



# Young Filmmakers Academy 2017

*A collaboration between the Virginia Film Festival, Light House Studio, and local schools*

## **Goals**

- Engage youth in authentic film production study
- Cultivate critical and creative thinking among students
- Utilize language arts and visual thinking knowledge
- Establish best practices for filmmaking
- Develop skills in screenwriting, storyboarding, filming, and editing
- Inspire a life-long love of the art of film

## **Brief Description**

Students work under the guidance of their teachers to write, produce, and edit an original film. Guided by the common structure of “*Creating Peace*”, student teams collaborate to produce a short film, no longer than two minutes. The final films are reviewed by the school and submitted to the VFF, who hosts a red carpet premiere for students and their families.

The fall premiere will be at UVA Arts Grounds on **Saturday, November 11** during the Virginia Film Festival’s Family Day.

## **Responsibilities of Participating Schools**

- Appoint a single teacher or group of teachers to be the primary liaison between the VFF and the school
- Select students for YFA
- Provide equipment and software needed to produce films (students will need access to filming devices, computers, and editing software)
- Guide student teams through the development of films

- *Optional:* Schedule workshops directly with Light House Studio and help students brainstorm ideas prior to the workshops
- Provide VFF with student names, t-shirts sizes, and film details by deadline
- Review and submit completed films to VFF by deadline
- Share information about the premiere with students and parents

### **Responsibilities of Virginia Film Festival**

- Manage the administration and communication needs of YFA
- Recruit and register participating schools
- Provide an outline of the YFA program, the annual filmmaking challenge, and an overall schedule of due dates to all participating schools
- Provide all reporting forms for school entries
- Provide one banner, sign, or poster to each participating school that identifies it as a YFA Partner School
- Provide promotional materials to schools about the YFA program and the culminating public screening for dissemination to families
- Recognize student participants with t-shirts and certificates
- Host public screenings of all completed student films by school at culmination of program
- Create commemorative programs for all schools
- Provide red carpet experience for student filmmakers and their families

### **Responsibilities of Light House Studio**

- Offer a pre-designed selection of lecture-based workshops on different components of filmmaking to all participating schools
- Work with teachers to schedule times and days for workshops
- Prepare and lead requested workshops in-person, at participating schools
- Offer support during filming days (*pending availability, advance notice required*)

### **Contact**

434-982-4543

[vffyfa@gmail.com](mailto:vffyfa@gmail.com)

virginiafilmfestival.org

*The Virginia Film Festival is a program of the University of Virginia*

# Young Filmmakers Academy 2017



## *“Creating Peace”*

Every day we encounter different forms of conflict. People don’t always agree but at the end of the day we work to understand each other, find peaceful solutions, and make changes that leave the world better than we found it. Collaborate with your classmates to create a short film about how overcoming and resolving a conflict creates a positive change.

### **Requirements**

- Think about the people involved in the dispute and how they resolved their differences. This could be people you know, historical figures, characters from a favorite book, or original creations.
- Consider how to **present your story**: chronological order, through a narrator, and/or flashbacks?
- Structure your film so **the audience understands** who the characters are and what the story is about.
- **Get creative** with sets, costumes, sound, and/or special effects to enhance your film.
- Incorporate an **object associated with peace** (e.g., peace sign, dove, olive branch, etc.).

### **Rules**

- **Work together** to share ideas, film your story, and make edits.
- All films must be **original** works created by your team.
- Maximum running time for your film is **2 minutes** including credits– no exceptions, not even a split screen second.