

Provo City Library Teen Film Contest

Hints & Resources

HELPFUL HINTS

- Don't wait until the last minute—your project will turn out better if you start early!
- Don't be afraid to make a “genre” film: horror, music video, commercial, parody, animated, documentary, as long as it follows the theme.
- Write a script so that you and your team are on the same page. If you feel a script is too rigid, at least develop a storyboard to convey the general idea.
- Before you roll camera, develop a shot list. This is the list of shots you want included to develop your scene. Be as thorough as possible, because it's easier to edit out content than it is to recreate a set or scene for the sake of shooting additional footage to fill in the gaps.
- Use a tripod (or steady surface) for your camera . . . unless you're trying to have a “shaky camera” effect.
- Make sure that dialogue is clear and audible. An otherwise great film can be ruined by background noise or a poorly placed microphone.
- Lighting is also key—we want to be able to see you as well as hear you!
- Mix up camera angles. Try shooting the same scene several times with the camera in different points of view.
- Less is always more. If you think a scene may be running on too long (like these tips) . . . it is!
- Every part of your film . . . the script, the sound, the shots, EVERYTHING . . . should be done with a purpose. So it's okay to have bad lighting or quirky dialogue—but only if that's what you're trying to do.

-Suggestions adapted from the Kalamazoo Public Library

RESOURCES AT THE PROVO CITY LIBRARY

[Basement Creative Lab](#)

Equipment and space available for filming and audio recording.

[Software Available in the Library](#)

Lists the software available on the various computers.

USEFUL CALL NUMBERS

These call numbers can be used in any nonfiction section to find related resources.

777 – Cinematography & Videography

791.433 – Animation

778.53 – Cinematography

792.028 – Acting and Performance

791.43 – General Filmmaking

808.23 – 808.2523 – Writing for Film

791.4302 – Directing & Producing

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WEBSITES

Check out these websites for help in creating, storyboarding, filming, and editing your film.

[LinkedIn Learning.com](#)

LinkedIn Learning helps anyone learn software, technology, creative, and business skills to achieve their personal and professional goals. Use this to learn filmmaking skills and how to use various editing software from industry experts.

[Filmmaker's Tool Kit](#)

Check out this awesome Filmmakers Tool Kit it includes a glossary of film terms and ideas on how to create a storyboard your film.

[WikiHow: How to Make a Movie](#)

How to make a good amateur movie