

BIFF 2020 Youth Pavilion/Cinema to Schools/Youth Advisory Council

2019 Arts Education Project Grant

Boulder International Film Festival

Ms. Robin Beeck
2338 Broadway
Boulder
Boulder, CO 80304

O: 303-449-2289
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Ms. Kathy Beeck

2338 Broadway Street
Boulder, CO 80304

kathy@biff1.com
O: 303-449-2289

Application Form

Grant information and confirmation

Si prefiere leer esta información en español, por favor haga clic aquí. Se puede responder a la solicitud en español. Un miembro del personal de la Oficina de Artes y Cultura traducirá sus respuestas para que sean revisadas por el panel.

PURPOSE: The Arts Education Project Grant provides opportunities for children in the City of Boulder to have unique experiences with practicing artists, access to tools and techniques, or improved instruction in the creative professions. The goal of the grant is to increase the exposure of students to unique and memorable experiences that may shape their future in cultural participation and creative careers.

Total Funds: \$30,000

Awards: Approximately 10 awards at \$3,000 each

Details: The award amount of \$3,000 is a maximum funding guideline. Smaller requests will be accepted.

Cycle: Annual

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATION: Monday, May 13 at 11:59 p.m.

- Monday, May 13 at 11:59 p.m. - Deadline for applications
- May 13 to May 17 - Review by staff for eligibility and revision by applicants if necessary
- May 17 to June 7 - Preliminary review and score by panel (22 days)
- June 7 to June 12 - Score processing by staff
- June 12 - Preliminary scores posted online
- June 12 to June 19 - Applicants prepare 3-minute optional presentation for the Boulder Arts Commission meeting
- June 19 - Arts Commission meeting. Presentations by applicants; panel rescore; discussion and final decisions on grants

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- General eligibility. Meets all general eligibility requirements.
- Open to educators, administrators, and presenters. Classroom teachers and school administrators in public schools, private schools, home school associations, and non-traditional classroom settings, as well as artists / individuals / organizations collaborating with schools on programming are eligible.
- Service area and programming. Projects must have a demonstrated benefit to schoolchildren in the City of Boulder.
- Projects must take place after the grant deadline and end before the end of the 2020 spring semester.

REVIEW PROCESS

- Deliberation. Grant proposals are reviewed at Boulder Arts Commission meetings. See schedule.
- Evaluation of applications. Funding in previous years does not imply continued support. Each application is reviewed anew in the context of current policies and applications. Applicants that have received repeated funding should be aware that the Boulder Arts Commission looks for indication of growth and a fresh approach to their work.
- Evaluation criteria
 - Benefit to students (Maximum 8 points)
 - Complementing curriculum (Maximum 8 points)
 - Proposed outcomes and evaluation strategy (Maximum 8 points)
 - Community Priorities (Maximum 8 points)
 - Cultural equity (Maximum 8 points)
 - Boulder focus (Maximum 4 points)
 - Encouragement points (Maximum 4 points)
- The complete scoring system and rubric for the Arts Education Project Grant can be found [here](#).

APPEALS PROCESS

Written appeals process. The deadline for a written appeal is 14 days after funding decisions has been made by the Boulder Arts Commission. The appeals process can be found on our website.

GRANT AWARDS

- Notifications and dispersal of funds. Staff notifies all applicants if their proposals have been accepted or declined. If accepted, grantees must contact the grant coordinator to arrange for payment. Checks are sent by mail or electronically to bank accounts designated by the recipients.
- Communications. All official communications and notifications will be made to the named individual applicant or person designated as the organization contact. It is this person's responsibility to communicate Boulder Arts Commission requirements of the grant award to any collaborators or other participants. This includes, but is not limited to, such things as compliance with grant agreements, identifying Boulder Arts Commission sponsorship on publicity materials, and reporting issues.
- Implementation. Grantees shall implement programs / projects as outlined in the grant application. Any changes to the project, venue, grantee address, schedule, or staff / team members must be reported to culturegrants@boulderlibrary.org.
- Award amount. The Boulder Arts Commission reserves the right to adjust the amount of a grant award offered to an applicant. There are no restrictions as to the minimum amount that may be requested.
- PERA impacts. Retirees affiliated with the Colorado Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA) will be impacted by a withholding requirement enacted by the Colorado State Legislature, if awarded a City of Boulder arts grant. Details are available on the [PERA website](#). See "Disclosure of Compensation."
- IRS taxation. Grant awards are non-transferable. Grant awards are taxable and are reported to the federal government. Upon award, a current IRS form W-9 must be submitted for the City of Boulder Finance Department records for each grant recipient, whether the recipient is an individual or an

organization/business. The W-9 must be in the same name as the grant recipient named on the grant application. Failure to supply the corresponding W-9 number will invalidate the grant award.

- Agreement. When a funding award is made by the Boulder Arts Commission, the recipient will be contacted by staff to sign a grant project agreement with the City of Boulder. In the agreement, the recipient will indicate the completion date of the project and the date a grant report will be submitted to the Boulder Arts Commission. Reports are required one month after the project is completed, unless the agreement states otherwise. The report must be completed through the online system found at boulderarts.org.
- Vendor forms. All grantees must submit a City of Boulder vendor form and current IRS W-9 form so that they may be added to the City's vendor list. Individuals must also submit an Immigration Status Affidavit and Determination of Independent Contractor / Employee Status for Payment document. The State of Colorado law requires proof of legal residency at the time of payment. The W-9 must be in the same name as the grant recipient named on the grant application. The Grants Coordinator will send the appropriate forms to grant recipients.
- Issuance of funding checks. Once the agreement is signed, staff of the Office of Arts and Culture will submit it to City Finance along with the invoice. Funds are delivered within the next 3 weeks. Grants are initially funded at 80 percent of the grant amount awarded. The remaining 20 percent of the grant awarded is paid out upon receipt and Boulder Arts Commission approval of the grant report which is required one month after the project is completed. Failure to submit a final grant report will result in ineligibility to apply for future grants.
- Acknowledgment of Boulder Arts Commission funding. All publicity for Boulder Arts Commission-funded projects must include the following credit line: *This project is funded (or funded in part) by a grant from the Boulder Arts Commission, an agency of the Boulder City Council.* In lieu of the credit line, the [Boulder Arts Commission Logo](#) may be used. The grantee will also be asked to sign a release form and to submit photographs and/or videos of the project that the Office and Arts and Culture will be able to use on their website, social media, printed materials or any other publicity.
- Release form. The grantee will be asked to sign a release form and to submit photographs and / or videos of the project that the Office and Arts and Culture will be able to use on their website, social media, printed materials or any other publicity.
- Thanking City Council. It is suggested that all grant recipients write the Boulder City Council members to thank them for supporting the Boulder Arts Commission and the Office of Arts and Culture. Please let them know how this grant will be used, and the difference it will make to your organization. Please also invite them to attend your events and programs. Visit the City Council website page to find out more about contacting City Council members.

REQUIRED REPORTING

- Timeframe for reporting. The grant report is due one month after the project is completed.
- Method. Submit the report through the online system access through the boulderarts.org website. Log in with the same user name and password utilized to submit the application for funds. After logging in, go to the 'Dashboard', then you'll see a 'Follow Up' section for the grant. On the far right is the 'Edit' button. That will take you to complete the final report.
- Extension requests for reporting. If circumstances delay the grant recipient's ability to complete the project and/or the report, the recipient must notify the Commission before the original report deadline.

The recipient must submit an email addressed to the Boulder Arts Commission at culturegrants@boulderlibrary.org that includes each of the following items:

- an update on the project status,
 - a request to change the project completion date,
 - a new report due date.
- Responsibility. The grant recipient is responsible for submitting a report by the due date. The Commission recommends reviewing the online report form well in advance. There is no grace period for the report.
 - Consequence of Delinquent Report. Unless an extension request is approved by the Boulder Arts Commission in advance of the due date, any individuals or organizations / businesses attached as collaborators on the project will no longer be eligible to apply for Boulder Arts Commission grant funds until the report has been received.

Certification*

I certify that I have read the above information and that this project meets the Boulder Arts Commission's eligibility requirements and, if a funding award is made, will continue to comply with the Boulder Arts Commission's requirements and meet with guidelines for high artistic quality, community impact, inclusiveness, funding acknowledgment and reporting.

I certify

Applicant information

Discipline*

Select your discipline. If multi-discipline, please check all that apply.

Time-based media, film/video, digital art, and web-based art

Tax status*

Cultural organizations/businesses are eligible. Nonprofit status is not required for this category.

Nonprofit

For individuals: organizational affiliation

Even if an organizational affiliation is stated, awards will be made to the individual whose account is associated with this application. If no organization affiliated, please state 'none'.

Project information

Project title*

BIFF 2020 Youth Pavilion/Cinema to Schools/Youth Advisory Council

Amount requested*

The maximum award amount offered is \$3,000.

\$3,000.00

Project summary*

A brief overview of your project. Include how it will connect with or complement the class curriculum, how many students the project will reach, if the project will benefit underrepresented populations, and the benefits that you expect for the students.

Our year-round Education Program presents films and workshops during BIFF and in schools in order to ignite a new and lasting sense of social, intercultural and technical imagination in our youth.

The YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (YAC) of 15 teens meet weekly during the school year and assist in the selection of programs, organize the Pavilion, and produce their own films. Nearly one-third of YAC students come from diverse backgrounds.

The 3-day BIFF YOUTH PAVILION at BPL offers free films/workshops for students. We reached 415 students with 4 film programs, 5 workshops, and a Teen Film Competition during BIFF 2019.

Our CINEMA TO SCHOOLS program brings films and filmmakers into schools. An example in 2019 was *The Weight of Water*, about a blind man who tries to kayak the Grand Canyon. The film helps to banish disability stereotypes and shows our youth how to face fear in challenging circumstances. Boulder filmmaker Michael Brown spoke after the film. We work with BVSD teachers to ensure we are complementing curriculum and reached 500 students in schools in 2019.

New this year, our Edu Director works on projects directly with classes reaching 310 students in 5 Boulder schools, including 24 Hispanics in Pathways2Teaching at BHS.

Project calendar*

Projects must take place after the grant deadline and before the end of the 2020 spring semester.

Sept 2019 - March 8, 2020 (planning and preparation, including venue preparation, film screening, input from teachers/students, workshop identification, and marketing). BIFF 2020 is March 5-8. The BIFF Youth Pavilion is March 6-8.

Project location*

Where do your projects take place?

Boulder Public Library, BIFF Offices, Boulder High School, Fairview High School, University Hill Elementary, Centennial Middle School.

Project completion date*

This is the last day of any public event related to the project. Projects must take place after the grant deadline and before the end of the 2020 spring semester.

03/08/2020

Date grant report is due*

One month after the project completion date.

04/08/2020

Panel evaluation

Benefit to students*

In what ways will this project directly benefit the students and their growth as cultural participants or in the creative industries? What new skills or experiences will be offered?

The BIFF Youth Pavilion, Youth Advisory Council, and Cinema to Schools promote collaboration and creativity - and is a safe place to be dream, to learn and to be inspired.

Our program helps to: 1) build tolerance and understanding of others' lives, ethnicities, and human experiences by helping students to learn about other cultures and issues outside their communities, resulting in greater empathy for others and a more solid understanding of self and community, and 2) promote a youth voice using the art of film as a form of communication, through film programming, instruction, and interaction.

We utilize film as a way to teach new skills, to open students' eyes to the diverse world outside their communities, to encourage youth to be understanding, as a medium for students to develop skills to analyze information critically, to promote creativity and filmmaking skills, as a way to reach a broad student population with information about other cultures and social issues, as an important avenue of expression, and as a potential career path.

We are pleased that Youth Advisory Council members often go on to study film at major universities, intern at production companies, volunteer for BIFF, and have even joined our core staff.

Complementing curriculum and offerings*

How does this project enhance, or fill a gap in, the generally available curriculum and offerings? For more information about Curriculum in Colorado visit this website.

Our Educational Outreach Program serves as a community-based program that complements the goals of school curriculum.

We are fortunate that John Williams, our new Educational Outreach Director, is a retired former BHS teacher, which helps tremendously in collaborating with BVSD teachers on film selection and curriculums. Our programs expand on topics presented in schools, including language, social studies, literature, and STEM. For instance, one documentary we screened for students was Code: Debugging the Gender Gap, about the lack of diversity and women in tech fields. The filmmaker spoke with the students after the film. In addition, workshops at the Pavilion provide instruction on filmmaking and topics not often taught in schools. An example at the 2019 Pavilion was a well-attended workshop on Augmented Reality.

Many filmmakers and historical leaders have spoken at the Pavilion including Presidential Medal of Freedom honoree Congressman John Lewis who endured racism and mob violence on the Freedom Rides and Apollo astronaut Captain Gene Cernan (Last Man on the Moon).

Through these programs, we supplement the educational experience and address other points of view through a broader and often more immediate perspective.

Proposed outcomes and evaluation strategy*

Describe your evaluation strategy for this project and how you will collect data. How will the benefits to the students be measured?

We believe that evaluation is an important tool for programmatic assessment. The CFS evaluates this program in several ways: (1) quantitatively through # of teens attending the free screenings at the Pavilion and at schools, participating in the filmmaking contest/workshops, and teens involved in the YAC and; (2) qualitatively through feedback from teachers/school administrators, and an end of year survey from YAC students.

Feedback from the students is further collected on an informal basis in meetings, and after speakers and events. This information allows our Edu Director to adjust the YAC meetings according to developing interests.

Evaluation findings show that we reached 16% more students in 2019 than 2018 (from 1055 to 1225) and we added 3 more students on the YAC (from 12-15). Although we reached more students in 2019, Pavilion attendance was down slightly, probably due to a snowstorm one day during BIFF.

Feedback from teachers is positive and indicates that they feel its important for students to have a different approach to film literacy, and for students to see films on important topics/speak with the filmmakers. They also value our Edu Director for his accessibility and support of students. (See Support Letters)

Community Priorities

The City of Boulder's Community Cultural Plan is a visioning and strategic document that describes how the people

of Boulder will align efforts, with the support of the municipal government, to achieve our collective vision: Together, we will craft Boulder’s social, physical, and cultural environment to include creativity as an essential ingredient for the wellbeing, prosperity, and joy of everyone in the community. The Community Priorities are six points that summarize the community’s most common responses in answer to the question, “What is your vision for Boulder’s culture and creative economy?”. Reference: Cultural Plan and Community Priorities.

Community Priorities*

In what way will this project contribute to one or several of the Community Priorities described in the Community Cultural Plan? Does the project contribute to one priority thoroughly? Or, does it address many? What specific benefits to the community are planned? How will success be measured?

Examples of ways to demonstrate impact on the Community Priorities may include descriptions of how your project or organization:

- Supports artists and creative professionals by providing professional development programming.
- Contributes to Boulder’s creative identity and creates a vibrant cultural destination through high artistic merit and excellence in the practice of a medium or discipline.
- Engages the community in civic dialogue about the arts through interactive outreach in the neighborhoods.
- Adds creativity in the public realm by engaging underserved populations in art making for their community.

Our programs promote positive youth development by building interpersonal, leadership and creative skills. A goal is to help students become confident film viewers with a solid understanding of self and of the world, as well as innovative and artistic human beings.

CIVIC DIALOGUE on important topics is the core of our mission. Our screenings serve as a catalyst to spark a dialogue among students, parents, teachers, and friends. Filmmakers talk with students, giving our youth the rare opportunity to have a dialogue with the artists. We promote a youth voice by using the art of film as a form of communication, and through instruction/interaction.

SUPPORT We conduct 5 workshops on topics that may include how to develop a story, make a short film or documentary, and work with VR. Workshops are created and organized by the YAC, fostering leadership skills in a creative way. The YAC make their own films and we provide exhibition opportunities through our Teen Film Competition.

We work with UNDERSERVED youth which has included a 4-week filmmaking course for 46 mostly diverse and/or low-income middle school students, and our current film project with 24 Hispanic students at BHS. Youth with diverse backgrounds serve on the YAC.

Cultural equity*

Among the goals of the Boulder Arts Commission is to encourage the equitable, fair, and just distribution of funds in support of the community. This includes providing support to applicants whose organizational leadership or audience represent groups who are typically underrepresented, i.e. culturally diverse groups, organizations focused on age diversity, etc.) Describe how your project does or does not fulfill one or several of these categories. Describe how your project will address affordability, availability, accessibility, accommodation, and acceptability to diverse groups. For reference, please review the Boulder Arts Commission and Americans for the Arts Statements on Cultural Equity.

References:

Boulder Arts Commission Statement on Cultural Equity
 Americans for the Arts Statement on Cultural Equity

We have the unique ability to reach a broad segment of youth in our community. Films in our program include diverse topics such as race, disability, LBGT issues, and social justice. These important films help students learn about other cultures and issues outside their communities. We reached 1225 students of many backgrounds this year and all programs are free, removing any financial barriers for students and for the schools.

We bring our films to Boulder schools, including BHS, which has a 30% minority/Hispanic population and 22% of students who qualify for free lunch. Some of this year's YAC were diverse students including a transgendered, gay, low income, Hispanic, and Asian student.

Our Educational Outreach Director is currently working on a project with 26 students in Pathways2Teaching at BHS who wish to become educators (24 Hispanics, two thirds of whom are 1st generation). They are working together on a film exploring their goals, motivations, and struggles, which can be used to recruit more underserved students.(See Pathways Letter of Support).

Our programs not only empower students and promote inclusiveness, but inspire and educate young people in our community to have a deepened empathy and understanding of others.

Additional Questions

Boulder focus*

Are you a Boulder organization/individual serving Boulder or are you an organization/individual outside of Boulder and to what degree do you focus on Boulder programming?

The Colorado Film Society/Boulder International Film Festival is a Boulder organization that focuses only on schools in Boulder.

Encouragement points*

Among the goals of the Boulder Arts Commission is to encourage the equitable, fair, and just distribution of funds in support of the community. This includes providing support to applicants who have not yet received a grant in this cycle. Confirm if your organization has been funded in the current cycle, including if you'll be receiving General Operating Support funding.

Yes, we/I have received funding in the current cycle.

Attachments

ATTACHMENTS

The following attachments are required. Please title your attachments according to the headings listed below.

Budget summary*

Provide a brief budget summary for this project including all revenue (monetary and in-kind contributions, including this grant) and expenses. Please title the attachment "Budget summary". Permitted file types: xl, xlsx, pdf.

CFS Budget Summary.pdf

Partner/Collaborator List*

Provide a list of each individual / organization that has a significant coordinating role in this project. Please title the attachment, "Collaborator list". Include their name, contact information, and role. Permitted file types: doc, docx, pdf.

CFS Partner-Collaborator List.pdf

Venue confirmation letter*

Attach confirmation from the hosting venue that the project is approved and scheduled. Please title the attachment "Venue confirmation letter". Permitted file types: doc, docx, pdf

CFS Venue Confirmation Letter.pdf

Letters of support

Attach any letters of support that will be useful in understanding community involvement and enthusiasm for the project. This is optional. Please title the file, "Letters of support". Permitted file types: doc, docx, pdf

CFS Letters of Support.PDF

Other support materials

Attach any documents that will help the jury fully understand the project, including videos and other materials that may help the commission evaluate artistic quality. This is optional. Please title the file, "Support materials". Permitted file types: doc, docx, xl, xlsx, pdf

CFS Support Materials - Teen Film Montage.pdf

Submission and signature

Application on the website (optional)

I certify that, if funding is awarded, my application may be presented on the boulderarts.org website. The Office of Arts and Culture staff will send a copy of the document to the applicant listed for approval in advance of posting on the website.

Yes

Certification*

I certify that all information contained in this application and attachments is true and accurate. All funded activities must provide equal access and equal opportunity in employment and services and may not discriminate on the basis of disability, color, creed or religion.

I certify

Full name*

Robin Beeck

Submission date*

05/13/2019

TO COMPLETE AND SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION

All required fields must be filled in with the appropriate information and/or attachments. Click on the "Submit Application" button and an email notification that your application has been received will be sent. If you do not receive a confirmation email, please notify staff immediately. Note that once the application is submitted, it cannot be revised or added to. Please make certain that you have included all information and attachments prior to submitting.

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

- CFS Budget Summary.pdf
- CFS Partner-Collaborator List.pdf
- CFS Venue Confirmation Letter.pdf
- CFS Letters of Support.PDF
- CFS Support Materials - Teen Film Montage.pdf

2020 BIFF Youth Pavilion/Cinema to Schools

Collaborator List

- 1) **The BIFF Youth Advisory Council** takes the lead in recommending, coordinating and executing all programs for the BIFF Youth Pavilion and the Cinema to Schools program. The Council helped design and implement the selection process for the Teen Shorts Competition, helps determine which workshops to hold, and even trains on leading several of the workshops. They also review films and are involved in selecting films for the Youth Pavilion and Cinema to Schools program.
- 2) **BIFF Educational Outreach Director.** John Williams is a former Boulder High School teacher, and brings with him 28 years of teaching experience. In 2013 John won the Boulder Valley Public Schools Impact Award, as well as the Polis Foundation Award, and has also been recognized for excellence and leadership on the Superintendent's Honor Roll. He served as the Social Studies Department Chair numerous times, and also has substantial experience in videography as well as television production and editing. John oversees all Youth Advisory Council, BIFF Youth Pavilion, and Cinema to Schools programs for the Colorado Film Society/Boulder International Film Festival.
- 3) **BIFF Director Kathy Beeck, and BIFF Executive Director Robin Beeck** oversee all BIFF programs, including the Educational Outreach Program, and are involved in supporting and providing feedback for the Youth Pavilion and Cinema to Schools programs.
- 4) **Pat Mallek, Mighty Fudge Studios (Animation Studio)**
Collaborates with BIFF on the "Animation Station" "Virtual Reality" and "Augmented Reality" workshops for kids aged 6+.
- 5) **Melissa Warfield, Vice Principal, Boulder High School.** We collaborate with Melissa each year regarding our Cinema to Schools program.



BOULDER

PUBLIC LIBRARY

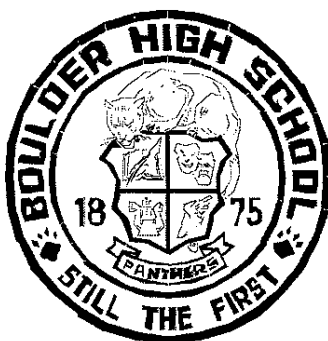
May 7, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

The Boulder International Film Festival has secured the use of Boulder Public Library's Canyon Theater for a portion of their festival events and activities running March 5-8th, 2020. There will be an associated cost - to be determined based on the final number of facility hours required.

Regards,

Jaime Kopke
Program, Events & Outreach Manager
Boulder Public Library



May 5, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer Boulder High School's gratitude for the Director of Educational Outreach for the Boulder International Film Festival. During school year 2018–2019, John Williams has been an instrumental partner with Boulder High School Pathways2Teaching program.

Pathways2Teaching is a grow-your-own educator program that is helping to break the cycle of inequity in schools by encouraging students to explore teaching as a career. The program enables high school juniors and seniors to explore education as professional, examine critical issues related to educational justice, and earn college credit. One of the goals of P2T is to promote access to higher education and realization of students' personal and professional goals.

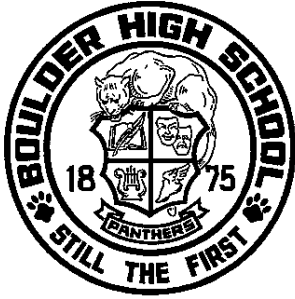
John's presence in the classroom was invaluable. He was able to guide students and mentors teachers-to-be. He served as an interviewee to several students as they completed their 12-15 page research papers. A fun, engaging and accessible adult, John helped students to see that teaching is a viable career choice to our students who greatly desire to give back to their community. As close to two-thirds of the class is made up of first-generation students, the students benefited greatly from having a co-teacher who is able to offer support and mentorship as they finish high school and transition to college. John was an inspiring force as they completed college applications and scholarships.

In his capacity of film producer, John has been documenting P2T students' pursuit and realization of their college dream. He has captured them working with students on their weekly field experience at University Hill Elementary School, thus chronicling their growth and impact as burgeoning educators.

John trained several P2T students in the use of video equipment, and he was even awarded a grant from the City of Boulder's Youth Opportunity Program to purchase stabilizers so that the students could film using their own cell phones. Making videoing accessible to all students emphasized the importance of opportunities for all, which is a guiding principle of our class. In addition to learning to take videos, John also trained a few students on how to edit. Both of these skills are valuable in school as well as the workforce, thus enriching our students even more.

We gratefully extend our appreciation to the Boulder Internal Film Festival for sharing the time and talent of such an outstanding community asset as John Williams.

Sincerely,
Michelle Carpenter, NBCT, EdS
Instructor, University of Colorado Denver, Pathways2Teaching



Boulder High School

"Still the first..."

1604 Arapahoe Avenue ♦ Boulder, CO 80302 ♦ 720-561-2200

May 8, 2019

To Whom it May Concern,

It is my pleasure to write this letter in support of the Boulder International Film Festival's application for a grant from the Boulder Arts Commission.

Each year, the Boulder International Film Festival has brought outstanding documentary films to Boulder High School that are shown to large student audiences in our auditorium (these screenings typically fill our auditorium). In addition to having the opportunity to see a great film, BIFF also brings along the filmmakers and sometimes participants in the film to spend about an hour answering questions from students. This year, BIFF brought the documentary film *The Weight of Water* to BHS. This film follows the quest of a blind kayaker to overcome his disability and fears to solo the Grand Canyon. Following this emotional and triumphant story, the film's director Michael Brown spent time with the students answering questions and talking about the journey. They eagerly participated in the discussion—the level of focus that 500 students and teachers dedicated to this event was remarkable.

Boulder High School enthusiastically supports BIFF's efforts to bring films to our school and it is an event that we look forward to each year.

Additionally, BIFF's Education Outreach Director John Williams has been actively working with our video production classes along with our Pathways2Teaching program to film the work of Hispanic students studying to be educators.

Boulder High School greatly appreciates the relationship that we have developed over the many years that we have worked with BIFF and look forward to it continuing. Please feel free to contact me for any elaboration on these comments.

Sincerely,

Melissa Warfield
Assistant Principal
Boulder High School
Melissa.warfield@bvsd.org
720-561-5301

To Whom It May Concern,

I am Aamuro Kanda and I will be attending USC this fall for Film Production. I have sat on the Boulder International Film Festival's Youth Advisory Council for three years and the opportunities it gives students like me are bountiful. Through BIFF, young filmmakers are given an outlet to express themselves, form connections, and help the community. I found myself surrounded by a radically diverse group of artists in the Youth Advisory Council. Together with these individuals we found our own unique voices which is critical when developing art. Aside from these artistic experiences, BIFF offers youth a chance to gain first hand experience managing events and teaching in the classroom. The Youth Advisory Council puts on an international student film fest each year in which we plan and manage various community events within the Boulder area. These include workshops with industry professionals, teaching film at local middle schools, and creating a film course for parents and children. While I am stepping into the next phase of my life at USC, I owe a great amount of my filmmaking success to BIFF's Youth Advisory Council as the connections and skills I received while in the program provided me with knowledge and industry experience that exceeded my peers. I have utmost confidence that with your help and contribution, programs in BIFF such as the Youth Advisory Council can continue to grow, giving students around the Boulder area a unique opportunity.

Best Wishes,

Aamuro Kanda

720-442-2156

aamuro.kanda@gmail.com

May 1, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

The BIFF Youth Pavilion has seen drastic changes over the course of the last year! Under John Williams supervision, those changes came quickly and with an enthusiasm I had never seen from the group before. Their numbers skyrocketed largely due to consistent and targeted outreach drawing filmmakers into a fun and vibrant environment. They made films, got up on stage at the festival to announce awards, helped with critiques, and saw the fruits of their labors in real time. They've made great use of equipment John has brought in, and they even went above and beyond to assist my own program at Fairview with editing software. For the first time in my 7 years at Fairview, I can state with confidence that the Boulder Youth Pavilion is making a difference in the lives of our filmmakers. This is a group you should strongly consider assisting, as you can rest assured they will make the most out of any generosity they receive.

Sincerely,
Lanny Boyer
Theatre & Film Director
Fairview High School
720-202-2112

May 12, 2019

Jonathan Wright
Boulder High School
1604 Arapahoe Avenue
Boulder, CO 80302

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to provide my enthusiastic support for the Boulder International Film Festival organization. As a member of the Boulder High Language Arts department and a teacher of video and film, I have had the opportunity to work directly with John Williams, the Educational Outreach Director for BIFF. Mr. William provided me with invaluable support in developing curriculum and generously shared resources. This was my first year teaching video and film, and Mr Williams was able to guide me through the process of how to help our students become young filmmakers. Mr. Williams made photo stabilizers available to my class and was always available to offer guidance and even come in to work with the students. Many of my students also took advantage of the opportunity to view other teen filmmakers by going to the BIFF Teen Film Awards night. As a teacher, the value of this sort of access and support cannot be overstated. I sincerely hope that you too will see the value of this BIFF's outstanding work.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Wright
Boulder High School Language Arts Teacher

BOULDER INTERNATIONAL **FILM** FESTIVAL

2338 Broadway St., Boulder, CO 80304

| phone 303.449-2289

fax 303.449.2274

Colorado Film Society Attachment BIFF 2019 Video Link

A montage of the student films that were entered into the 2019 BIFF Teen Short Film Competition. The competition took place at Opening Night of the BIFF Youth Pavilion at the Boulder Public Library Canyon Theater on March 1, 2019, which also featured a performance by a local teen band.

<https://youtu.be/fjDGpJ8jyls>

Length – 5:10