

BALTIMORE SCHOOL
for the **ARTS**

For Immediate Release

April 18, 2016

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**Baltimore School for the Arts Receives
Grant from National Funder to Pilot New Film Program**

Nationally prominent Saul Zaentz Charitable Foundation chooses BSA as a recipient of funding for a summer filmmaking workshop

(Baltimore, Md.) -- Baltimore School for Arts (BSA) announced today that it has received a grant of \$44,000 from the Saul Zaentz Charitable Foundation to pilot an exciting summer film program for a select group of young artists at the school.

"It is a great honor to be chosen as a recipient of funding by such an innovative and prominent national organization," said BSA Director Chris Ford. "This grant will afford our students the time and technology to explore filmmaking on a very deep level. We are looking forward to seeing the work they generate and to adding our kids' voices to the mix in the Saul Zaentz initiatives in Baltimore."

BSA's program will give voice to the diverse body of its students through the medium of digital media. The summer program will include a Film/Video Workshop for students as well as a Film/Video Research & Discovery Project for both students and faculty.

In the Film/Video Workshop 14-16 BSA high school students will be introduced to film as a social practice and film as a visual medium for storytelling. Students will have the opportunity to choose to create a documentary or a narrative film, with the overarching theme of "I Love Baltimore." The workshop will consist of acquiring storytelling and interviewing skills, along with essential video production skills, field trips, guest artists, and lectures.

The 6-week intensive summer workshop will take place at BSA, primarily in the school's new Center for Collaborative Arts & Technology, a state-of-the-art multi-disciplinary lab that houses many of the tools required for filmmaking.

“The Center for Collaborative Arts & Technology is an incredible resources for our kids and the idea that we can spend the summer immersing ourselves with students in storytelling and filmmaking is incredibly exciting,” said Pat Galluzzo, BSA’s Arts Technologist. He will work closely with fellow faculty members Bea Bufrahi, BSA’s current Video Instructor, and Tom Ventimiglia, a writer and English teacher at BSA, to provide instruction.

The Film/Video Research & Discovery Project will consist of a learning experience for the staff and students of BSA. Active filmmakers will visit BSA to see the educational environment, interact with students, and provide suggestions about best practices in film/video program design. BSA film/video faculty will also visit leading high school and college film/video programs around the country to learn best practices at their sites.

One of the first and most important steps in the Discovery Project will be a meeting with fellow grantees at Johns Hopkins University who recently received funding to establish the Saul Zaentz Innovation Fund in Film & Media.

The pilot will also enable BSA to explore what a full-time video program might look like for the high school.

Baltimore School for the Arts is a nationally recognized public arts high school that provides its students with intensive pre-professional training in the arts in conjunction with a rigorous academic curriculum. BSA graduates go on to the most selective arts and university programs nationwide and achieve prominence in theater, film, music, dance and visual arts. Additionally, BSA’s highly acclaimed TWIGS program offers free after-school arts instruction to 750 city elementary and middle school children from schools across Baltimore, as well as other outreach initiatives to thousands more. Founded in 1979, the school is an integral and vibrant part of Baltimore’s educational and cultural communities.

Described by the New York Times as “the last of the great independent producers,” **Saul Zaentz** specialized in literary film adaptations. Although he produced only ten films, his work made an indelible impact on the art of film. He was awarded three Best Picture Oscars (One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest/1975, Amadeus/1984, and The English Patient/1996), an achievement shared by only a handful of producers. Zaentz believed that film has the power to change our way of seeing the world. His films were also top of their class in cinematography, costume and set design, sound and music, acting and direction. The Saul Zaentz Charitable Foundation seeks to honor his legacy by providing seed capital financing for selected groundbreaking projects.

Baltimore School for the Arts, where the arts change kids’ lives.

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