

Curriculum Links and Lesson Activities for the Development of Silent Films for IYSFF

This document and associated links are intended as a guide only and should be applied where relevant to the curriculum. Any view or opinion presented in the resources and links are solely those of the author and not that of Kingston City Council or Kingston Arts.

UNIT	OUTCOMES	EXAMPLES OF LEARNING ACTIVITIES
2	1: Demonstrate specialist production skills within collaborative media productions, and explain and reflect on the media production process.	Select a genre and make a short film that uses conventions appropriate to that genre. Create a documentary film about a local character.
2	2: Discuss media industry issues and developments relating to the production stages of a media product, and describe specialist roles within the media industry.	Attend the filming of a television program and review the experience with attention to production stages, the media product and the specialist roles. Discuss copyright issues relating to the digital production, distribution and circulation of media products.
3	2: Use a range of technical equipment, applications and media processes and evaluate the capacity of these to present ideas, achieve effects and explore aesthetic qualities in media forms.	Research and teach a classmate a complex process that can be used in the creation of a media production. Explore the equipment that will be used in a media production; create a poster that outlines its strengths and limitations. Experiment with effects in the software that may be used in the creation of a media production.
3	3: Prepare and document a media production design plan in a selected media form for a specified audience.	Complete a written planning document for the media production, which may take the form of a screenplay if they are creating a film identify the locations and props required for filming. Create a detailed timeline for the production, which includes key dates for completing work in anticipation of the final deadline.
4	1: Produce a media product for an identified audience from the media production design plan prepared in Unit 3.	Research how media design documents such as storyboards and scripts are used to inform cast and crew during the production process in professional media productions. Investigate script mark up techniques that may be effective in a production. Reflect on effective use of time during the production process by looking at a range of design plans online.
	2: Discuss and analyse the construction, distribution and interpretation of society's values as represented in media texts.	Use brainstorming techniques to develop links between values and representations evident in story and production elements Create charts based on character, storyline, values and representations that illustrate the construction of values in texts Select still images from a television program or film for annotation to draw attention to the use of lighting and mise-en-scene Find data, historical research or encyclopaedic entries about the production period to support understanding of values in a society.

Stage of development	Activities	Resources
I. What is Silent Film?	Discuss the history of silent film and the history of the Wurlitzer Organ.	Presentation of on silent film Examples of silent films See '5 Silent Short Films' Guide
	Introduction to IYSFF	Watch the IYSFF Behind the Scenes trailer: http://www.makesilentfilm.com/index.html
	Review and discuss submission and panel guidelines and develop an action plan that highlights the essential criteria that needs to be met.	See Submission Guidelines and Panel Scoring Guidelines: http://www.makesilentfilm.com/submission-guidelines.html
	View past IYSFF winners and identify qualities of the films that led to their success using the Submission Guidelines discussed in previous session	IYSFF Past entries and winners http://www.makesilentfilm.com/winners.html
II. Story Concept	Traditional story structure (exposition, hook, rising action, climax, dénouement)	Take a quiz on basic filmmaking techniques http://www.proprofs.com/quiz-school/story.php?title=introduction-to-filmmaking
	Dissect a short film using your understanding of short film script writing and techniques and the IYSFF Judging Criteria	http://lessonbucket.com/filmmaking/filmmaking-ideas/
	Listen to the IYSFF music genres and select a theme Discuss ways to make a short film with a low budget	http://www.makesilentfilm.com/hear-download.html Gloman, C 2003, <i>No-budget digital filmmaking: how to create professional-looking videos for little or no cash</i> , McGraw-Hill, New York. Kenworthy, C 2009, <i>Master Shots: 100 Advanced Camera Techniques to Get an Expensive Look on Your Low-Budget Movie</i> , Michael Wiese Productions, CA
	Brainstorm and map out the plot	Discuss the plot in the following example: Crash http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xLNhh_Wsum8
	Outline of your story from beginning to end by creating a treatment	
	Develop a logline for your film (a 2-3 sentence summary of a film that tells us: what the story is about, who the main character(s) are and what the main conflict is.	Look at some blogs sharing examples of strong and weak loglines for films. http://thestorydepartment.com/logline-it-week-6-2/ http://www.crackingyarns.com.au/2011/01/11/how-to-write-better-loglines/

III. Pitch	Pitch the idea to your class or teacher	<p>Top 10 pitching tips from script to screen http://www.filmmakermagazine.com/news/2012/03/top-10-pitching-tips-from-script-to-screen/</p> <p>Gideon's Screenwriting Tips: So Now You're a Screenwriter... http://gideonsway.wordpress.com/2012/09/25/the-art-of-the-pitch/</p> <p>See ad agencies 'selling the unsellable' with their advertising campaigns on The Pitch http://www.abc.net.au/tv/gruentransfer/thepitch.htm</p>
IV. Pre-Production	Revise story based on pitch feedback	
	Storyboard	<p>Storyboarding: A Video Tutorial http://lessonbucket.com/filmmaking/storyboards/</p> <p>Includes ideas on: Completing a shot list; digital storyboarding; and storyboard activities</p> <p>Hart, J 2007, <i>The Art of the Storyboard – Storyboarding for Film, TV and Animation (Ed2)</i>, Focal Press, Oxford.</p>
	Create a screenplay from the storyboard and treatment	http://lessonbucket.com/filmmaking/screenplay/
	Create a shot list and discuss production timeline and production roles	http://lessonbucket.com/filmmaking/filmmaking-tips/
V. Production	Composition	
	FEW: Focus, Exposure, White Balance	
	Explain the 180 and 30 degree rules	http://lessonbucket.com/filmmaking/cinematography/
	Filming for coverage	
VI. Post-Production	Intro to editing	<p>Watch <i>The Cutting Edge: The Magic of Movie Editing</i> Examples of film editing, by Wendy Apple and Mark Jonathan Harris. http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0428441/</p>
	Editing styles	<p>Editing style examples can be found in <i>The Cutting Edge: The Magic of Movie Editing</i> Examples of film editing, by Wendy Apple and Mark Jonathan Harris. and http://listverse.com/2007/10/28/top-10-best-film-editing-sequences/</p>
	Edit your silent film	
	Rough cut critique	
	Final edit: output to DVD	



VII. Screening	Screen films in class	
	Complete IYSFF submission form	Submission form
	Mail submission to Kingston Arts	
	Attend the IYSFF launch and celebrate!	