



10 Things You Can Do Right Away to Start Your Career in Film

Taylor Horky

Learn 10 things you can be doing from the time you enter film school to the time you graduate and take your first steps into the industry to build a career in film. Learn tips like how to land a coffee meeting with an industry executive and how to start building your network database.

10 Ways to Find a Story in School

JJ Murray

Schools are full of stories waiting for you to tell them. This session will break down methods professionals use to find facts, sources and the characters to make your story impactful for your audience. Join in discussions covering hard news, features, sports and a variety of school organizations.

A Panel Discussion with STN Alumni

Kevin Patterson

Listen to a live recording of a podcast episode featuring a panel discussion from STN alumni, including this year's STN Student of the Year, as they discuss their pathway through college and the professional world, and answer questions from the audience.

AI's Cool Tools: Make Your Phone Do Amazing Things That Make You Look Cool and Productive

AI Tompkins

In this fast-moving, highly practical session you will see how you can use your phone to create amazing graphics. You will learn how to record AND transcribe audio without typing a word. You will also see how to edit audio and video by just editing text.

Almost Perfect

Ken Stone with Carly Danek

In your mind it was a great package, but by the time you finished it, not so much. Bring in your story on a USB flash drive (mp4 or mov) and Ken and Carly, along with session participants, will workshop it and figure out how it could have been better.

Asking the Right Questions

Jamie Yuccas

Whether it's in a job interview, or acting as a reporter, you have to know how to ask questions, listen and read a room. This session will show you how.

Beauty & the Beast

Ken Stone with Jamie Yuccas

The classic fairy tale has important lessons for those who want to be in front of the camera. Jamie (Beauty) and Ken (Beast) will talk honestly about "the look" for TV news, how it is changing in today's media world, and how your dreams can come true!

Become a Fake News Buster: How Can You Tell Real, Reliable Information From Convincing Fakes?

****Workshop****

Al Tompkins

This session will use real examples of fake studies, social media posts and photos that ALL made their way into news broadcasts, print and online reports. We will explore how the journalists could/should have caught the fakes and what you can do to inoculate yourself from pass along unreliable information. We will also take a walk into the murky world of the “dark web” where some of the most nefarious fake news is born. This session is perfect for emerging journalists and their teachers.

Best Practices for a High Functioning Classroom ****Teacher Track****

Sean Phillips

Teachers will share their best practices through this guided conversation. Discuss problems AND solutions for a successful classroom environment. Topics include: Pacing four years of Content; Keeping Track of Gear; Balancing Contests vs. Content and more!

Boss Lady: My Role as a Line Producer

Stephanie Dawson

Have you ever wondered who manages all the moving parts on a film set? Join Stephanie as she discusses her role as a Line Producer a.k.a. Boss Lady on set. You will learn about the many responsibilities of the job and skills you need to be successful.

Broadcast News Writing Basics

JJ Murray

Smooth copy means a smooth read for your talent. This session covers need-to-know basics on writing news copy for the teleprompter and talent along with worksheets for the classroom. Examples include: newsworthiness and word usage as well as formatting names, titles and numbers.

Camera-Ready Masterclass

Katelyn Rivera

This masterclass will go step-by-step into creating flawless skin, defined eyes and lips, and how to highlight and contour to look your best on camera.

Cameras in Motion: When to Use Steadicam and Gimbles

Sheila Smith

Camera movement is increasingly important in today’s cinematography. This session will explore camera movement including Steadicam and gimble use. You will discover how and when to move the camera to enhance dramatic work, dance and everyday documentary B-roll.

Change the Status Quo: Equity & Representation in Media

Melissa Houghton

What stories are we missing when equity and representation aren’t implemented in front of and behind the camera? Let’s change expectations!

Cheap Tricks and Priceless Tips to Improve Your Work

Les Rose

Sound, light and production techniques to help make your story a great news piece. In this session, you’ll learn how to use your script, voiceover, natural sound, lighting and production techniques to make your story flawless.

CNN Comes to STN: Ask the Experts

Noah Gray

Join former STN Student of the Year Noah Gray, now Managing Producer of Field Operations for CNN's Washington Bureau for an interactive discussion about the path from high school to a full-time career in television news. Noah will bring surprise guests from CNN from on-camera talent, to photojournalists, who will answer questions and share war stories from assignments all over the world.

College Crunch

Ken Stone

You want to make sure the school you pick won't RUIN YOUR LIFE! This session will give you ideas about the kind of questions you should be asking yourself—and college admissions officers. (Hint: they don't want to tell you what you really need to know).

Create Better Short Films!

Jim Guarasci

Create better short films with tips on how to make them effective and memorable. This session discusses how to write, shoot and edit short films and other creative content, emphasizing the importance of making an emotional attachment with your audience. For examples and inspiration, we will break down some of the high school student-produced films seen on BECON-TV's television show *Short Cuts*.

Creative Editing for Film & Broadcast: Rules of Thumb You'll Remember ***Workshop***

Misha Tenenbaum

How many times have you sat in front of a pile of footage thinking, "What can I do to make this scene funnier? More suspenseful? More dramatic?" Creative editing techniques may seem like mysteries — codes we can only crack through hours of trial and error. But editing does have creative "rules of thumb" that can be taught and learned. In this session, we will re-edit professionally shot projects to understand how the editors put them together; then, we'll boil down their techniques and thought processes into easy-to-remember tips and tools that can help you achieve your editing goals.

Daily Grind - More Than Boring Morning Announcements

Carlsbad High School Television

Learn how to involve the audience while producing a fast-paced broadcast. Carlsbad High School students will share strategies for producing a compelling daily, live broadcast that includes live guests, interesting stories, live entertainment, and more. They will also premiere a brand new, game-changing green screen technology called *Lightcraft*.

Documentary Filmmaking and the Future of YouTube & Online Content Creation

Shelby Doroshow

Documentary filmmaking can take many forms, encompassing modern video styles like vlogs, social experiments, tutorials and other versatile types of video content creators are publishing every day on YouTube. Shelby debunks misconceptions about today's documentary filmmakers, and shares behind-the-scenes stories and insight she gained in the process of creating *Stuffed*, an award-winning documentary film about her personal 100-pound weight loss journey.

Emmy is Calling!

Dean Staley

An examination of a variety of Emmy Award-winning stories and why they work. The session will focus on how they are structured, what techniques are used to make the content compelling, and the single aspect they all share that sets them apart from other stories.

Exploring Election 2020 with NewsHour's Amna Nawaz

PBS NewsHour Student Reporting Labs

Amna Nawaz will lead a conversation with Student Reporting Labs journalists who have covered elections, talk to students and teachers about ideas and strategies to do local and national stories and offer clear paths to publication and visibility. You will be inspired to think about the issues and candidates they want to focus on.

Feed The Beast (Fast Turn Shot in a Day)

Les Rose

Small towns have big stories to tell. This session will show how even local liaisons and life can turn into what you see on the nightly news. These local stories are rapidly shot but still come out just as good as the rest, with humor and heart.

Filmmaking on a Dime

Shelby Doroshow

You don't need expensive cameras, high-tech equipment and a fancy studio to tell a good story. In this session you will learn handy ways you can affordably renovate your home space into a makeshift production studio.

From the Field to the Studio: Tackling Sports in TV

Brandon Garcia

Is sports news or newsworthy? This session breaks down the answer to that often-asked question, and answers everything else you've ever wondered about what makes sports so important to people who consume news every single day.

Fundraising 101: How to Raise Much Needed Funds For Your Program *Teacher Track*****

Kevin Matsunaga with Luane Higuchi

As a teacher in Hawaii whose students must travel long distances each year for the STN Convention, Kevin is also a full-time fundraiser. What has worked and hasn't worked for him? Find out in this presentation for teachers.

How Gen Z is Covering the 2020 Election

PBS NewsHour Student Reporting Labs

One in ten eligible voters in the 2020 Presidential Election will be of Generation Z. Find out how other student journalists are covering the issues that matter to them and their communities this election season, and discover project-based resources that help students build civic knowledge.

How Facts Can Improve Your Fiction

Emilie Lorditch

Emilie will show and explain examples from TV shows, movies and her experience working with screenwriters to show how science facts can increase the interest, drama and conflict in a fictional story. The session will also offer online resources.

How to Film a Dynamic Visual Story

Robert Pennybacker

The most powerful films are ones in which the visuals tell their own dynamic story. This session will provide a live demonstration of how to shoot a sequence in a way that tells a dynamic, compelling story. Attendees will have a chance to design their own visual stories.

How to Light

Carly Danek

Whether you're recording an anchor team in your newscast or a scary scene in your movie, you need light. We'll discuss using natural light to your advantage and also how to add light to get the look you want.

How to Turn Your Classroom Into a Newsroom *Teacher Track*****

Mark Lodato

We know that hands-on learning is essential when students have to create and edit content. The key is figuring out what steps to take to ensure our students combine creativity and efficiency. This session will help you facilitate a productive classroom that resembles a newsroom.

How Your Profile Can Hurt You

Jamie Yuccas

What you post to social media can make or break you in certain situations. We'll dissect online accounts - including Jamie's - and find out how to improve your online image.

I Sound Terrible

Ken Stone

You know how to shoot great video. You're a whiz as an editor. But when you lay down your VO track...you sound pathetic. You can change that. While it takes years to really find your professional voice, Ken GUARANTEES you'll be better if you spend 60 minutes here.

I'm in High School, I Want to Work in TV, Now What?

Phil Berman

So you want to work at a TV network in a big city? This session will cover what it takes to get there. You have to start small, building relationships and gaining lots of experience along the way. It's real-life advice from a former TV journalism student who's "been there, done that."

Independent Cinema: Survey and Toolkit

Jason Lobe

How do you become more expressive and stand out as an artist? How can different directorial styles, storytelling approaches and editing create unique and challenging filmmaking? Independent Cinema offers great tools for filmmakers of all levels. Jason will help you survey several recent independent films to find these tools and build your toolkit.

Live Production and Streaming for School Broadcasts

Broadcast SIMS

Using the equipment your program already owns, or with a small investment in a few key components, you can take your campus broadcast to the next level with live production and streaming. Streaming live events on your campus, such as sports, fine arts, pep rallies and award ceremonies is a great way to increase viewership and access to your broadcast program.

Making “Welcome to Leith”

Christopher Walker

Join filmmaker Christopher Walker as he talks about the making of his critically-acclaimed documentary *Welcome to Leith*, and shares stories about the challenges he faced shooting and editing this racially-charged epic about a white supremacist who attempted to take over a small town in North Dakota.

Making “Wrinkles the Clown”

Christopher Walker

Visit with a documentary filmmaker as he shows you the making of a recently released documentary, *Wrinkles the Clown*. Hear behind-the-scenes stories and answers to your questions about documentary filmmaking.

Managing Your Media Classroom *Teacher Track*****

Hawaii Creative Media

How do you manage your class, student work and communicate with your parents? If you need help in keeping up with all of these things, come on out to our session where we will share with you a program we use that keeps our media programs organized!

Mental Health of 24/7 Coverage

Jamie Yuccas

Mental health is in the news and a big topic for teenagers. This session will show examples of how the news covers mental health and what techniques anyone can use in a stressful situation to brush off internet trolls.

My Stuff, Your Stuff: Copyright, Privacy and Defamation

Cathie Saadeh

It doesn't matter how old you are - anyone who writes, reports, or creates needs to know about copyright, privacy, and defamation. This is a live stage session where copyrighted content will be created live and then used and abused so you can learn what NOT to do. We'll also invade some privacy, and do a little defaming, for good measure. You'll walk out of this session knowing how to protect your stuff - and importantly, how to avoid messing with other people's stuff.

Myth & Story

Will Linn, Ph.D.

STORY: The essence of dreams, epics, movies, news, books, songs, plays, games, rides, life and...
MYTH: The most powerful and profound stories. This presentation introduces how the study of myth has nurtured the core skills of great storytellers—from Tolkien and Lucas, to the teams at Marvel and Pixar.

No Video? No Worries. Time to Get Creative!

Carly Danek

You have an interesting story, but no video to support what you want to say. We'll tackle ideas on how to use still photos, websites, file video, text and effects to help tell your story well.

One Way is Only a Street Sign

Ken Stone

There is no "one way" to tell a story. There are many good ways. When an organization asks you to make a video and "tell their story" how do you decide the best approach for them? We'll look at storytelling with narration, no-narration, POV (point-of-view) and other techniques.

Operation Organization: Get a Production Game Plan

JJ Murray

Video magic doesn't appear out of nowhere. You need an organizational game plan. This session discusses location/site checks, permits, licenses, budgets, equipment and crew needs. See examples of production planning for events like the Super Bowl Halftime show, concerts, conventions, awards shows and more!

Plan the Shoot; Shoot the Plan

Sean Phillips

This deep dive into a script breakdown will help aspiring filmmakers plan your future projects. This session will discuss the basics of script formatting and how to create a list of identified elements in a scene.

Producing 101: You Do What?

Tracy Perlman

Learn about one of the most important and versatile roles in a newsroom. Producers do everything and anything from leading editorial discussions to creating finite show details. In this session you will explore the day-to-day responsibilities of a producer and practice how to present newscasts in an organized fashion.

Producing Powerful Films on a Budget

Lee Giat

When it comes to telling a compelling story, most young filmmakers are limited by their budget. Whether it's \$1000 or \$1, there are many ways to successfully create your next great short film. By first understanding your strengths, resources and screenplay, you'll be able to plan your production seamlessly.

Putting the Subject at Ease

Les Rose

Here are step-by-step ways to get better stories and better interviews by...accepting the water? From pre-arrival preps to sharing a story about yourself, it's all about getting the subject comfortable, confident, and ready for a conversation (oh, and NEVER call it an interview!).

Real-World Reporting: College Edition

Patty Vincente

Learn from college students about the values and principles that have long formed the core of the journalism profession, and a few of the specialized, practical skills needed to succeed in today's digital world and start a career in journalism or mass communication.

Rubric Friendly Feedback: Measurable Objective Evaluations ***Teacher Track***

JJ Murray

No more subjective feedback. Improve story and production quality with objective evaluations using a rubric-friendly or proficiency rating objective system you can customize to your liking. Learn ways to give specific feedback in the areas of writing, photography, audio and editing techniques. The session will also discuss post-show meetings and discrepancy reports.

Run It Like You Own It / Making a Morning Show

Tracy Misner

Tracy Misner and his students from Alpharetta High School will show how students and teachers can systemize your program and produce an engaging and entertaining morning show easily.

Screenwriting Essentials: How to HOOK Your Audience

Tom Oliva

This essential screenwriting session will focus on how to create a hook to immediately capture the attention of your audience and make them want more! We'll watch award-winning student films from the All American High School Film Festival library to explore how they create a compelling hook and how you can use specific techniques to increase viewer engagement.

Sequences!

Carly Danek

Wide, medium, tight, super tight, action, reaction - learn the basics of sequences and learn how to make yours better.

Shooting with a Pro *Workshop*****

Les Rose

How do you find a story on a tight deadline – or when there's absolutely nothing to shoot? How can an ordinary object be captured through the lens to become extraordinary? How can you up your game with the latest in pro shooting techniques? This session will answer your questions and walk you step by step through the process. This is one of STN's most popular workshops so sign up early!

Sports & Adventure Media Writing to Video

Emily Corio

Learn techniques for writing to sports video, including adventure sports! Join in on this awesome session where you will practice writing and voicing your own script.

Student Filmmaking: The Struggle is Real

Sean Phillips

From coast-to-coast, student filmmakers encounter the SAME struggles. You will connect with fellow film students through a guided conversation - sharing problems AND solutions to the filmmaking process.

The Art of the Pitch

Jeremy Menard

All great television shows start as an idea. This session will discuss the process of taking a concept and developing it into a professional pitch. Learn how proper planning can lead to on-screen success. Bring your show ideas!

The Best of Student Filmmaking

Tom Oliva

Elevate your next film project by joining All American High School Film executive director Tom Oliva for an immersive session featuring a diverse selection of award-winning student films and the techniques they employ to rise to the top. Explore character and conflict, the "Show Don't Tell" principle, and much more!

The Game Beyond Highlights

Tracy Perlman

What happens in the locker rooms and sidelines to make a good story? Learn how covering sports goes beyond rooting for the home team, and how to find a unique story in the post-game scrum.

The Power of Language and Portrayals: What We Hear/What We See

Marie Gallo Dyak

The stigma surrounding important health issues is often intentionally or unintentionally reinforced by our language and behaviors. Through the powerful impact of the entertainment industry, the way people's stories, struggles, and recoveries are portrayed has great influence. What we hear, and what we see really does make a difference.

The Power of Social Media

Jacki Romey

The STN Collaborative Documentary film will have its world premiere during this session. Join STN students who participated in the project for a panel discussion about their experience working in collaboration.

The STN Writers' Room

Juliet Kaufman & Mike Cullen

Become a comedy writer and pitch jokes for the STN 2020 closing ceremony! This session will be workshop format and you will meet twice: first, to identify areas of the script that need punch-ups, and then you'll meet a day later to pitch jokes and ideas to the writers' room. Writers can sign up on their own or pair up with a writing partner.

NOTE: This session is limited to 20 High School students ONLY. Attendees MUST be able to attend the session on Friday AND Saturday.

They Teach That LIVE with STN Board Members *Teacher Track*****

Kevin Patterson

Sit in on a live recording of the podcast *They Teach That* featuring a panel discussion with members of Student Television Network's Board of Directors. Find out a bit more about what makes STN tick.

Top Anchor Tips

Dean Staley

Next Level Anchoring! Students will be given the opportunity to practice and critique their peer's work. A discussion of techniques for anchoring will give you new skills to use during a long and successful career in broadcasting.

TV News 101 – A Crash Course in TV News

Phil Berman

Part of being a journalist is asking questions. So ask them! This session will cover topics like getting your first job as a reporter/anchor to knowing what you want - and going for it! (and everything in between). Phil is a producer for CBS News - and wants YOU to come prepared with your questions about the biz!

Using Social Media to Create Opportunities

Ricky Cornish

You can't avoid using social media platforms if you're interested in pursuing a career in media. Come and learn how college students are using their social media platforms to create opportunities. Learn skills that can help you create revenue and grow your network.

What I Learned From Seven Years Following a Dart Across America

Les Rose

This is the best of Everybody Has a Story from CBS with Steve Hartman. Feature storytelling without the dart but still with heart. Next level feature storytelling and how to make your stories better in every way.

When the Interview is YOU... Acing that First Impression!

Phil Berman with Jaimee Rashbaum

With three decades of producing experience between us, we'll show you how to prepare for the professional world in college, how to put a resume tape together and how to set yourself apart from the thousands of other people who want the same job as YOU! This session is an STN favorite – don't miss out!

Why Journalism Matters

Les Rose

In the fast-paced world of social media and information overload, it's more important than ever that the journalist finds the facts and knows that their stories can really change lives.