

# LET'S TALK ABOUT WATER and MAYORS MAKE MOVIES

## NOVEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is a publication of *Let's Talk About Water* and *Mayors Make Movies* organizations, sponsors of the **2024 Latin American Prize for Short Films about Water and Science**

### In this issue, LET'S TALK ABOUT... CELEBRATION!

#### THIS IS A COMMEMORATIVE EDITION



Linda Lilienfeld, Let's Talk About Water/Mayors Make Movies

And we have much to celebrate! First of all, we have concluded the competition process and revealed new films, new directors, new community members, scientists and students in Latin America all united by the same goals: to inspire, to inform and promote action around water issues and solutions in their communities.

The **2024 LATIN AMERICAN PRIZE FOR SHORT FILMS ABOUT WATER AND SCIENCE** has spawned a new collection of short films that do just that. Our most sincere congratulations to the winners and to all who, in some form, took an interest and submitted their films. The

full collection of the winning 10 short films can be watched [HERE](#).

These short films will now start a long trajectory towards being shown and gaining visibility in as many places as possible. They have started their journey with a first public showing at the **XVI UNESCO/IHP** meeting held in **Puntarenas, Costa Rica** which was live streamed on our **Mayors Make Movies YouTube** channel.



It was key showing these films at this **Biennial UNESCO/IHP** meeting because it gathered on one side, a wide variety of decision-making officials at local, regional and national levels who need data, and on the other, scientists and researchers who have the data. They are dedicated to checking implementation of programs under way in all countries in Latin America and the Caribbean by these institutions and they are the bridge between science and water management.

The response to our screening couldn't have been more positive! This highly qualified audience saw actual in-the-field stories and understood them, which reinforced their will to fight for clean and safe water in the whole region. They saw humanity, ethnic diversity, indigenous cultures as well as simplicity in solutions and calls for action reflected in the winning films.

Our special thanks to the **UNESCO/IHP** team, without them we couldn't have accomplished our presentation in this remarkable meeting of water scientists and water policy makers. And we left a message for this



Miguel Doria, UNESCO/IHP Uruguay

unique audience to think about: “**How do we communicate better?**”

The ceremony is in our MMM YouTube channel collection. You are welcome to watch it [HERE](#).

A NEW FILM

## VOICES OF THE GUARANÍ



We celebrate the newly released film, **Voices of the Guaraní**. This documentary explores the relevance of the **Guaraní Aquifer**, a freshwater reserve shared by Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay. With powerful testimonies and visuals that reveal the interconnection between land and water, the film shows how international cooperation drives its preservation. Apart from the beautiful photography that reveals parts uncommonly noticed in these four countries, it is a valuable educational tool in understanding this vital and unseen giant, which the region depends on. Directed by **Matías Ponce, Ricardo Burg** and **Linda Lilienfeld**, a **UNESCO Uruguay** production. The film is available in our [MMM YouTube channel](#).

## WELCOME GLOBAL NETWORK OF WATER MUSEUMS!



Yet another reason to celebrate! We are very excited to announce a new partnership with the **Global Network of Water Museums!** And this is why: when we create a competition and from it emerges another beautiful collection of films about water, from a specific region, it's very important that they gain visibility around the world, both for the filmmakers and the water community. Joining hands with the **Global Network of Water Museums** will open up a new constellation of locations, as water museums, in

general, have a venue in which to show movies, broadly expanding our capacity for sharing films to diverse audiences.

**Let's Talk About Water/Mayor Make Movies** will now be connected to the **Global Network of Water Museums**. As a first step in our partnership, we will be announcing a new competition to be launched on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025, **World Water Day**, at the **COP 16** of the [United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification \(UNCCD\)](#), in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, December 2-13, 2024.

Both our organizations converge in many aspects. The network believes that in societies where rivers and water play a central role, cooperation not only improves the conditions of rivers, but also enhances the well-being and livelihoods of local communities. In doing so, water helps reduce conflict and is a force for peace. As a flagship initiative of **UNESCO-IHP (Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme of UNESCO)**, **WAMU-NET** and its members remain dedicated to protecting and restoring freshwater resources through water sustainability education.

You can learn more about the **Global Network of Water Museums** [here](#).

## AS WE CLOSE THE YEAR...

With the **2024 Latin American Prize for Short Films about Water and Science** we hope to have enhanced our open collection of engaging short films that can spark inspiration for local community actions as well as help bridge the gap between scientists and politicians, pursuing our goals:

- Promote water science education using the power of film.
- Encourage storytellers and water experts to join hands and co-create concise, creative, and informative short films.
- Produce content that can be used for education and reach a wider audience.

Winners of the **2024 Latin American Prize for Short Films about Water and Science** will be shown at the **World Water Film Festival**, in New York City, November 16-17, 2024. Check out the details here: <https://worldwaterff.org/>



Visit us at:

[Let's Talk About Water](#)  
[Mayors Make Movies](#)  
[Instagram Water Film Prize](#)

