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Teens Invited to Free Screening of Short Films Created by Young Filmmakers in a Free "Kids in the Spotlight" Program at the Central Library's Teen'Scape

Saturday, November 6, 2-4 p.m. at the Central Library's Teen'Scape



Teens are invited to view short films by some of L.A.'s youngest filmmakers at a free screening sponsored by the Los Angeles Public Library on Saturday, Nov. 6, 2-4 p.m. at the Central Library's Teen'Scape. Youth who attend will be treated to free popcorn, tips on filmmaking and a post-screening Q&A session with filmmakers.

The movies were produced by area youth who participated in "Kids In The Spotlight," a 10-week filmmaking workshop. The non-profit organization trains underserved children and youth in the foster care and public school system to develop, write, cast and star in their own short films—telling their stories, their way.

"We believe it's important to provide a safe and nurturing environment for kids to express themselves while cultivating interest in film industry careers," said Program Director T. Faye Griffin. "In doing so we hope to foster not only creativity, but teamwork and discipline resulting in better self-image and a sense of accomplishment. It is those two elements that help build a child's belief in their own ability to rise above their current social and economic conditions in order to realize their dreams. "

Viewing these films made by their peers may also inspire and encourage other young filmmakers and teens to pursue their dreams, said Teen'Scape Senior Librarian Lupie Leyva.

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"We hear so much about peer pressure and its negative consequences; what we want to promote is peer inspiration," Leyva said. "We want local teens to see what these kids have accomplished through the "Kids in the Spotlight" program and to feel empowered to tell their own stories."

For more information, please contact Teen'Scape, at (213) 228-7290 or visit *lapl.org/yal*.

The Los Angeles Public Library serves the largest population of any library in the country through its Central Library, 72 branch libraries, collection of over six million books and other items, and its Web site (*www.lapl.org*). These resources and its more than 18,000 public programs provide everyone with free and easy access to information and the opportunity for life-long learning.

The Central Library is located in Council District 9, represented by City Councilmember Jan Perry.

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