

2025 uRSAW Storytelling Competition

Storytelling helps researchers communicate complex ideas clearly and memorably, making the impact of their work more engaging and accessible to diverse audiences. The uRSAW Storytelling Competition is an opportunity for Undergraduate Researchers to develop and apply their storytelling skills by sharing why and how their summer research, scholarly or artistic projects affect the world around us. Undergraduate student researchers are invited to submit their pitch to the uRSAW Storytelling Competition. Through a competitive adjudication process, the best pitch will be selected and transformed into a two-minute video which tells a compelling story about their summer research project. The successful uRSAW Storytelling Video will be featured on USask's social media channels, websites, and shared with our partners.

Additionally, the student with the best pitch will receive a \$500 prize, sponsored by the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (CGPS), to be awarded at the 2025 SURE Symposium Awards Ceremony on August 27th.

To participate in the competition, undergraduate students must:

- Submit a 300-word story pitch by **August. 8th, 2025.**
- Have the consent and permission of their supervisor to participate in the competition.
- Be available to participate in the production of a video with USask Media Production in the fall 2025 term.

Additional prizes for the top five pitches are also available.

Workshops

Students are invited to attend a workshop hosted by the Research Profile and Impact and USask Media Production to learn how to tell your research story, write a pitch, and integrate aspects of video storytelling into your pitch.

Workshop Details:

Date: June 25, 2025

Time: 3:00-4:00pm

Location: Murray Library G3 or
on Zoom

[Register Online](#)

Additional media production workshops hosted by USask Media Production will take place over the summer months to support students in collecting quality media assets as their research activities progress and in developing media literacy skills.

Visit the [uRSAW Storytelling Completion webpage](#) for details.

Prizes

The top pitch will be awarded the incredible opportunity to work with USask's Media Production team to create a two-minute video of their research that will be featured on the Research Profile and Impact website and throughout USask and uRSAW social media channels. They will also receive a **\$500 prize**, sponsored by the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (CGPS), to be awarded as part of the [2025 SURE Symposium Awards Ceremony](#) on August 27th, 2025

Runners-up prizes will include professional headshots and an opportunity to create your own one-minute Instagram Research Reel that will be featured on USask's social media channels, websites, and shared with our partners (guidelines and approval processes to come).

Eligibility

- Eligible students include those who participated in a USask undergraduate student summer research project in 2025. This may include a Tri-agency (NSERC, CIHR and SSHRC), a USask funded USRA, or a Research Assistant position.
- One submission per eligible student.
- The pitch must feature research that the student worked on in summer 2025.
- Students do not need to be enrolled as an undergraduate student in the Fall 2025 term at USask, however, they do need to be available to participate in the development of a video.
- Students must have the consent of their faculty supervisor to participate in the competition.

Judging Criteria

1. Storytelling: Does the pitch communicate the potential for a compelling story, a unique point of view, or demonstration/visualization about the student's research, scholarly or artistic work?
2. Creativity: Are the ideas for the pitch original with the potential to be creatively conveyed?
3. Clarity: Is the research explained with clarity? Is the message or information effectively delivered?
4. Feasibility: Does the pitch provide a vision that can be reasonably created by the Media Production team?
5. Guidelines: Does the pitch meet the eligibility, consent, and availability requirements?



Terms and Conditions

By entering the competition:

- Students agree to the use of their pitch for purposes of education and promotion by Research Profile and Impact, Media Production, and Research Acceleration & Strategic Initiatives,
- Students agree to being physically available throughout the fall 2025 term to work in collaboration with uRSAW and Media Production to complete the video project,
- Students agree to commit the required time and effort needed to attend planning meetings, be available for production and post-production dates, and respond to emails and messages in a timely manner.

Application Details

Application Form: [Online Submission Form](#)

Deadline: **August 8th, 2025, at 11:59 pm**

To learn more about this opportunity, please contact
undergraduate.research@usask.ca.

