FILMMAKING APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Please read all the information below and, if you have questions, please email Amanda Dillingham at ajdillingham@gmail.com and Spenser Fritz at spenserfritz@yahoo.com.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Governor's School Application Due (Student Portion) – January 15th, 2027
- Teacher/Counselor Recommendations Due – February 5th, 2027
- Portfolio Requirements Due – January 27, 2027
- Student Interview – February 6 & 7 (Please be available both days – we are not able to let students pick which day they interview)

INTERVIEW

During the audition process the adjudicators will have a conversation with the student about their interest in filmmaking and the program. These will be conducted via Zoom.

Students should be able to critically discuss their favorite movie or director. This doesn't mean be critical, it means what they like about them, the lighting, the production design, how they tell a story, etc.

The adjudicators will also go over the student's personal portfolio and other listed requirements.

Your interview will be either Saturday OR Sunday and we cannot accommodate requests for specific days so please keep both days open. Audition times will be emailed out on Monday, January 26, 2026.

PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENTS

Students should send the following via the google survey link: https://forms.gle/xPHAFuZuyoA9kuf97 by February 1st, 2027.

- **Photo Roman**: This can be done in Keynote, PowerPoint, google slides, etc. but please save as a PDF. A photo roman is 10-15 photo stills that tell a narrative story with a beginning, middle and an end. We require a minimum of 10 photos. Maximum is up to you. These are still photos not video. It shouldn't be set to music or have any sound. Just images we can click through. We really want to see your storytelling abilities here. So please think through a story. We are not looking for photos from your recent vacation, landscape photos, or you and your friends. IT HAS TO TELL A STORY that we can understand without you explaining it. Please think about the setting and wardrobe as well. If you are telling a story about someone in a hospital it wouldn't make sense to take the photos in a classroom. Think about camera angles. Keep things in focus and clear. If you have questions, feel free to reach out.

YOU CANNOT BE THE MAIN PERSON FEATURED IN YOUR PHOTO ROMAN. Use a family member or friend. This is so we know you are behind the camera taking the photos and making the directing decisions.

Examples of Photo Romans:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QXfFm9qs2TI
https://vimeo.com/groups/685319/videos/463456320

Example of Your Work: Please provide a link (YouTube/Vimeo) to a video project they have done. Please be sure your video is public so we can view. We are not taking Google Drive links for this as we have too many issues with permissions. This could be a stand-alone project, or it could be a reel (a video with a bunch of short segments of things you have worked on). It doesn't have to be a masterpiece. It could be experimental, a music video, a news segment from school, a short film, photography etc. But you should be able to talk about how you participated in the film and talk constructively about the process. What would you have done differently? Were there any hurdles you had to overcome? Was there any specific thing in the piece you are particularly proud of?

We will discuss this work in the interviews. Because the interview is limited in time, please know the time codes for about 1-3 minutes of what you would like us to focus on. We can cue the link up wherever you recommend.

Please plan to upload required materials prior to the due date so if you have issues, you can reach out.