

# MAKING MOVIES THAT MATTER YOUTH SHORT FILM FESTIVAL



**JOHN LEE**  
LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL MEMBER • DISTRICT 12



## MAKING MOVIES THAT MATTER

YOUTH SHORT FILM FESTIVAL

Making Movies That Matter (MMTM) is open to all K-12 students within Council District 12 and the West San Fernando Valley. The goal of MMTM is to inspire students to identify issues and topics that are important to them and to manifest that passion into films that touch people and make a difference in the world around them.

There is no question that changing the world is a daunting task. The truth is, youth are often an untapped resource for creative, change-making ideas and when these young change-agents have the support they need in every phase of the critical thinking process, we may be surprised with what they can accomplish—on their campuses, in their communities, and beyond.

### WHAT IS A SPONSORED SCHOOL?

The purpose of the MMTM Film Festival is not simply to invite young filmmakers to participate in the MMTM Youth Short Film Festival, but also to make the process as accessible and seamless as possible. Understanding that arts education funding in the K-12 community has plummeted in recent years, a commitment was made to provide a completely cost-free experience for the participants including an exciting red-carpet event at the Soraya Performing arts Center on the CSUN campus.

If you would like your school or organization to participate in the 2022-2023 MMTM project, please visit our website at [cd12movies.com](http://cd12movies.com) to complete an application or reach out to Ron Rubine at [ron.rubine@lacity.org](mailto:ron.rubine@lacity.org).

### SINCE 2016...

Over 500 Films

Over 100 Sponsored Schools

Over 4,000 Student Film Makers



valley relics  
museum



Disney



RED CARPET GALA – MAY 18, 2023 at The Soraya Performing Arts Center on the CSUN Campus



February 15, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As your Los Angeles City Councilmember for the 12<sup>th</sup> District in the Northwest San Fernando Valley, I want to share with you how excited I am to have your child participate in my 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Making Movies that Matter (MMTM) Youth Short Film Festival for the 2022-23 project year. Since its beginning in 2016, this cutting-edge, cost-free arts education experience has served over 4,000 K-12 students who have produced over 400 short films.

By now your child is in the process of *making movies that matter* to them. With the guidance of professional filmmakers who are working with schools throughout my district, they will be taught the art of moviemaking and these “artists-in-residence” (AIR), will help the students create, edit and showcase their work to the larger MMTM community.

To close the festival, there will be a culminating red carpet celebration at the Soraya Performing Arts Center on the California State University, Northridge campus on May 18<sup>th</sup> which you are encouraged to attend with your child. The arrival experience will include music, food and memorabilia for the kids to cherish for years to come. As the date approaches, you will have the opportunity to RSVP and reserve your seat.

I strongly believe in the arts as an important vehicle for empowerment and self-expression, particularly for students whose voice is often undervalued. Through this project, our goals are to foster campus and community cohesion, promote digital literacy and celebrate our homegrown, world-renowned industry of movie making. I am confident we will do that.

Feel free to reach out to my Senior Advisor, Ron Rubine, at [ron.rubine@lacity.org](mailto:ron.rubine@lacity.org), if you have any questions.

See you at the movies!

John S. Lee

Councilmember, 12<sup>th</sup> District