2022 PRODUCTION INSTITUTE

Info Sessions

March 28, 7pm
Virtual Info Session

March 29, 7pm, Logan Center
In-Person Info Session
Digital Storytelling Initiative

A joint project of the Jonathan Logan Family Foundation Media Center and Logan Center Community Arts made possible through an endowment from the Jonathan Logan Family Foundation.

The Digital Storytelling Initiative partners with organizations on campus, in the South Side, and throughout Chicago, extending the Media Center’s reach and impact to fill community needs in access and training in digital production.
Presented in partnership with the Community Film Workshop of Chicago, the Production Institute makes high-quality digital production training accessible to media makers from South Side communities.

The aim of the Production Institute is to provide skills enhancement and engage artists in telling stories of the rich culture of their communities and institutions.
### Logan Center for the Arts

- **Bill Michel**  
  Executive Director of UChicago Arts and the Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts

- **David Wolf**  
  Senior Director of Art Technologies

### Jonathan Logan Media Center

- **Elizabeth Myles**  
  Digital Storytelling Initiative Program Manager

- **Ben Chandler**  
  Assistant Director of Jonathan Logan Media Center

- **Anika Steppe**  
  Media Center Coordinator

### Community Arts

- **Emily Hooper Lansana**  
  Senior Director of Community Arts

- **Dominique Boyd**  
  Assistant Director of Education and Family Programs

- **Mashaune Hardy**  
  Assistant Director of Partnerships and Strategy
Community Film Workshop of Chicago (CFWC)

Margaret Caples
Executive Director

Derek Grace
2022 Production Institute
Lead Instructor

Keisha Chavers
2022 Production Institute
Teaching Assistant
Community Film Workshop of Chicago (CFWC)

The mission of the Community Film Workshop of Chicago (CFWC) is to provide access to media production that supports the development of independent media artists in underserved and underrepresented communities.

CFWC projects include:

- Youth In Motion
- Woodlawn Reporter’s Summer Camp
- Reel Black Filmmakers
- Diverse Voices In Docs
Goals of the Production Institute

The Production Institute makes high-quality digital production training accessible to media makers from South Side communities. This program addresses the lack of affordable, intensive courses available to South Side filmmakers and media artists.

Through a hands-on film production course taught by experienced instructors, the Production Institute offers participants the opportunity to advance digital production skills and build a professional portfolio.
Production Institute Learning Objectives

- Be trained in a range of media production skills
- Work as a principal production team member towards completing a five-minute short film or portion of larger project
- Participate in the #MadeAtLogan Docuseries
- Have production equipment access for up to a year to further advance film project
Eligibility

- Ages 19 or older
- South Side resident
- Intermediate filmmaker
- Not currently enrolled in a school or college program
- Must have demonstrated skills in camera operation / basic editing
- All applicants must pass a proficiency test
- Attend all Film Aesthetics courses
- Make $100 deposit for program participation
- Have a feasible project proposal
Film Aesthetics Courses

Instructors

Sergio Mims
Pemon Rami

The virtual Film Aesthetics courses will examine the visual art of film and establish shared language through screenings, lectures, and discussions.

MANDATORY: Only applications of persons who attend all four consecutive Film Aesthetics sessions will be reviewed.
Film Aesthetics Learning Outcomes

- Better understanding of film language
- Enhanced story development skills
- Better understanding of shot composition
- Better understanding of how lighting affects mood
- Better understanding of how music and audio affect mood

Topics Covered
- Mise-en-scene
- Editing
- Sound
- Shots
- Framing
- Depth of Field
- Camera Movement
- Lighting
Film Aesthetics Instructor: 4/5 & 4/12

Sergio Mims

Film Critic Sergio Mims is the host and producer of the Bad Mutha’ Film Show WHPK- FM (88.5 FM) a screenwriter and a former lecturer in the Art Institute of Chicago. He has provided commentaries for Vinegar Syndrome and Arrow Films DVD labels.

Mims is the co-founder and co-programmer of the Black Harvest Film Festival at the Gene Siskel Film Center. He co-founded the cinema blog Shadow and Act. He is a member of the Chicago Film Critics Association.

Find his reviews at https://cinesavant.com/
Film Aesthetics Instructor: 4/19 & 4/26

Pemon Rami

International filmmaker and documentarian Pemon Rami has been involved in the development of television, films, music concerts, documentaries and plays since the late 60’s.

Pemon produced the feature films *Of Boys and Men* released by Warner Brothers starring: Angela Bassett and Robert Townsend and *93 Days* shot in Nigeria starring Danny Glover and Bimbo Akintola.

He received an African Academy Award nomination and an African People’s Choice Award nomination for producing *93 Days*.

In 2019, Rami was selected for inclusion in The HistoryMakers Digital Archive, housed at the Library of Congress.
Production Institute Courses

This course is taught by award-winning industry professionals who are committed to teaching and mentoring diverse filmmakers.

This 12-week intermediate filmmaking course will teach the creative concepts required to create short documentaries and narrative films.

Fellows will learn how to master essential visual communication and video production methods including storytelling, cinematography, sound and editing.
What We’re Looking For

- Passionate storyteller
- Intermediate filmmaker
- Demonstrated technical proficiency
- Community-focused stories that inspire hope, connection, and courage
- Active learner
- Good collaborator & team-player
- Able to commit 17 hours/week
  - 7 hours in class
  - 10 hours outside of class
2022 Production Institute Timeline

Film Aesthetics Courses
(MANDATORY & VIRTUAL)
April 5, 12, 19, 26
Tuesdays, 7-9pm

Application Period
April 4 - May 15

Finalists Announced
June 1

Production Institute
(IN PERSON PENDING COVID)
June 15 - August 31
Wednesdays, 6:30-9pm
Saturdays, 10am-2pm
Course Schedule

- Storytelling: I & II (2 weeks)
- Cinematography I & II (2 weeks)
- Basic Sound (1 week)
- Basic Lighting (1 week)
- Advanced Cinematography & Directing I & II (2 weeks)
- Film Scoring & Storytelling Through Editing (1 week)
- Office Hours & Free Time to Work on Projects (1 week)
- Rough Cut Screening (1 week)
- Fine Cut Screening (1 week)

At the conclusion of the formal courses, artists will have access to editing and production resources to finish their work.

Community Showcase: October 2022
Storytelling

Goals
Fellows will be able to enhance their loglines, synopses, and treatments.

Learning Outcomes
1. Loglines, synopses and treatments
2. Three phases of production
3. How to create pre-production plans
4. Storyboarding
Cinematography

Goals
Fellows will obtain better understanding of cinematography terms. They will improve their creative and technical mastery of cinematography.

Learning Outcomes
1. Composition
2. Shots
3. Camera settings
4. Basic lighting techniques
Lighting

Goals
Fellows will learn basic lighting concepts and techniques. They will learn 3-point, 2-point and 1-point lighting. Fellows will also learn how to use basic lighting support equipment.

Learning Outcomes
1. Importance of key light, fill light and back light
2. How to position lights
3. How to use practical lights
4. How to use available light
Sound

Goals
Fellows will obtain better understanding of sound/audio terms. They will learn how to use lapel and boom microphones, as well as audio recorders.

Learning Outcomes
1. Microphone selections
2. Microphone placement
3. Microphone monitoring
Directing & Cinematography

Goals
Fellows will be able to conduct effective interviews and direct short narrative scenes.

Learning Outcomes
1. Directing interviews
2. Directing narratives
3. Getting good sound
Cathleen Campbell

“[The Production Institute] offers so much to both experienced filmmaker and newcomers.

Along with sharpening your filmmaker skills and producing your own short film, you’ll be impressed and touched by how much every member of the staff cares about your success. Collaborating with your fellow participants makes everybody’s projects better... You’ll learn more than you expected, make new friends and gain more confidence. Thanks to the DSI program, you’ll create a short film that you’re proud to show. Completing the [Production Institute] prepares you to be a valued member of the Chicago filmmaking community.”

2021 Production Institute
Cortney Hill

“As a part of the Production Institute, I’m building relationships with people who see and interpret the world differently than me, while seeking to capture and share our piece of the world together through film and storytelling.”

Photo by Jazmine Harris (MFA’19)

2019 Production Institute
Natalie Battles

"The Production Institute was life-changing for me. Not only did I gain the skills necessary to better myself, my business and my artistry, I also gained the confidence I needed to make sure I continue to create."

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2020 Production Institute

Photo by Sandra Oviedo aka ColectivoMultipolar
Amandilo Cuzan

"Here in Chicago, where some of the greatest achievements in Black culture have become manifest, we have a sacred duty to preserve, promote and continue to tell the stories of our ancestors and contemporary heroes."

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2020 Production Institute
"If you ever want to become a filmmaker in Chicago, I believe that this program will have your best interest at hand. The style of teaching is clearcut, unbiased and easy to learn if you are willing to dedicate your time and energy towards a filmmaking career."

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2020 Production Institute
Rigoberto Gomez-Carmona

“The Production Institute at the DSI truly inspired me but more importantly gave the me the resources, space and incredible access to fellow Black and Brown filmmakers with all levels of experience in an industry that had systematically shun out Brown and Black voices. A true creative oasis in the South Side of Chicago.”

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2021 Production Institute
Logline: TREAD is a dramedy about how shallow choices can produce devastating results.
Cindy Martin

Logline: A Filipino-American father-daughter storytelling team embark on a real-life mission to solve the lifelong mystery of their missing Japanese patriarch before time runs out on the father’s ailing health.
Open Floor for Questions

To learn more about the program, register for Film Aesthetics, or to apply please visit our website:  bit.ly/logan_dsi
Register for Film Aesthetics, Tuesdays in April

To learn more about the program, view tonight’s slides, or to apply (application opens April 4!) please visit our website:
bit.ly/logan_dsi
Thank you for your time!

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