“Our students blossomed not only as filmmakers but as concerned and active citizens.”
- Patricia Cogley, Associate Director, Bay Area Video Coalition, San Francisco, CA

“The relationships between the young people were life changing.”
- Kate Eilertson, Executive Director, Museum of Craft and Folk Art, San Francisco, CA

“Rutgers-Newark and N.J.I.T. students simply could not stop raving about how much they had learned.”
- Stephen J. Diner, Provost, Rutgers University – Newark, NJ

“What is really amazing is Frederick’s continued dedication to all of us, and to helping further our own projects and goals.”
- Heather Kessinger, Documentary Filmmaker, San Francisco, CA

“I only want other young people, as many as possible, to have this same amazing opportunity.”
- Jeffrey Schneider, Freelance Documentarian, Hollywood, CA
Young people thirst for mentorship. They desperately seek their place in the world, and an understanding of how they can make it meaningful. How we guide our youth to significant contributions is an evolving challenge in a society increasingly immersed in high velocity, low content media. More and more, the youth of America are picking up movie cameras with the desire to communicate, aspiring to become a filmmaking great. With the right guidance and tools, there is a profound opportunity to empower youth from diverse socio-economic backgrounds today. Through practical training in community oriented filmmaking these youth will realize both social meaning and individual excellence. Warrior Educational Films (a non-profit 501.c.3 corporation), through its cornerstone DocuMentoring Studio™, has the expertise and passion to deliver this opportunity.

Meet Acclaimed Filmmaker … Frederick Marx

Leading the workshop is Frederick Marx, an internationally acclaimed, Oscar & Emmy nominated producer/director with 30 years in the film business. He was named a Chicago Tribune Artist of the Year for 1994, a 1995 Guggenheim Fellow, and a recipient of a Robert F. Kennedy Special Achievement Award. His film HOOP DREAMS played in hundreds of theaters nationwide after winning the Audience Award at the Sundance Film Festival and was the first documentary ever chosen to close the New York Film Festival. It is one of the highest grossing non-musical documentaries in US history. HOOP DREAMS was named “Best Film of the Decade” by Roger Ebert and was recently named “Best Documentary of All Time” by the International Documentary Association (IDA).

The DocuMentoring Studio™ is the culmination of Frederick’s life’s work as an artist, teacher, and social activist.

Our workshop provides access to the necessary digital filmmaking tools, enabling all participants to pursue the dream.

The workshop guides students to find stories they themselves care about deeply, to access their own passions. By combining instruction on how to find and create stories through journaling, self-reflection, and group discussion, inspiration is uncovered and sustained. Encouraged to engage the most global issues, young filmmakers are directed back to everyday life, back to their own families, neighborhoods, and communities to find stories, to understand that many of even the best fiction films can and do start with lived realities.

Most young filmmakers don’t have the mentoring they need to fully realize their visions. Even the best students need some guidance, some mentoring from those with more experience. Students can draw on the lifelong experience of fully seasoned doc-makers, quickly accessing crucial best practices info, rather than re-inventing the wheel themselves, or not receiving practical real world instruction from academics.

Students are made aware of A GREATER PURPOSE for their work. It’s not enough that they make films they have passion for. What’s also important is that they realize how their work can be, MUST be, put at the service of others. The films can and should be used by non-profit collaborators to serve as fundraising and PR tools, to spread awareness about important local issues. They provide a crucial link in a feedback loop of dialogue with the community.

Through our summer workshop or in-school program, the DocuMentoring Studio™ combines a tested curriculum and demanding expectations with acclaimed professional filmmakers to instruct and mentor a select group of young people in all aspects of documentary production. The demanding course directs future talents to make films for and about the communities where they live. The films live on through traditional and viral distribution (TV, festivals, internet, DVDs) building resumes, expanding networks, supplementing income … enhancing professional goals.

The workshop brings together racially and economically diverse participants with the passion and commitment to gain practical experience in telling the story of a social issue relevant to them. All carefully selected participants pair up and complete a 5 minute film, which is then shared with their partner organizations, their community, their families and friends in a public celebration in the final week. The students range in age from 15-25, from high school sophomores to college graduate students.