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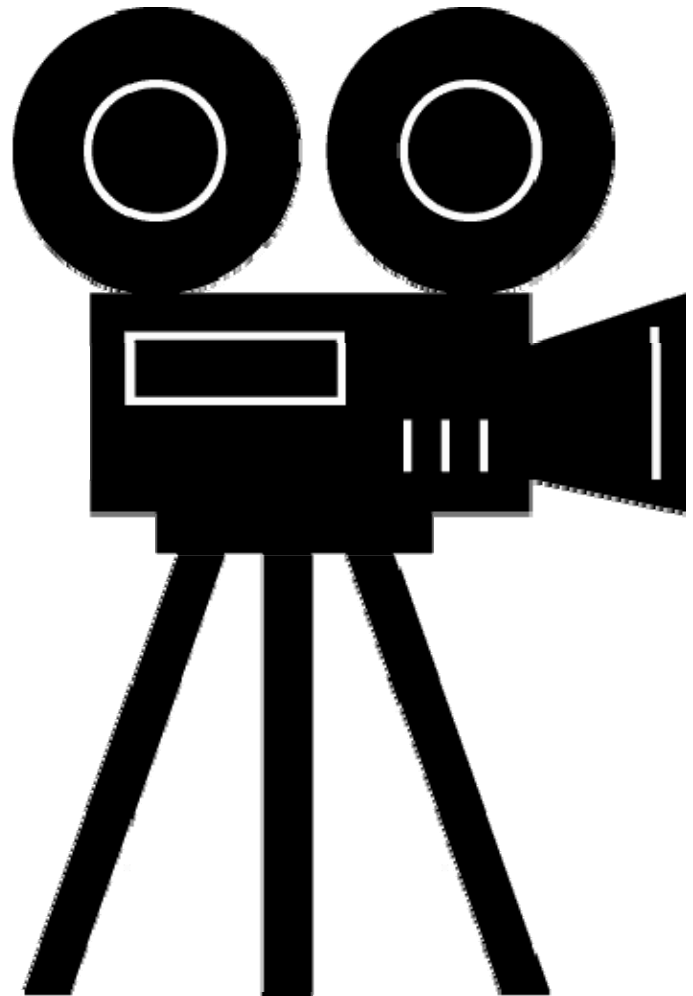


# *Through Our Eyes*

*A Young Artist Film Competition*



**FRIENDS  
OF THE  
ALGER THEATER**



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## INTRODUCTION

*“Just as children learn from storytelling, we may also learn from film, as both provide an avenue for experience that lies outside our normal point of view.” – Bret Stalcup*

Finney High School is located at 17200 Southampton Street, which is 0.6 miles from the Alger Theater, putting the Alger Theater in the heart of the attendee map for Finney High School students. Thus, the students and their families are the core of the community in which the Friends of the Alger Theatre organization aims to provide, “a viable Performing Arts Community Center.”

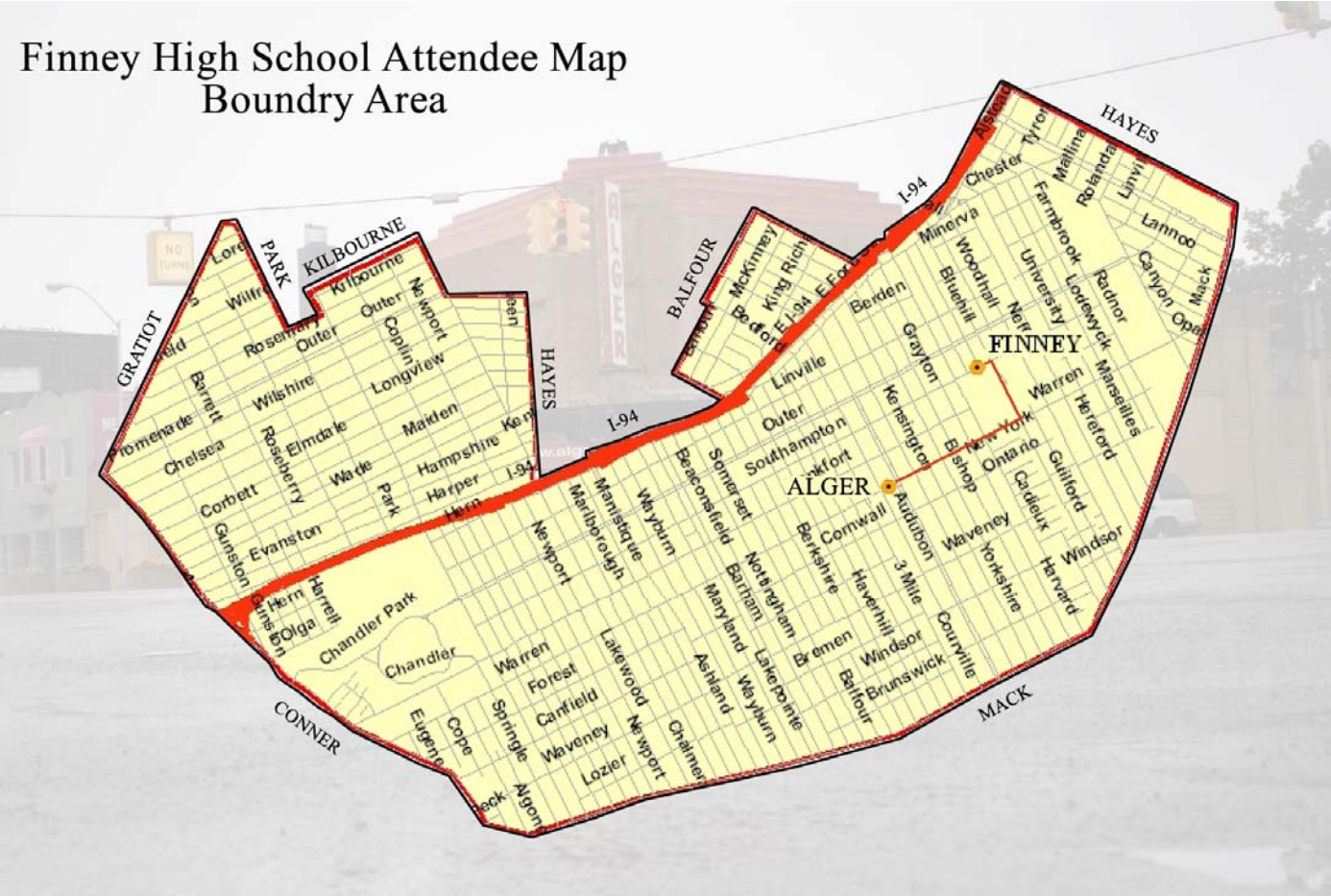
Unfortunately, for three years in a row, beginning in 2004, Finney has failed to meet Adequate Yearly Progress in English, Language Arts and Math, and has received the lowest possible grade on the Michigan Report card: D- Alert. In 2006, the graduation rate for Finney was a dismal 61.7% and as of March 2008, Finney’s enrollment fell by 444 students from March 2007.

The Detroit Public Schools report for student conduct underscores a need for community responsibility and commitment. For example, as of April 2, 2008, there have been 15 cases of threats of violence, 18 cases of intimidation of staff, 81 cases of fighting and 32 physical assaults. The list goes on. As a nonprofit organization, the duty to serve the community is paramount and the few square miles surrounding the Alger Theater and Finney high school is the key place to start.

The proposed program is a First Annual Film Competition entitled, “Through Our Eyes” and is an entire school year committed to an after-school program on filmmaking, film editing, acting, directing and screenwriting. Kicking-off the program is a proposed week-long team-building camp at Camp Wathana in Holly, MI. Following the establishment of working as a team and appreciating diversity, the students return to school and engage in applied theatre workshops that will provide the creative stimulation needed for the development of, and ideas for, films based on the local community and overcoming challenges to succeed in life. The program culmination is the submission of short films made by the students to be presented on the big screen.

Friends of the Alger Theater are Friends of Finney and this idea of alliance, trust and community pride will have a lasting effect on the students of Finney high school who need an opportunity to express how they view the world, “Through Our Eyes.”

# Finney High School Attendee Map Boundry Area



## PROGRAM VENUES

### BOLL FAMILY YMCA DIGITAL MEDIA LAB

#### *Inventory:*

- 12 G5 Mac Desktops loaded with Final Cut Studio 2, Adobe Creative Suite 2, iLife, and Microsoft Office for Mac
- 25 MacBook Pro Laptops loaded with Final Cut Studio 2, Adobe Creative Suite 3, iLife
- 3 Canon GL2 Video Cameras
- 2 Arri 3-point Kits
- Boom Poles, Shotgun Mics
- 2 Digital Field Recorders
- Digital Still Cameras (point and shoot Canon Powershots)

#### *Main digital media instructors include:*

##### TONY HEPP - Director of Multimedia Development

Multimedia designer Tony Hepp manages the Media Arts Lab for YArts and teaches a variety of computer and media classes. A filmmaker and new media designer, Tony studied Theatre at the University of Wyoming and Media and Theatre Arts from Montana State University.

##### BRANDON WALLEY— Filmmaker

Brandon is a Detroit based film maker and multimedia artist. He makes 16mm, Super 8 and video short films that have screened at film festivals and art galleries around the world. Brandon won the "Best Michigan Filmmaker" award at the 2007 Ann Arbor Film Festival. Brandon has taught a variety of film, video and motion graphic classes at YArts, the Detroit Film Center, high school and primary school programs for El Arte in Southwest Detroit, and the College for Creative Studies.

##### JASON HALL—Videographer

Channel 4 News director and cameraman Jason Hall produces documentary materials and provides technical assistance on special events. Jason is a graduate of the Specs-Howard College of Broadcasting and an avid collector of sneaker shoes.

#### *Estimated Costs:*

- To rent facility twice a week for a school year is a negotiable \$3,000
- Instructor fees are non-negotiable \$50 per hour with recommended two-hour sessions
- Laptops can be rented at 6 laptops for 6 weeks for \$1000
- Student requirements:
  - MiniDV taps (ten tapes approx. \$25)
  - DVD-R discs (TBD)
  - External Hard Drive (approx. \$100 each)

The program works with a number of other local video artists and photographers who have expressed an interest in helping with proposed programs.

A report on Young Creatives Summer Camp, which included digital media training (interactive and Video), can be found here:

[http://www.y-artsdetroit.org/yccreport/ycc08\\_observations.html](http://www.y-artsdetroit.org/yccreport/ycc08_observations.html)

## FINNEY HIGH SCHOOL

Principal, Alvin Ward

Dean of Students, Alvin Sims

- An interview with Mr. Sims took place at the school, during the art class in which he was substituting
- Mr. Sims was extremely interested in the film competition idea and was proud to show the artwork his students were currently working on
- After-school program hours are from 3:30 – 6:15 during the school year beginning after Labor Day, to mid-June
- The interview included a brief introduction to Principal Alvin Ward, who was a friend of Alger at one point
- Making this location feasible is the ability to rent laptops and equipment from the Boll Family YMCA Digital Media Lab and having instructors commute to the school

## NEW FILM LAB

NOTE: Bob Andersen, Founder of the Detroit Film Center estimated building a lab at \$90,000 plus and advised to build lab outside of Detroit Public Schools so independent management would not be an issue (Andersen).

To purchase 20 laptops with appropriate software:

- Macbook: \$1,300
- Final Cut Pro 2: \$1300
- Adobe Acrobat Creative Suite 3: \$500
- Additional Licenses: TBD (Apple)
- Total is estimated at \$27,800

## SCREENING VENUES

NOTE: After contacting the Detroit Public Library and Jefferson Branch Library, it was determined that films could not be screened after closing-hours, usually around 7:00 p.m. After many attempts, contact was unable to be established with the Redford theatre for rental information; and the representative from MJR Theatres stated that MJR would not host a film festival for educational purposes, which leaves four other venues for consideration:

1. The Main Art Theatre (*contact Valerie DeGarmo, House Manager*)
  - 275 seat theatre at \$650 for a weeknight, Monday through Thursday
  - \$800 for weekend matinee
  - \$900 for weekend prime time
  - Price is based on two-hour timeslot
  - Ticketing system open to organization (DeGarmo)
2. Detroit Opera House (*contact Dewan Mitchell*)
  - One night of entire theatre rental \$14,000 to \$17,000 (Mitchell)
3. Renaissance Center 4 Theatre (*contact Nancy DeVoe*)
  - Approx. \$3,700 two-hour rental with access to ticketing (Renaissance)
4. Detroit Film Theatre (*contact Larry Baranski, Director of Programming*)
  - \$3,700 rental of facility (1,100 seats)
  - Access to ticketing system
  - Mr. Baranski suggested sponsorship by the *Friends of the Detroit Film Theatre*, leaving costs at and estimated \$400 (Baranski)
  - The DFT also hosts the Michigan Student Film and Video Festival during the Detroit Festival of the Arts ([www.daftonline.org/msfvf.html](http://www.daftonline.org/msfvf.html))

## APPLIED THEATRE WORKSHOPS

Applied theatre is using theatre to address educational and social issues; it provides avenues for creative and imaginative approaches to problem solving and critical thinking, as well as an outlet for expression. The Magenta Giraffe Theatre Company has the human resources to provide applied theatre workshops to the students of Finney high school. In partnership with the Magenta Giraffe Theatre Company, Dr. Mary Cooney, head of the Applied Theatre program at Wayne State University, has experience in cross-cultural and thematic-based instruction and will be conducting the workshops.

- The first workshop is a 90 minute session that will focus on having the students place themselves in future as exceptional citizens and acting through award ceremonies for various contributions to society, and television talk show interviews for successes.
- The students will also bring in pictures of themselves when they were “younger” and point out things that underscored the fact that each was, “destined to be a leader.”
- The session will then progress to include newspaper clippings from great worldly disasters that prevented each student from having a clear and easy road to success, and the students will discuss how each overcame such disasters.
- Out of the sessions will come program design for the film, brainstorming for script-writing and established and refined scenes for filming in later workshops.
- Instruction fees for the workshop are \$150 per hour.
- A possible alliance with Wayne State University’s Theatres would include tickets in-kind for the group of students to see a play.

## **CAMP WATHANA**

Linda Tarjeft, Executive Director, Camp Wathana of Camp Fire USA Southeast Michigan Council

- Camp Wathana is located in Holly, Michigan and will provide the opportunity for the selected students to get to know one another and themselves as leaders, teammates, explorers and adventurers.
- The unique experience will be a one-week camping adventure that includes outdoor education classes, nature discovery hikes, waterfront activities, and a campfire program.
- Estimated cost for 24 persons (20 students and 4 volunteer chaperones) is \$6,300, which would include all meals and daily snack, nature and teambuilding activities and cabin rentals (Tarjeft). Transportation to and from camp estimated at \$336 (Whatley).
- Estimated cost for 16 persons (12 students and 4 volunteer chaperones) is \$4,894, which would include all meals and daily snack, nature and teambuilding activities and cabin rentals (Tarjeft). Transportation to and from camp estimated at \$336 (Whatley).

## **TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES**

All transportation for students of Detroit Public Schools must be provided through the Detroit Public Schools Field Trip Department.

- Buses may be rented for \$37 per hour with a four-hour minimum for weekdays and
- \$42 per hour with a four-hour minimum for Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays.
- Cost to transport students after school to the Boll Family YMCA twice per week for 37 weeks would be \$10,952 (Whatley).

## **PROGRAM DIRECTOR EXPENSES**

Program Direction will be provided through the Magenta Giraffe Theatre Company and fees based on high school level extra-curricular program director costs.

- \$6,500 per 10 weeks, or \$36 per hour for the high school level
- \$3,500 per 10 weeks, or \$19 per hour for the middle school level
- Facility Management costs, facility and program oversight, ticket sales, and set-up, is \$8,000 for 10 weeks or \$53 per hour for both high school and middle school levels (Koerner)

## PROGRAM OPTIONS

### PROGRAM OPTION A

20 students

- **Location:** Finney high school
- **Duration:** two-hour sessions, twice a week during school year
- **Instruction:** \$7,400 (74 sessions over 37 weeks at \$50/hour)
- **Supplies:** \$2,050 (miniDV tapes and 20 external hard drives)
- **Laptop rental:** \$19,800 (6 laptops at 6 weeks = \$1,000)
- **Program management:** \$5,328 (74 sessions over 37 weeks at \$36/hour)
- **Applied Theatre workshops:** \$2,250 (ten 90 minute workshops).
- **Camp Wathana:** \$6,636 (six nights plus transportation).
- **Venue:** Detroit Film Theatre \$3,700
  - ❖ Estimated Total = \$47,164
  - ❖ Estimated Total with purchasing laptops = \$55,164
  - ❖ Second year with laptops = \$27,364

### PROGRAM OPTION B

12 students

- **Location:** Boll Family YMCA Digital Media Lab
- **Duration:** two-hour sessions, twice a week during school year
- **Facility:** \$3,000 (twice per week during school year)
- **Transportation:** \$10,952 (74 sessions over 37 weeks)
- **Supplies:** \$2,050 (miniDV tapes and 20 external hard drives)
- **Instruction:** \$7,400 (74 sessions over 37 weeks at \$50/hour)
- **Program management:** \$5,328 (74 sessions over 37 weeks at \$36/hour)
- **Applied Theatre workshops:** \$2,250 (ten 90 minute workshops).
- **Camp Wathana:** \$5,230 (six nights plus transportation).
- **Venue:** Main Art Theatre of Royal Oak \$900
  - ❖ Estimated Total = \$37,110

## PROGRAM OPTION C

20 students

- **Location:** Finney high school
- **New Film Lab:** \$90,000 (set-up costs TBD)
- **Duration:** two-hour sessions, twice a week during school year
- **Instruction costs:** \$7,400 (74 sessions over 37 weeks at \$50/hour)
- **Supplies:** \$2,050 (miniDV tapes and 20 external hard drives)
- **Program management:** \$5,328 (74 sessions over 37 weeks at \$36/hour)
- **Applied Theatre workshops:** \$2,250 (ten 90 minute workshops).
- **Camp Wathana:** \$6,636 (six nights plus transportation).
- **Venue:** Detroit Opera House \$17,000
  - ❖ Estimated Total = \$130,664
  - ❖ Estimated Total using Renaissance Center 4 = \$117,364

## UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES



“UNTIL THE VIOLENCE STOPS: Detroit is a two-week long festival raising awareness and funds to bring the issues of violence against women and girls center stage in our city. The festival issues a call to action to all citizens of Detroit, through theatre, art, spoken word, photography, performance and community events: demand an end to violence against women and girls, and become an active partner in ending it.”

### \*\*UNTIL THE VIOLENCE STOPS FILM FESTIVAL\*\*

- Needs sponsorship and assistance finding films and documentaries
- Contact Karisha Fenton, [karishafenton@yahoo.com](mailto:karishafenton@yahoo.com)
- Saturday, February 21, 2009
- Location: West Bloomfield
- More details to come

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES [www.utvsdetroit.org](http://www.utvsdetroit.org)

EVENT PARTNER \$5000-\$10,000 and up	EVENT PARTNER \$1000-\$5,000	EVENT PARTNER \$500-\$1,000	PERSONAL PARTNER \$100-\$500	MEDIA SPONSOR
<p><i>Partnership Benefits:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four complimentary tickets to one of the Marquee events,</li> <li>• Two complimentary tickets to an additional Marquee event of your choice</li> <li>• Prime space for marketing materials and company representatives.</li> <li>• Name printed on playbills, our web site and Festival t-shirts.</li> <li>• Permission to use Festival logo in conjunction with advertising materials.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Partnership Benefits:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two complimentary tickets to the Marquee event of your choice</li> <li>• Name printed on playbills and our web site</li> <li>• Permission to use festival logo in conjunction with advertising materials</li> </ul>	<p><i>Partnership Benefits:</i></p> <p><i>This is an excellent opportunity for smaller companies or organizations to contribute to the Festival</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name printed on our web site.</li> <li>• Permission to use Festival logo in conjunction with advertising materials</li> </ul>	<p><i>Partnership Benefits:</i></p> <p>Without the grass roots, none of this would be possible. We will honor your contribution in this category by listing your name on web site</p>	<p><i>Partnership Benefits:</i></p> <p>If you are donating services, outdoor advertising or radio/television services, your name will be printed or mentioned in conjunction with those services. Depending on the level of support, some of the aforementioned amenities will apply.</p>

## MAGENTA GIRAFFE THEATRE COMPANY

The Magenta Giraffe Theatre Company is an aspiring nonprofit organization with capabilities to offer applied theatre workshops, and acting, directing, improvisation and playwriting workshops. The company is currently producing *No Exit* by Jean-Paul Sartre at the Park Bar in Downtown Detroit.

Contact LoriGoe Nowak, co-Founder, 586.876.1447

Contact Frannie Shepherd-Bates, co-Founder, 248.510.5433

*No Exit* by Jean-Paul Sartre

- Weekends December 13, 2008 – January 16, 2009
- Volunteer opportunities to improve theatrical space
- Sponsorship opportunities for marketing and advertising materials

*Dutchman* by Amiri Baraka

- Coming Fall 2009
- Volunteer opportunities to improve theatrical space
- Sponsorship opportunities for marketing and advertising materials

## DETROIT PROJECTION SOCIETY

Contact, Nate Faustyn, Director, 248.860.2348

[www.projectionsociety.org](http://www.projectionsociety.org)

Mission Statement: The Detroit Projection Society's goal is to promote the preservation of theatre projectors in their original settings. In order to fulfill that mission the D.P.S. aims to establish a venue for independent community arts, theatre, and cinema in the classic setting of a restored movie house.

Mr. Faustyn will soon be acquiring the Wayne State University Film Archive Collection and is interested in hosting and collaborating on various film series (Faustyn). More information to come!

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