

Dear media teacher,

AN UNPRECEDENTED OPPORTUNITY!

Paul Allen's Cinerama Theater(!) in downtown Seattle will host this year's Northwest High School Film Festival (NWSFF) in May solving a major problem we had last year in outgrowing our venue! The Cinerama is a fantastic, state of the art, professional theatre with huge 70mm screen and 800 (!) seat capacity. Students living in the Seattle area will know this theatre as one where blockbuster movies are shown that have demanding special effects and sound tracks that can take advantage of the Cinerama's state-of-the-art digital acoustics system.

IMAGINE BRINGING ALL YOUR STUDENTS!

Like last year, the festival will be held during the school day, so teachers can take advantage of this opportunity to bring whole classes of students to be inspired by the films their peers are making. Imagine how students will feel having their films shown to a packed audience in a real public movie theater, (including movie theater concessions for that true American movie going experience!).

BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The generosity of Paul Allen and the Cinerama Theater, in donating the use of the 800 seat space, will go a long way towards enabling us to accommodate large groups from each school, however, we still need your help in making sure everyone will fit. We need to get a preliminary count of the numbers of students and transport vehicles to expect. If you think you may be able to attend with your class(s), please fill out the contact info form at <http://www.nwsff.org/form.html> to help us in our planning. Even if you are not sure, go ahead and let us know you are thinking about it by filling out the form. Doing this will ensure you get all festival updates as they occur because we will have up-to-date contact info for you and your program. And in the unlikely event we find we have too many seat requests, we will be able to work with you to ensure as many of your students as possible can come. This is a seminal year for the festival and helping us with this piece of the pre-production planning for the event will keep us moving forward.

SPREAD THE WORD!

If you know of other media teachers in the Puget Sound area, help us get out the word of the inspiring opportunity this event offers for both viewers and participants. Visit our website www.nwsff.org to show your classes last year's winning videos and to get up to date details of this year's festival.

THE FUTURE'S SO BRIGHT WE GOTTA WEAR SHADES!

We are getting started early on the organizing of this event to make the most of this amazing opportunity and ensure that everyone will go away inspired to produce more films. Stay tuned for more information, including our special winter mini-contest for short films, (under a minute), that will be shown at the festival to introduce each category of student work. And of course, if you are interested in becoming involved, helping to build what is now the largest school centered student film festival in the Northwest, contact us. There's lots to do and we are a great group of people to work with!

Looking forward to hearing from you!

The Media Educator's for Excellence Team (MEET)