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District Teens Learn Modern Filmmaking with Smartphones

*DC Entertainment Office Partners with the Inaugural SmartPhilm Fest
to bring an innovative workshop to DCPS students*

Washington, DC – The DC Entertainment Office (also known as the Office of Cable Television, Film, Music, and Entertainment or OCTFME) will host the SmartPhilm Filmmaking Workshop, an interactive workshop for District students using smartphones, at the 1899 9th Street studios on May 12th, 2017. This free, hands-on workshop is led by film industry experts and will offer the District youth, grades 7 – 12 an in-depth introduction on how to turn the handy communication device in their pocket into a tool they can use to create their own films.

“The DC Entertainment Office is a proud sponsor of the SmartPhilm Filmmaking Workshop,” says Executive Director Angie Gates. “The workshop is just one of the many ways we are cultivating the next generation of creatives right here in the District.”

Participation will be on a first come first serve basis, as capacity is limited. The leaders of youth programs that serve District youth ages 14 -18 can register online for this event now at SmartPhilm Filmmaking Workshop.

The workshop kicks off the inaugural SmartPhilm Fest, a new cultural experience that showcases some of the engaging international documentaries, experimental features, and short films from diverse filmmakers. The festival highlights innovative short films made exclusively using smartphones and other mobile devices. The first annual SmartPhilm Fest takes place May 12th-13th, 2017 at multiple locations in Washington, DC and Northern Virginia.

In addition to the SmartPhilm Filmmaking Workshop, SmartPhilm Fest will host a film screening and award ceremony on May 13th at the Arlington Cinema ‘N’ Drafthouse in Arlington, VA. The exciting, eclectic lineup of panelists and discussions announced today feature the industry’s successful independent filmmakers and distribution platforms. SmartPhilm Fest received 2,700 shorts from creative around the world spanning over 110 countries. After a rigorous review process, 23 shorts have been selected as finalists.

Government of the District of Columbia
**OFFICE OF CABLE TELEVISION
FILM, MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT**



ABOUT DC Entertainment Office (OCTFME):

The mission of the DC Entertainment Office (also known as Office of Cable Television, Film, Music and Entertainment or OCTFME) is to produce and broadcast programming for the District of Columbia's public, educational, and government access (PEG) cable channels; regulate the District of Columbia's cable television service providers; provide customer service for cable subscribers; and support a sustainable creative economy and labor market the District of Columbia.

ABOUT SmartPhilm:

The SmartPhilm Festival brings to the U.S. Mid-Atlantic region the first film festival with films shot exclusively with smartphones and other mobile devices. With the rise of smartphones and the proliferation of apps, the ways creatives represent the world around us in digital media is rapidly changing. SmartPhilm strives to be a platform to the global artistic and storytelling community to document and produce its own stories in the most accessible way. More information is available at www.smartphilm.com.

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