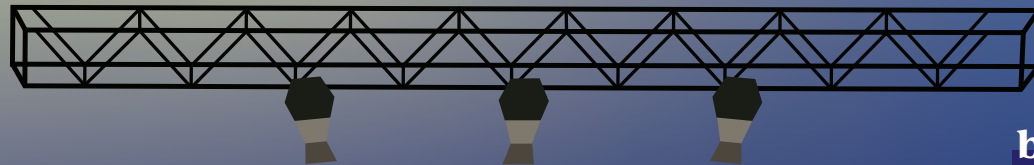# Lights, Camera, Action!

*With National Short Film Day approaching on
Dec. 28, learn about history of short films, CHS short film work*

ELISE VARHAN **GRAPHIC**　　SMITHSONIAN, OSCARS, HEARTLANDFILM, INDYFILMFEST, INDYLGBTFILMFEST, HISTORY **SOURCES**

short film standards

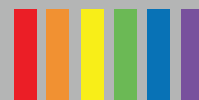*Learn the guidelines for short films, local film festivals*

HEARTLAND FILM FESTIVAL OCT 6 - 16, 2022
The Heartland Film Festival (HFF) is an 11-day festival that takes place in October annually, occurring in Indianapolis. Heartland Film, a nonprofit organization also hosts various film events, such as the Indy Shorts Film Festival, The High School Film Competition, and the Truly Moving Picture Award.

INDY FILM FESTIVAL MAY 5 - 15, 2022
This 10-day film festival, taking place in the spring, is hosted by Indiana State University. The organization also hosts several year-round events, such as Cereal Cinema, Rock + Reel, and Sunset Cinema on the Canal.

INDIANAPOLIS LGBT FILM FESTIVAL TBD
This annual fundraiser event is hosted by the Indiana Youth Group, a nonprofit organization to fund the needs of Indiana LGBTQ+ teens. This 12-day film fest showcases 79 films in November, all displaying the work of LGBTQ + artists.

Short films must have a total running time of 40 minutes or less, including credits

**Oscar
Short Film Categories**

Best animated short: Must have animation elements in at least 75 percent of the film's duration
Best documentary short: Must be original and independent, not related to a larger series
Best live-action short: If shot in documentary format, and explanation must be provided proving the fictional nature of the content

Short films must be shot on either a 35mm or a 70mm lens camera

by the numbers

10.6%
of Hollywood directors are female

6
African-American directors have been nominated for an Academy Award

20
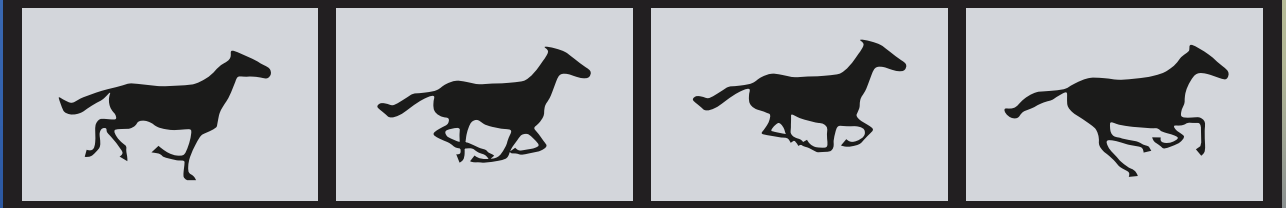openly LGBT directors have been nominated for an Academy Award, with 5 wins

a beneficial bet

Learn about the origin of the first short film ever

A bet between two friends over whether or not a horse moving at full speed was ever fully airborne prompted photographer **Eadweard Muybridge** to conduct an experiment. Muybridge captured the horse's movement in frames and showed them in a sequence, giving the illusion of a "moving" picture. The 2.11-second short film, entitled **"A Horse in Motion"**, is now known as the first film in history

q&a

ELISE VARHAN **Q&A**　　JAMES PETERSON **SUBMITTED PHOTO**

IB Film Teacher
James Peterson

Scan to view a CHS alumnus prized short film

*What is the significance of short films as opposed to full-length films?
What are their defining qualities?*

The shortest film to be considered for an Oscar was about a minute and a half long. They usually aren't longer than 40 minutes otherwise they get considered a full-length film. They are like a short story compared to a novel. They have limited time, so the subjects are usually smaller in scope and have a more personal touch.

How involved is CHS' film program in local short film festivals? How do they typically perform?

We have consistently been involved in short film festivals even hosting our own for a couple years. The CHS Film Festival was here for about three years from 2013-2015. Students from across the state entered and awards including best film and the Georges Melies Award for Creativity was given out...In addition, our students have entered the internationally recognized Heartland Film Festival High School short film festival from its inception back in 2011. Students from CHS were consistently shown at the festival. Recently, CHS alumnus Justin Park, won the documentary category his junior year and the narrative category his senior year. He earned back-to-back accolades for his films.... COVID-19 had an impact on many of these film festivals and contests. Hopefully, opportunities for students will open up as the virus subsides.

movie magic

Check out the earliest prototype of projectors

The cinematographe, invented by Auguste and Louis Lumière in 1895, was the first example of a modern-day projector

The first demonstration of the invention was in the same year, at an industrial meeting. "La Sortie des ouvriers de l'usine Lumière" ("Workers Leaving the Lumière Factory") was shown

The cinematographe feeds film in front of a camera, which is then displayed on a screen