

Film in the City

Highlights of 2014 evaluation findings



“Film in the City inspires young people to reach higher and to express themselves; it reminds them that their voice is not only valid, it is valued. This program must continue.” –Film artist

What is Film in the City?

Film in the City is an *arts learning* program based in the Twin Cities. The program enlists professional filmmakers to teach filmmaking skills to homeless youth. Young filmmakers learn filmmaking skills by participating in 12 teaching workshops, led by film artists. Young filmmakers then write, film, edit, and premiere their own short film.

Who is Film in the City?

Film in the City is the realized vision of project director Richard Reeder and is made possible with funding from the Minnesota State Arts Board.

Twelve young filmmakers participated in Film in the City in 2014. They were ages 17-20 at program entry and identified as African American, American Indian, Southeast Asian, and White. Rich Reeder enlisted 68 film artists who offered their expertise to the project, including screenwriters, actors, cinematographers, directors, designers, and film editors.

Our evaluation

Wilder Research developed two surveys in partnership with Film in the City, one for young filmmakers and another for film artists. These surveys asked program participants about their experiences with and perceptions of the program.

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451 Lexington Parkway North
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55104
651-280-2700

www.wilderresearch.org



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What did young filmmakers say about their experience with Film in the City?

Increased their filmmaking skills

All young filmmakers said that their filmmaking skill level increased in each of the following areas:

- Developing a story
- Storyboarding
- Coordinating film shoots
- Writing screenplays
- Casting
- Filming scenes

Developed as an artist

All young filmmakers noted that, because of their participation in Film in the City, they...

- Grew as an artist
- Became more interested in filmmaking
- Grew more confident in their artistic abilities

Made connections to working professionals

All young filmmakers said that they formed relationships with people that will be able to help them if they want to pursue filmmaking in the future. Likewise, most film artists would recommend all or most of the youth who participated in Film in the City to their professional colleagues for other filmmaking opportunities.

Impacted future filmmaking plans

All young filmmakers said that, because of Film in the City, they...

- Learned skills that will be useful for their future
- Feel prepared to pursue other filmmaking opportunities

For more information

This summary presents highlights from the *Film in the City: Evaluation of 2014 Program Activities* report. For more information, see the full report. Please contact Ryan Evans at Wilder Research at ryan.evans@wilder.org or 651-280-2677 with questions.