

Futures Explored Film and Media Studio



Have any questions? Call (925) 456-0255 for more information. For regional center funding, have your case manager send referral packets to: referrals@futures-explored.org



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Futures Explored FMS is a vocational program designed to provide working knowledge of film production. The curriculum moves beyond classroom instruction and offers the individual real-world practical experience. By combining film history and theory with the “studio that teaches” experience, the goal is to prepare the individual to make entertaining, commercially viable and purposeful films.



Info Sheet



The Futures Explored Film and Media Studio Program aims to provide hands-on, practical training and education in the film and media industry.

Areas of Instruction:

- Pre-Production: Writing, directing, producing, PA
- Post-Production: Editing, captions, sound editing, graphic arts
- Production: Camera, recording sound, lighting
- Art Department: Drawing, sewing, design, stop motion
- Acting: Technique, auditioning, improv

Students receive instruction in those areas and hone their skills through small student-

led projects, and in larger scale thesis films about two times a year.

Introductory students tend to explore all the areas they may be interested in, while our returning students receive advanced instruction in their area of focus.

Our classes are small so that all of our students can get individualized attention that fits with their learning style, and our instructors can help them explore what they personally want to do.

We track student progress and help support them as they work towards their personal goals and meet one-on-one with staff at least twice a year to update and check in on goals.

We consider the following criteria when considering applicants for admittance to our workshop program:

- Interest in film and in learning more about film and the film-making process
- Ability to stay engaged and maintain 90% attendance rate
- No major behavior challenges
- Outside of that, we assess students on an individual basis through an interview process to see if they are a good fit for the program.

Regarding cost:

The majority of our students receive funding for our program through the Regional Centers, but the cost for private pay is \$20,000 per year.

What is the goal/ aim for students at the end of the program?

We aim to help our students find an area of film-making that matches their interests and help them develop their skills in that area with an eye towards future employment. Even if that future employment is not in the film industry, we work with all our students on real-world skills like working with a group, writing a resume, and more, that can help them for the rest of their life.

Many of the interpersonal challenges encountered on a film set come up in other walks of life, and we view helping our students practice the skills needed to deal with those situations to be an essential aspect of our program.

What is expected from each student?

Every student signs a contract signifying their commitment to attendance, respecting others, following through on their assignments, and working with a team. We support students to help them maintain a professional attitude and a high standard of performance, especially on set. Film sets can be high-pressure environments, and it is important to be able to execute the role you are in so other people know they can count on you.

Is it ok if my student doesn't have a film-making background?

Many of our students come into the workshop with little or no experience, but quickly get up to speed. Students who have a positive attitude and a commitment to working hard will find their mastery expanding and will become more confident in their skills as they grow and practice. Film-making is demanding but is also highly collaborative, and students who try their best will have the reward of contributing to a team effort and making something special.