

We Save 2 Film:

Bringing the Archive & 16mm films to Public Arts Education



Alex Whelan (he/him), AMIA Film Advocacy Task Force
aw3195@columbia.edu

Workshop Partners & Frequency

Began as collaboration between Association of Moving Image Archivists & NYPL

- Middle School 250 (Upper Manhattan)
- Independent filmmakers & industry sponsors

Started in 2016 with curriculum plans

- Takes place biennially: 2017, 2019, 2021?



We Save 2 Film curriculum highlights

- 16mm projection & handling
- Film as craft: hands-on shooting with Bolex
 - Day 1: shoot test neg
 - Day 2: shoot short films in groups
- Film as chemistry: hand-processing w/ caffenol
- Film as art: direct animation
- Film as community: meet professionals
- Lunch (Whole Foods)
- High adult-to-child ratio (3 students + 2 adults)
- Storytelling fundamentals & visual literacy
- Final workshop films to be accessioned by NYPL Reserve Film and Video Collection



We Save 2 Film principles

Introduce current generation to film as a physical medium in a socially equitable and responsible context

- STEAM
 - Science, Tech, Engineering, Arts, Math
- Bridging communities
- Hands-on learning / Child-led production
- Invite young people from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds to think about careers in film-associated fields
- Ideal for the bright, inquisitive child whose intelligence does not fit models for scholastic achievement





In the Classroom





In
The
Field



Film
Fest!



Future Directions



Partnerships

- Expanding to different schools, different age groups

Open Curriculum

- Re-formatting the tested lesson plan for distribution to other schools/orgs (**public** arts education)

Virtual / Socially Distanced?

- We'll see how 2021 goes...
- Alt. title for workshop has been: "At least it's 4 Hours w/o video games"

Thank you!

Alex Whelan (he/him), AMIA Film Advocacy Task Force
aw3195@columbia.edu

Elena Rossi-Snook, New York Public Library
Co-creator of WS2F workshop
elenarossisnook@nypl.org