

EÒLAIS CINEMA



A free film education project born in France, raised in Scotland

Eòlais Cinema is a free film education project that works with primary and secondary schools to explore and develop both teachers' and pupils' filmmaking skills by working with a filmmaker over the course of a school year. It is based on the international Cinema Cent Ans De Jeunesse [CCAJ] project, which grew out of the Cinematheque Française, starting in 1995.

Each year we explore a particular aspect of filmmaking. Using clips from the history of world cinema we discover how our topic has been developed by filmmakers across the world. The participants then perform a series of exercises exploring how they can use the theme in the development of their own filmmaking skills, leading up to the making of a short film, which will be screened at a special online event here in Scotland. One film from the group will also be screened in France alongside other films from our international partners.

Eòlais Cinema follows on from Understanding Cinema, which operated in Scotland from 2012. Previous topics explored included colour in cinema, camera movement, the long take, sensation, distance and many others.

This year's topic is [Patterns in Cinema](#). How can the repetitive use of visual and sound motifs in film allow filmmakers to establish a shared cultural shorthand which means that an audience can understand what the filmmaker wants them to experience in the blink of an eye.

Teachers taking part in previous versions of the project have noted that many of their participants have grown in confidence, developed their listening, speaking and teamwork skills and activated and enhanced their creative learning skills including curiosity, open mindedness, problem solving and found means to accessing and employing their imaginations.

Eòlais Cinema works particularly well with learners who have additional support needs or experience social exclusion, as it is about building the voice of and enabling young filmmakers to make their voice heard.

Film carries a cultural significance which means that we will often stop and watch what is being shown to us, more than we would engage with a speaker face to face.

This means that the work of the filmmakers is seen and heard, their voices and perspectives are listened to and engaged with. For young people whose voices are not often heard or acknowledged this can be a significant experience.

How Eòlais Cinema works:

- An initial online training session for all teachers working on the project. This session will last for 2 hours. It will be recorded for reference and catch up purposes.
- Monthly online small group sessions with a filmmaker who will support you to work on your filmmaking skills to allow you to develop your film-teaching practice. There will be two, one hour sessions per month.
- You work with your class or group throughout the course of the school year exploring the topic.
- Two online meet up sessions with all teachers together, the first at the middle and the second at the end of the project where we can share our experience of our learning journeys.
- Screening of films online in June.

**If you'd like to sign up to the project, or would like
more information about Eòlais Cinema, please contact**

Alasdair Satchel on alasdair@screenargyll.co.uk or 077697 958 44 by 26th October.

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