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CHASING TIME

DISCUSS

DISCUSSION GUIDE

IMPACT@EXPOSURELABS.COM

ENGAGING

Tips for Facilitating a Meaningful *Chasing Time* Screening Event

This guide is divided into four sections:

EVENT GUIDE: Ideas for Hosting an Impactful Screening

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: Questions to Inspire Conversation, Connection, and Understanding

INSPIRING INTERACTIONS: Tips for Engaging Audiences

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES: Suggestions for Continued Care and Learning

EVENT GUIDE

Ideas for Hosting an Impactful Screening

Suggested Run-Time: 2 hours

Welcome + Housekeeping: 15 minutes

Screen the Film: 40 minutes

Post-Screening Discussion: 55 minutes

Thank You + Closing: 10 minutes

Welcome + Housekeeping: 15 minutes

Welcome the audience and acknowledge any special guests.

- Examples of special guests: people who were involved with the making of the film, are attending as panelists/speakers, or any partners who have supported the event.

Share why you are showing the film.

- How has it inspired you? How does it relate to your work or the work of your organization? If there are panelists or special guests, share why you have invited them and why you value their contributions.

Share a description of the film:

Option 1: Logline

A meditative exploration of time and mortality, *Chasing Time* follows photographer James Balog as he brings the 15-year Extreme Ice Survey project to a close. Accompanied by the Emmy-winning team behind *Chasing Ice*, the film spotlights the power of mentorship and the intergenerational effort to inspire hope and action toward a sustainable future.

EVENT GUIDE

Ideas for Hosting an Impactful Screening

Share a description of the film

Option 2: Long Description

If a single photo can inspire change, how influential are a million images? Over the course of the 15-year Extreme Ice Survey project, photographer James Balog and his team brought some of the world's first and most compelling visual evidence of climate change to the global stage as he depicted the rapid melting of glaciers around the world. Thoughtfully helmed by acclaimed director Jeff Orlowski-Yang (*Chasing Ice*, *Chasing Coral*, *The Social Dilemma*) and first-time filmmaker Sarah Keo, *Chasing Time* is a meditative exploration of time and mortality, following James and his crew as they bring the decades-long project to a close, cataloging more than one million images in the process. The short documentary reunites James and the Emmy-winning team behind *Chasing Ice* to capture the end of the epic undertaking and spotlight the power of an intergenerational effort to seed hope and inspire action toward a sustainable future. A beautiful tribute to the power of images and the importance of mentorship, the team examines the legacy their efforts have made on the world.

Option 3: Conversational Description

Chasing Time is the sequel to the Emmy and Peabody Award-winning film, *Chasing Ice*. This new film catches up with photographer James Balog 15 years after he opened the world's eyes to the reality of climate change with his photos documenting the disappearing glaciers worldwide. *Chasing Ice* energized the world to take climate change seriously and to take action; now *Chasing Time* aims to inspire a whole new generation of climate scientists, activists, and artists. This film asks the question: What does it mean to support each other in climate justice and other movement work, and what does it mean to be a good mentor?

EVENT GUIDE

Ideas for Hosting an Impactful Screening

Set expectations for the film and post-screening session.

- Share that the film is ~40 minutes long.
- Share if there will be a question and answer session, group discussion, panel, and/or post-screening social gathering.
- Thank the venue, staff, partners or anyone who made the screening possible

Share with the audience any housekeeping tips.

- Examples include sharing information about accessibility accommodations for visually and hearing impaired participants, sharing locations of bathrooms, reminders to turn off cell phones, notes about how long the movie is, or reminders about post-screening discussions and other events, such as mixers or meet and greets.

Screen the Film: 40 minutes

Post-Screening Discussion: 55 Minutes

Consider one or more of the following after the audience has watched the film:

- Host a small panel.
 - Consider inviting members of the film team, experienced climate or social justice movement workers, or folks from local organizations whose mission overlaps with the themes of the film.
- Guide a post-screening discussion with the whole audience.
 - Have a facilitator guide the audiences in a group discussion using the Discussion Questions in the next section as a guide; allow for 10-15 minutes at the end of this segment for audience comments and questions.

EVENT GUIDE

Ideas for Hosting an Impactful Screening

- Facilitate small group discussions and large group takeaways.
 - Share discussion questions with small groups.
 - Allow 10-15 minutes at the end for the larger group to assemble and representatives to share highlights from the small group conversations.

THANK YOU + CLOSING: 10 minutes

Share gratitude to everyone in attendance, especially those who have helped make the event a success, including film team members, panelists, sponsors, and those who worked at the event.

Share a possible action people can take after the film to further the message of the film and of your organization.

If you have follow-up surveys related to the event or announcements about future events, share those.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Inspire Conversation, Connection, and Understanding

1. If you saw *Chasing Ice* before seeing the sequel, *Chasing Time*, how did the updates about the life and career of James Balog affect you?

2. *Chasing Time* was co-directed by Jeff Orlowski-Yang, a project that he made not only to bring attention to the realities of climate change but also to honor his mentor James Balog, the subject of both *Chasing Ice* and *Chasing Time*.

- What does it bring up for you to see someone honor their long-time mentor in this way?
- Have you seen examples of recognition and celebration of mentorship in your own circles?

3. In *Chasing Time*, we get a front row seat to the toll James Balog's work on the Extreme Ice Survey took on his physical, emotional, and financial health. "There were lots of times when I thought the project had to end, just out of my own personal fatigue. This has been an incredibly expensive project...I just can't keep doing this forever."

- What connections can you draw between James' experience and burnout, exhaustion, and the physical consequences of work you're engaged in?
- What are the reasons we engage in work that is at once fulfilling and depleting?
- Have you encountered any useful suggestions for self-care while in the midst of difficult work?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Inspire Conversation, Connection, and Understanding

4. We know that there are no 'quick fixes' to climate change, which means everyone working in this field is engaged in a relay race rather than a marathon, with each person playing their part.

- With this in mind, what is the part of this relay race that you're playing or that you hope to play?
- Are there skills you hope to strengthen or knowledge you'd like to gain in order to engage in this climate justice work or other movement work?

5. Jeff Orłowski-Yang directed *Chasing Ice* by himself; for *Chasing Time*, he invited emerging filmmaker Sarah Keo to join him as co-director to bring in her own perspectives and lenses to this project, making this an intersectional as well as intergenerational project.

- How do you know when you've found a good mentor?
- How do you know when it's time for you to become one? Have you experienced this?

6. Just like in *Chasing Time*, no one does their work in this world alone. We are either part of a community, part of a long lineage of people who've done the work before us, or both.

- How is our work easier when we're part of a collective?
- What are the practices that we can employ to create healthy movement communities?
- In a community focused on a collective goal, what is the role you like to play most?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Inspire Conversation, Connection, and Understanding

7. “I realized it’s time, time to say goodbye to this project.” In *Chasing Time*, James Balog not only removes the final camera linked to his career-defining project, the Extreme Ice Survey, but he grapples with very personal questions of mortality and legacy.

- What are ways that we can honor the work of our mentors?
- What could it look like to envision recognition or rituals at the end of one’s career that are not only focused on retirement?
- What is the work you want to be remembered for?

8. The actual day-to-day work of climate and social justice varies. James Balog was known as a photographer before he was known as a climate activist, and photography isn’t often associated with movement work. And yet, because of James’ work, a whole generation of people deepened their understanding of climate change and became activated.

- What are the special skills and knowledge you have that can further the movement work you’re interested in?
 - For example: Are you a good writer? Are you great at talking to people? Do you make art that could help create awareness for the general public?
- If you feel too shy to say what you’re good at, what would your best friend say you’re good at? What would your favorite colleague or teacher say you’re good at?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Inspire Conversation, Connection, and Understanding

9. After watching a film like *Chasing Time*, you might feel inspired to act and to lend your energy or voice to the climate movement. You might also feel a little overwhelmed. Remember that climate justice work isn't just big political campaigns, on the ground activations, or even movies. If you care about the Earth, there are likely things you're already doing every day in your work and in your life that are signaling your dedication to healing the planet.

- What are things you're already doing day to day that show you're aligned with climate justice?
- What is one thing you could do today to take a step in the direction of being a part of this movement?
- If you're not already part of local groups working toward climate justice, are you ready to touch base with them and see how you can contribute?

10. What are other ideas, questions, or feelings that this film brought up for you? Who do you think would most benefit from seeing this film?



INSPIRING INTERACTIONS

Tips for Engaging Audiences

Hosting an event that includes conversation can be thrilling but also nerve-wracking. Here are some tips for making an event impactful and productive for all involved.

- **Be prepared.** Facilitating or hosting an event like this can be a lot of work, so preparation is key. Give yourself plenty of time in advance of the event to prepare, and be sure to surround yourself with trusted collaborators.
- **Prioritize safety and accessibility.** In advance of the event, make sure the venue you choose is not only comfortable but also safe. Are there accessible bathrooms? Are the exits clear of barriers? Are you prepared to accommodate those with physical, auditory, and/or visual disabilities? Is there information you need to ask for from your audience members when they register to make sure you meet their needs?
- **Respect everyone's time.** Have an agenda and communicate it to the group.
- **Be excited.** Even if you are a bit nervous at your event, remember that you planned this for a reason, and everyone in attendance is there by choice. The crowd will feed off your energy, so don't be shy to share why you've gathered this group in the first place.
- **Be flexible.** Even when we plan well, things can go off course. If a microphone doesn't work or a panelist doesn't show, it's okay—just go with the flow. At the very least, you can share the film and enjoy watching as a group.

INSPIRING INTERACTIONS

Tips for Engaging Audiences

- **Be curious.** Even though discussion questions are shared above, the group of people who shows up for your event will bring their own unique experiences and questions of their own. Don't be shy to follow the energy and ideas of the audience.
- **Be respectful** and ask the participants to do the same. Exciting conversations can come with differences of opinion. If conflicting ideas or opinions are voiced within the context of the discussion, feel free to remind those in attendance that different opinions are welcome as long as they are not disrespectful.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Suggestions for Continued Care & Learning

This is a growing list of resources for those engaged in climate and environmental justice or social justice, whether you're a student, activist, storyteller, or experienced practitioner. The *Chasing Time* team has no direct affiliations with the makers of these resources and does not benefit in any way from your exploration of their materials.

[The Climate Burnout Report \(Climate Critical\)](#)

[Good Energy for Screenwriting in the Age of Climate Change \(Good Energy\)](#)

[The Intersections of Burnout, Self-Care, and Social Justice with Ami Kunimura, Ph.D., MT-BC](#)

[Nap Ministry \(Tricia Hershey\)](#)

[Native Movement](#)

Watch Next:

- [Chasing Coral](#)
- [Chasing Ice](#)
- [Bring Them Home](#)
- [Gath & Ki'yh: Listen to Heal](#)
- [How to Blow Up a Pipeline](#)
- [I Am Greta](#)
- [Reciprocity Project](#)
- [The Territory](#)
- [WaterBear](#)
- [Other films/series to consider...](#)

Read Next:

- [Braiding Sweetgrass](#), Robin Wall Kimmerer
- [Emergent Strategy](#), adrienne maree brown
- [Not Too Late](#), Edited by Rebecca Solnit & Thelma Young Lutunatabua
- [On Fire](#), Naomi Klein
- [Pleasure Activism](#), adrienne maree brown
- [The Overstory](#), Richard Powers
- [Other books to consider...](#)