



Creating Creators Begins Virtual Film Mentorship Workshops to Reach Students At Home During COVID-19 Crisis

LOS ANGELES, CA - May 1st, 2020

This Friday, May 1st at 11:30 a.m., Creating Creators, in partnership with the Creating Creators Foundation, will launch the first episode of their Virtual Film Workshops on Instagram as a brand new IGTV series ([@creatingcreators](#)). This premiere episode will be in partnership with the students and Principal of Mt. Olive Innovation and Technology High School in DUSD. In response to the school shutdowns caused by COVID-19, Creating Creators has pivoted to connecting students, teachers, and industry professionals via video chat. The very first workshop will cover Acting and will feature a live table read of the student-written script, *"Dangers of The Street"*, with actors Goya Robles and Lydia Porto from the Epix TV show *"Get Shorty"*. Subsequent episodes will explore Directing, Editing, Character Design, Screenwriting, Special Effects Make-up, Stop-motion Animation, and Poster Design to name a few. With the workshops, Creating Creators aspires to still provide their signature film professional mentorship with their classes and attract students to become more familiar with online learning to complete their assignments.

During the workshop, the professional actors shared how they prepare for a table read and suggested finding hints in the script to best understand their character truths. Mr. Robles gave this guidance to the students; "Learning how to play is essential. What questions do you ask when you are exploring the character and the story? Is the character-rich? Poor? Do you live in a neighborhood with many immigrants? Are you religious? The quality of your questions will ground you in a reality that will inspire your imagination. For this to happen, you have to be willing to get it wrong. Make mistakes. Make bad acting choices. Develop a great relationship with finding the truth, no matter how bad or silly it might look. The only true mistake one can make is trying to get it right. It's the death of creativity."

Miss Porto also was generous with her guidance; "The preparation for the time in front of the camera is most of your work. Reading the script several times, understanding what the writer says about your character, what other characters say about your character and what your character says about themselves, looking up any words you're not familiar with, doing research about your character's occupation and any other details, and also filling in the blanks with your own imagination. Memorizing lines and understanding your blocking. When you get in front of those cameras, you want to be as prepared as you can be, because the crew has been working for a long time before you come on set, and they have other things to do after you leave. Any questions you have for the director should be asked earlier, if possible so that the time in front of the camera is spent recording your great performance! Your part in being a good team player is to be prepared."

"Students were able to give life to a text that they had created with the help of professionals Lidia Porto and Goya Robles who then provided them with valuable, authentic means to improve their project. We are often told that true education is generated by the successful marriage between the theoretical sphere of the classroom and the applications and possibilities of the world beyond school. This is what I witnessed Friday, education as it ought to be, multilayered and multidimensional, where students were allowed to create and then flesh out and improve their craft under the tutelage of caring professionals, whom I know benefitted from the exchange as well." -- *Laurent Lanuqueitte, Teacher, M.I.T. H.S.*

Bryan Soto, who played the lead alongside the professional actors during the table read commented, "I thought it was definitely something, new to try, you got actors coming in giving you some great feedback on what we as a group worked on [in class] and it kinda felt like I was still actually there learning with them."

Juan Gonzalez, a graduating senior also commented, "I really liked it, it was nice to see Lidia and Goya give feedback and give us advice on how to improve it and make it better."

Teachers and administrators at Duarte Unified are doing admirable work to not only take care of their student's education but also support the student and their families' well-being as a whole. Creating Creators' will continue to support their educational partners during these turbulent times by providing these recorded workshops and other learning resources for their students and educators online. Subscribe to their

InstagramTV and Youtube channels for access to these resources and a chance to interact with their filmmakers!

“During these unprecedented times, we are so excited to be able to host a series of virtual workshops which will benefit our educational partners, starting with the amazing students of Duarte Unified School District - MIT HS.” - *Polo Munoz, CCO & Co-Founder, Creating Creators*

About Creating Creators

Creating Creators, www.creatingcreators.net is an educational development company that connects film industry teaching artists to classrooms through a student-centered authentic learning experience via film production. Their year-long supplementary curriculum is meant to support teachers with a creative way to explore the ELA and Visual Arts standards from elementary to high school instruction. In partnership with their 501c3, The Creating Creators Foundation, they continue their work beyond the classroom through field trips, film industry special guests, and an end of the year showcase of student work to community and industry partners. It is the mission of the foundation to provide equity and inclusion opportunities through the entertainment industry for underserved youth in K-12+ classrooms.

More Information:

Goya Robles: <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm4007188/>

Lidia Porto: https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0692493/?ref=fn_al_nm_1

Creating Creators Website www.creatingcreators.net

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