



Cinema Classroom at the Avalon

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

In 2013 the historic nonprofit Avalon Theatre launched *Cinema Classroom at the Avalon* in consultation with a number of local educators, who provided guidance about the structure and content of the program. This highly regarded educational offering has grown over the years and has now served over 17,000 students who come from public, charter, and private schools from every ward of Washington, DC.

A free program for 6th-12th graders, *Cinema Classroom at the Avalon* engages students in critical issues through screenings and expert-guided discussions. Carefully curated films that focus on pressing human rights and social justice issues are shown in the Avalon's historic theatre and are hosted by subject-matter experts who guide students through engaging post-film discussions. Introductions that promote visual literacy by highlighting various film techniques are provided before each of the films offered during the school year. Curriculum guides linked to DCPS standards are sent to teachers in advance of each screening. Since its beginning, public and private funding has allowed for bus transportation to be provided at no cost.

Cinema Classroom at the Avalon and student film education remain central to the Avalon's mission as a nonprofit film center. The Avalon is eager to invite DC students to the theater!

Register online:
theavalon.org/cinemaclassroom

Cinema Classroom at the Avalon is generously supported by:



*The Ed Berkowitz Film Education Fund,
Ann Pelham & Robert Cullen, & Michael Hollins*

AVALON
THEATRE

5612 Connecticut Ave NW Washington DC 20015



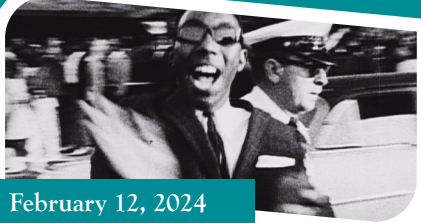
Cinema Classroom at the Avalon

A free program for 6th-12th grades that engages students in critical issues through screenings and expert-guided discussions.

Spring 2024

Photo credit: Maresa Patterson / Patterpics

2024 FILMS



February 12, 2024

SOUNDTRACK FOR A REVOLUTION

The story of the American civil rights movement is told through its powerful music, featuring performances of freedom songs by notable artists. The film also includes riveting archival footage and interviews with civil rights activists including Rep. John Lewis, Harry Belafonte, and Julian Bond.

*Documentary Running time: 82 min.
Recorded conversation: Dr. Frank Smith, veteran civil rights organizer and director of the African American Civil War Museum*

TEACHER PRAISE

"One of the highlights of our virtual school year.

The materials were rich and easy to adapt to our needs. My students talked about the film and Dr. Smith for days. I am so grateful to the Avalon Theatre for helping reinvigorate my 8th graders."

– Hardy Middle School (Soundtrack for a Revolution)

"Our 9th graders were thrilled and enamored.

The film's visuals were highly engaging and left a lasting impression. The biology team was also very impressed with the questions the students had for Mr. Hocevar, as well as his extensive experience in the field of marine biology."

– Capital City PCHS (Chasing Coral)



March 4-5, 2024

DELORES

Dolores Huerta is among the most important, yet least known, activists in American history. An equal partner in co-founding the first farm workers unions with Cesar Chavez, her enormous contributions have gone largely unrecognized. Dolores tirelessly led the fight for racial and labor justice alongside Chavez, becoming one of the most defiant feminists of the twentieth century—and she continues the fight to this day, in her late 80s.

Documentary Running time: 98 min.



April 2, 2024

CHASING CORAL

Coral reefs around the world are vanishing at an unprecedented rate. In Chasing Coral, divers, photographers, and scientists set out on an ocean adventure to discover why the reefs are disappearing and to reveal the underwater mystery to the world.

*Documentary Running time: 93 min.
Recorded conversation: John Hocevar, Oceans Campaign Director, Greenpeace USA*



April 1, 2024

TELL THEM WE ARE RISING

America's Historically Black Colleges & Universities which began before the end of slavery, flourished in the 20th century and profoundly influenced the course of the nation for over 150 years—yet largely remain unknown. In this important and engaging film, the rich history and powerful story of the rise, influence, and evolution of HBCUs comes to life.

Documentary Running time: 85 min.



May 6, 2024

THERE'S SOMETHING IN THE WATER

Based on Ingrid Waldron's incendiary study, the film follows Elliot Page as he travels to areas plagued by toxic fallout from industrial development. This is an urgent documentary on Indigenous and African Nova Scotian women fighting to protect their communities, land, and futures.

Running time: 71 min.

Sign up for email updates at:
theavalon.org/cinemaclassroom

Programs begin at 10:00am and run approximately 2 1/2 hours.

- **Space is limited—advanced registration is required.**
- **Our FREE, in-theater programming welcomes 6th through 12th grade students.**
- **Register early to take advantage of our limited budget for free transportation.**
- **We offer expanded curriculum linked to DCPS standards in advance of each screening.**
- **Each film program includes a short introduction to film literacy and both pre-and post-screening workshops.**
- **As scheduling allows, each screening is followed by an expert-led discussion.**
- **Healthy snacks are provided.**

Register Today!

Registration is required for all programs.

For more information visit theavalon.org/cinemaclassroom or contact Rebecca Dupas, Ph.D. : rdupas@theavalon.org