

Parental Consent Form for Participation in Research Study Imagining a Future Wyoming: Youth Narratives for 2030

Contestants younger than 18, please have your parents sign this form and upload it with your submission.

Purpose of Study

Youth remain under-represented in envisioning Wyoming's future. In response, we have launched a narrative contest intended to give youth a platform to imagine a prosperous future in the state. Participants will submit written, visual, digital, audio, and video entries responding to current challenges facing the state and their vision for a resilient, prosperous Wyoming in the year 2030. Participants will have the opportunity to have their entries published in an anthology and win cash prizes.

In addition, with their consent, participants will have the option to participate in a study – a qualitative analysis of de-identified contest submissions to identify themes and publish findings in an academic journal. The goal of the study will be to better understand Wyoming communities' capacity for social resilience in the face of change and to understand the characteristics and frequency of specific types of visions for the future amongst Wyoming youth.

Procedure

The study will be conducted through a qualitative analysis of contest submissions. Participants in the narrative contest will submit entries in an online form, where they will have the option to allow their entries to be the subject of study. Dr. Corrie Knapp, Dr. Matt Henry, and Emilene Ostlind of the Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources will conduct the study at the University of Wyoming. Consenting subjects will be expected simply to submit their contest entries. Time spent on contest entries will vary among subjects. **NOTE: Participation in the study WILL NOT impact contest outcomes.**

Benefits to Participants

By participating in the study, participants will support efforts to better understand the social dimensions of change in Wyoming. It is our hope that our research will likewise influence policymaking that benefits youth and their communities across Wyoming.

Confidentiality

Google forms will be used to submit contest entries, which will be downloaded to the UW OneDrive cloud storage system. The files will be password protected. Only primary investigators on the project will have access to them. For research purposes, all submissions will be given a tracking number and a master spreadsheet will be kept in a separate file from numbered submissions. The master list of entries will only be accessible to Emilene Ostlind. Contest judges will not see participant names and we will not use identifying information in published research. Data, research summary, and signed consent forms will be stored for three years and then destroyed.

Opting Out and Questions About the Study

Participation is voluntary, refusal to participate will not disqualify you from eligibility to be selected as a finalist or winner or to receive cash prizes in the narrative contest. You may opt out of participation at any time. To do so, or with any other questions about the study, please contact Emilene Ostlind at emilene@uwyo.edu or (307) 766-2604. If you have questions about your rights as a research subject, please contact the University of Wyoming IRB Administrator at (307) 766-5320.

As parent or legal guardian, I hereby give my permission for (child's name) _____
to participate in the research described above. (printed name of participant)

Printed name of parent/legal guardian

Parent/legal guardian signature

Date