

# **BCPS Film Expo seeks work by middle and high school students**

*Poster competition open to all students*

TOWSON, MD. – Could a great American filmmaker be sitting in a Baltimore County Public Schools classroom right now? It's happened before; it could happen again.

Marc Platt, a graduate of Pikesville High School, has produced more than 30 major motion pictures including *La La Land*, *The Girl on the Train*, *Into the Woods*, and *Legally Blonde*. Errol Webber, a graduate of Milford Mill Academy, was the cinematographer for the Academy Award-winning documentary *Music by Prudence*. His upcoming projects include *Walking While Black: L.O.V.E. is the Answer*, a documentary he co-produced, and *The Mason Brothers*, a major motion picture for which he is the cinematographer.

Who's next? The second BCPS Film Expo might provide us with the answer.

Middle and high school student filmmakers are invited to enter their work in the competition. A diverse panel of judges, composed of BCPS staff, local filmmakers, and Hollywood professionals, will evaluate each entry and select middle and high school awards to be given in five categories including: Live-Action Narrative, Documentary, Animation, Experimental, and Animated GIFs.

Students planning to enter can indicate their interest by registering [online](#). Registration is recommended but not required. Only five entries will be accepted per high school in the live action narrative, documentary, animation, and experimental film categories. A maximum of three entries per school will be accepted in the GIF category. All submissions are limited to 10 minutes in length, and they must conform to the BCPS code of ethics and standards of acceptable use and propriety. All copyrighted music and images featured in the films must be properly licensed.

The deadline for submissions will be Thursday, Feb. 23, and finalists will be notified of their standing by Thursday, March 23.

The culmination of the competition will be a film showing and awards ceremony on Thursday, April 6, from 4 – 9 p.m. at the Historic Senator Theater in Baltimore. The expo will feature full length screenings of each winning film, a montage preview of all juried submissions, and GIFs shown on a loop display in the theater lobby.

More information including submission requirements, guidelines, registration, tutorials, and resources is available at [www.bcpsfilmexpo.org](http://www.bcpsfilmexpo.org).

BCPS students of all grade levels are invited to enter a film expo poster contest. Contest rules are available at <http://bit.ly/2gsO49n>. Submissions are due to Alex Garove at [agarove@bcps.org](mailto:agarove@bcps.org) by Friday, Jan. 6.

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