



DC EFF[®]

Festival Report

10K Attendees

78 Films

25 Venues

March 20-29, 2025

2025 Festival Overview

From March 20-29, 2025, our 33rd Annual Environmental Film Festival brought 60 programs to 25 venues throughout the nation's capital. Over those ten days, we were joined by over 10,000 audience members, marking a 33% turnout increase since returning to in-person programming in 2023.

In addition to almost 50 film premieres at this year's Festival, DCEFF premiered a new mission statement (below), acknowledging the important role of community-building in our work to bolster the impact of environmental storytelling.



*Harnessing the power of film **and community** to illuminate, celebrate, and inspire positive and lasting action for our planet.*

Timely Conversations



A hallmark of DCEFF's programming has always been our robust panels and Q&As. This year, it was especially important that we offered our audience as many opportunities as possible to connect with, learn from, and find solidarity with our community of storytellers, scientists, public servants, journalists, and changemakers.



Among this year's special guests were representatives from prominent environmental organizations, the press, and cultural institutions including: Natural Resources Defense Council, American Rivers, National Geographic, National Academy of Sciences, the Andes Amazon Fund, National Parks Conservation Association, World Wildlife Fund, Good Food Institute, *Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Associated Press*, *Bloomberg*, and the Pulitzer Center.

Climate Change | Wildlife Conservation | Plastic Pollution | Public Health | Oceans | Environmental Justice | Food Systems | Indigenous Voices

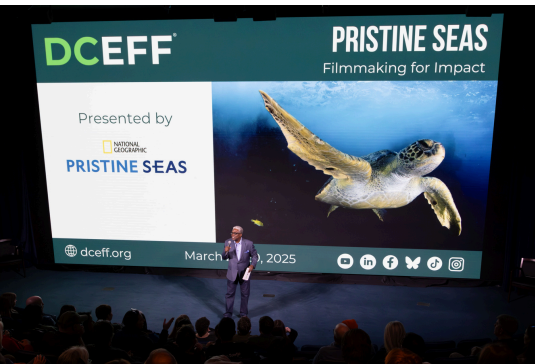
155

Filmmakers & Special Guests

45

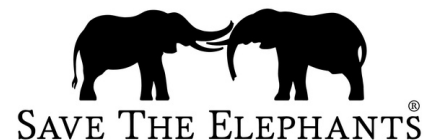
Free Programs

Impactful Partnerships



DCEFF is so fortunate to be able to co-present many of our programs with a diverse roster of partners doing important work here in the nation's capital and around the world. Some highlights include:

HHMI Tangled Bank Studios sharing their new short *Wild Hope: Mission Impossible*, followed by a conversation with Impossible Foods Founder Pat Brown; National Geographic's Pristine Seas Team offering exclusive insights on their approach to "Filmmaking for Impact" for a sold out audience of aspiring environmental storytellers and science communicators; and our Anacostia River Clean-up organized with the Surfrider Foundation.



Inspiring the Next Generation

This year, DCEFF expanded its youth engagement efforts through dynamic, accessible programming designed to inspire the next generation of environmental stewards, including the return of our Annual Youth Program. This screening of *Searching for Amani* for 175 DC Public School students was followed by a conversation featuring two of the young journalists from the film.



Additional youth-focused initiatives included 11 screenings and book raffles of *The Wild Robot* with different branches of the DC Public Library and a sneak preview of National Geographic's *Secrets of the Penguins*.

DCEFF also worked to engage budding environmentalists and academics through free screenings at American University, Georgetown University, George Washington University, Johns Hopkins' Bloomberg Center, and New York University's DC satellite.

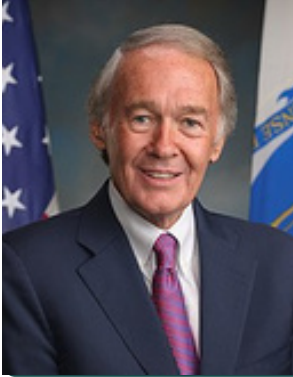
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College Campus Screenings

11

Youth Library Programs

Praise for DCEFF 2025



Thank you to the DC Environmental Film Festival and all of the incredibly talented filmmakers showcasing their stories over the days ahead. You are **inspiring an entire generation** to stand up and to fight for the future.

-- Sen. Edward Markey



I think and believe this Film Festival, for many reasons, is **one of the most important film festivals we have** in this country and in the world. We must support this Festival...you have become the **first responders here in DC to tell our stories**.

-- Rev. Lennox Yearwood



It was so meaningful getting to see a **theatre full of people connect SO deeply with the science and journalism in our film** — and with all the people and institutions dedicated to safeguarding our environment.

-- Rosanna Xia, *Out of Plain Sight*



I love this festival and how **seriously it takes environmental storytelling and community building** among environmental storytellers. I hope to be back again many times.

-- John Fiege, *Raising Aniya*

Special Thanks

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Questions?

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34th Annual Festival

March 19-28, 2026