

The Film Foundation's *Story of Movies* Presents

With support from AFSCME

In association with AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center

**A PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP  
ON FILM AND VISUAL LITERACY  
FOR CLASSROOM EDUCATORS ACROSS  
ALL DISCIPLINES, GRADES 6–12**

# Portraits of America

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## DEMOCRACY ON FILM

**Thursday & Friday, May 16 & 17, 2019**

**8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

**AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center  
8633 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD 20910**

### **WHO & WHAT**

This **FREE** two-day seminar introduces educators to an interdisciplinary curriculum that challenges students to think contextually about the role of film as an expression of American democracy.

#### **SCREENING AND DISCUSSION ACTIVITIES FOCUS ON STRATEGIES TO:**

- ★ Increase **civic engagement** by developing students' critical viewing and thinking skills.
- ★ Give students the tools to understand the **persuasive** and **universal language** of moving images, a significant component of **visual literacy**.
- ★ Explore the **social issues** and diverse points of view represented in films produced in different historical periods.

#### **MORNING AND AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS FOCUS ON LEARNING HOW TO READ A FILM, PRINCIPLES OF CINEMA LITERACY, AND INTERPRETING FILM IN HISTORICAL/CULTURAL CONTEXTS.**

- ★ Handout materials include screening activities and primary source documents to support and enhance students' critical thinking skills.
- ★ Afternoon screenings showcase award-winning films, deemed historically and culturally significant by the Library of Congress National Film Registry.
- ★ **Lunch is provided for registered participants.**
- ★ **Classroom capacity is limited, so early registration is encouraged.**

### **REGISTRATION**

- ★ Register with the AFI Silver Theater here: <https://silver.afi.com/Ticketing/visShop.aspx>
- ★ More information available at [storyofmovies.org/professional-development](http://storyofmovies.org/professional-development)

## WHY TEACH FILM IN THE CLASSROOM?

- A rich tapestry of literature, art and social history exists to enhance film study, making it an ideal subject for interdisciplinary learning.
- Because film is an evolving and changing expression of different stages of American cultural history, a program of in-depth film study challenges students to interpret how Americans – as well as other countries – have viewed American political, social and economic values over the past century.
- Film communicates through sequences and juxtaposition of images and therefore is a significant tool for teaching inference. Likewise, film challenges students to move beyond decoding narrative to a deeper level of understanding—of government, society, and humanity.
- We are living in a world of moving images. The need for quality classes, standards of study, and goals of usage has never been stronger. Students must learn to distinguish between art and commerce, between manufactured images meant to sell and carefully crafted sequences of images meant to communicate.

SESSIONS	DAY 1	DAY 2
<b>Coffee &amp; Registration</b> 8:30 – 9:00 a.m.	<b>The American Laborer</b>	<b>The Common Good</b>
<b>BLOCK 1</b> 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Becoming Cinema Literate— Three Ways to Read a Film</li> <li>• Screenings: Selected scenes from two films directed by Martin Ritt: <i>The Molly Maguires</i> (1970) and <i>Norma Rae</i> (1979)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fluency in Reading Non-Print Texts and the Empathic Film</li> <li>• Screenings: Selected scenes from <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> (1962, directed by Robert Mulligan) and <i>The Iron Giant</i> (1999, directed by Brad Bird)</li> </ul>
<b>BLOCK 2</b> 10:15 – 11:45 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From Penny Claptrap to Movie Palaces—Film as a Democratic Art</li> <li>• Screening: <i>Children Who Labor</i> (1912, directed by Ashley Miller)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personalizing the Political— The Immigrant Experience</li> <li>• Screenings: Selected scenes from <i>America America</i> (1963, directed by Elia Kazan) and <i>The Immigrant</i> (1917, directed by Charlie Chaplin)</li> </ul>
<b>LUNCH</b>		
<b>BLOCK 3</b> 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to Read a Documentary Film</li> <li>• Identifying a Film’s Ideology</li> <li>• Screening: <i>At the River I Stand</i> (1993, directed by David Appleby, Allison Graham, and Steven Ross)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Tenor of the Times: Identifying and Analyzing Film Depictions</li> <li>• Screenings: Animated short <i>Brotherhood of Man</i> (1945, directed by Robert Cannon) and <i>El Norte</i> (1983, directed by Gregory Nava)</li> </ul>

**About The Film Foundation:** Created in 1990 by Martin Scorsese, The Film Foundation ([film-foundation.org](http://film-foundation.org)) is dedicated to protecting and preserving motion picture history. By working in partnership with the leading archives and studios, the foundation has saved over 800 films. In addition to the preservation, restoration, and presentation of classic cinema, the foundation teaches young people about film language and history through its *Story of Movies* program. Joining Scorsese on the board of directors are Woody Allen, Paul Thomas Anderson, Wes Anderson, Francis Ford Coppola, Clint Eastwood, Peter Jackson, Ang Lee, George Lucas, Christopher Nolan, Alexander Payne, Robert Redford, and Steven Spielberg. The Film Foundation is aligned with the Directors Guild of America.

**About the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME):**

AFSCME is a union comprised of a diverse group of people who share a common commitment to public service. For us, serving the public is not just a job, it’s a calling. An important part of our mission is to advocate for the vital services that keep our families safe and make our communities strong. We also advocate for prosperity and opportunity for all of America’s working families. We not only stand for fairness at the bargaining table — we fight for fairness in our communities and in the halls of government. Learn more at [www.afscme.org/now](http://www.afscme.org/now).

**About AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center:** Opened in 2003 out of a partnership between Montgomery County, MD and the American Film Institute, AFI Silver is a state-of-the-art moving image exhibition, education, and cultural center, committed to being one of the nation’s premiere film theatres. The theatre aims to display the vast richness of American and world cinema, exploring all forms of the moving image in the digital era and seeing the screen itself as a source of literacy, learning, and vision for the future. By presenting an unprecedented variety of film and video programming, frequently augmented by filmmaker interviews, panels, discussions, musical performances, educational programs and other events that place the art on-screen in a broader cultural context, AFI Silver amplifies film’s power to engage and affect an audience and examines the influence that watching movies holds on individuals’ understanding of the world they occupy.