the downtime we have had recently, we're sure many great ideas have emerged for screenplays and look

forward to the stories and films that have transpired over this time.

In 2019, the Understory Film Festival received a record 73 film submissions from filmmakers all over the Far North,

showing a particularly marked increase in both first time and student submissions.

Two of the region's most celebrated filmmakers took out the top awards with Adrian Rayner scooping the top gong,

Best Film award, for his sci-fi thriller, *Sanctuary* and acclaimed filmmaker and director Travis Bain, winning the

Best Screenplay award for *Zombies v C.W.A.*, with the comedy short also picking up the People's Choice award voted

by the audience on the night.

Applications for the 2020 awards close at 4pm on Tuesday 6 October and Thursday 1 October for entries in the

High School Student category. The duration of films must be eight minutes or less, including credits.

Entry is free, with films being accepted from residents of Townsville to Cairns, across Cape York, and the Torres Strait.

The Screening and Awards Presentation is scheduled for Saturday 7 November, with more details being released closer to the date.

For more information on Understory please see the attached application form or visit

<https://www.cairns.qld.gov.au/facilities-sport-leisure/arts-culture/understory-film-festival>.

Entrants are reminded to follow all government regulations and advice in relation to COVID-19 during the production of your films.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call 4032 6656 or email J.Aird@ Cairns.qld.gov.au

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