

Exerpt

Manual

**A hands-on guide to digital storytelling
by, for and about young people**

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In association with the South Australian Film Corporation; with the assistance of the South Australian Government through Arts SA, Office for Youth and the SA Youth Arts Board; with the assistance of Country Arts SA through the Regional Arts Fund. The Regional Arts Fund is an Australian Government initiative supporting the arts in regional and remote Australia. Produced with the support of the Australian Festival for Young People aka Come Out.

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For more information and links to youth, media and film
festival groups in your area visit www.directingthehero.com



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DVD USE

The 120-min DVD contains 11 training modules, 9 short films and 6 behind-the-scenes documentaries.

Each module gives straightforward professional and practical advice. Watch it in sequence, or jump to a specific module.

Most of the young people who made the 9 films had **NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE** - these films show your group the range, style and quality of work they themselves can produce.

After you watch the films join the young people behind-the-scenes. This is where your students will really become engaged; watching other young people share their insights, their mistakes and their learning while they make films.

There are more details about the DVD on page 47-48:
DVD at a glance and DVD Chapter markers.

What if our group doesn't have the equipment?

Even if your school does not yet have video equipment, the DVD will educate your students in basic video training, storytelling and storyboarding skills.

Use it to create discussion topics around media analysis, documentary styles, film critique and ethics.

You can also work with the companion kit **Drawing on the Hero Within** if you want to explore digital storytelling without using video equipment.

If you have the equipment, the DVD is a fantastic way to get the most out of your investment. It supports ongoing peer-training and production and relief for the IT teacher!

Join the community of young media makers and stay up-to-date with the ever-changing world of media production.

For more information and links to youth, media and film festival groups in your area visit www.directingthehero.com

OVERVIEW WEEK 2**SINGLE LESSON****STORYTELLING****LESSON 4****Aim****Convert your story to film, continue research and development.****Key points**

Narrative
Beginning
Who what where when why?
Crisis
What's at stake?
Middle
Resolution

DOUBLE LESSON**GET TO KNOW YOUR CAMERA****LESSON 5****Aim****Set up camera and tripod equipment.****Key points**

Care and safety
Attach battery
Insert tape
Camera controls
VCR mode
Headphones
Record
Lock & label tape

Pre-roll
Shoot to edit
Hand-held
L-bracket
practice moves
Tripod
Tripod locks

DOUBLE LESSON**MICROPHONES AND SOUND****LESSON 6****Aim****Set up microphones and practise sound recording.****Key points**

On camera microphone
Set up + use
Directional microphone
Set up + use
boom
Radio microphone
Set up + use
Check batteries

Check camera volume
Sound levels
Eliminate noise
Reveal sound source
Record location audio
Radio interference
Quiet on set

WEEK 2 LESSON 5**DOUBLE LESSON****GET TO KNOW YOUR CAMERA****Preparation for Lesson**

DVD player + TV or computer to play the DVD

Photocopy

Cameras, headphones, cables, batteries, tapes

Camera checklist

Watch DVD: 10 min

Camera basics AND Camera handling

Exercise

30 min

'Hands-on' get to know the camera

Most people have had some experience using a camera. It is important each person sets up the camera from scratch and then explains the steps to the next person.

This peer-training group exercise allows everyone to recap what they have done after they get to know the equipment at hand.

Exercise

25 min

'Hands-on' reviewing in camera

To review your footage in camera, switch to VCR mode and operate the rewind, play and fast forward buttons on the camera or remote control.

We recommend you avoid reviewing in camera on location because you run the risk of taping over footage if you forget to return to the last scene you filmed.

Also, it often creates digital time-code breaks, which makes it difficult to capture / import later.

It is best to film all your scenes first and then lock your tape before you review. When you are ready to review you can use the camera, attach it to a TV or review and capture on the computer.

For further information see: Editing Basics

Exercise

30 min

'Hands-on' camera handling

To compare the difference between hand held, tripod and tracking shots, film one scene of your film or a test shot, for example people playing basketball. This footage can be used later in the review and edit modules.

Tip

Preparing a storyboard for your film, before you shoot, will help shape your film and make it more interesting to watch. In filmmaking very little is accidental.

Feedback & wrap up

5 min

Name:

Date:

- Attach the battery
- Insert the tape
- Remove the lens cap
- Open the LCD screen
- Turn the camera to 'camera'
- Note the green STBY sign on the LCD screen
- Turn the camera to 'memory'
- Note the memory sign on the LCD screen
- Use the zoom control to zoom in and zoom out
- Attach the headphones
- Locate the built-in microphone
- Press record
- Note the red REC sign on the LCD screen
- Turn the camera to 'VCR'
- Rewind the tape
- Press play and review
- Attach L-bracket and test different moves
- Attach tripod plate to camera
- Attach camera to tripod
- Tilt up
- Pan
- Remove camera from tripod
- Remove the tape and lock it
- Remove the battery