

Migration cinema program



Brief description of the activity

The migration film program is a project that consists of projecting films or short films that have in common their theme: migration. They can be films from any country, the choice will depend on the organization of the activity, taking into account the availability of the film, the layout of the distributor and the budget of the organization that will host the program.

Migration cinema program

Topics, objectives and methodology:

Enhance the value of diversity as a wealth. Avoid rumors and act against prejudices towards people of diverse cultures and migrants.

Work on empathy towards experiences and realities of migrants. Promote European awareness and responsibility towards current migratory movements in a post-colonial context.

The method used to pursue the objectives is the audiovisual dissemination of these values. Through selected artistic works that work on issues related to migration, reflection on the subject is generated.

Duration:

This activity has two parts. The first is the compilation of movies. The time dedicated to this work varies depending on external factors such as the the availability of the distributors. It can be assigned an indicative duration of one month. The second phase is the cycle itself: a week in which four

films will be screened.

Other way of doing the activity is to use short films instead of long films. That way, we can shorten the activity and do it in one day.

Costs:

The cost of this activity depends on the films selected for the screenings. Depending on the size of the film and the distributor that manages the projection rights vary. Suppose they will be small, independent movies. Thus, the rights could be around 100-300 euros.

4 movie projection rights: 800€

Location:

It will be necessary that the location hosting the activity has projection and sound equipment. Also that it is spacious enough to accommodate the number of people you expect will come to see the cycle.

Materials:

- **Organization:**

PC and contacts with film distributors

- **For the movie cycle:**

Projector and sound equipment. PC

A sufficiently spacious space and chairs to watch the movie

Staff needed and eventual specific skills required:

Two people for the organization of the activity. No specific capabilities are needed, just management and organization, information search resources and references from film festivals and producers.



Steps:

Step one: assess if you have a space large enough to house a projection for about 20 people. If you do not have a space with these characteristics, the public can be reduced. You will also have to look for a projector and sound equipment for projection. Try to set a date for the space you have chosen.

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Step two: if you know that you have an adequate space where you can do the film cycle, you can start looking for which films will be part of the cycle. It is recommended to choose a film of around 90 minutes to be able to dedicate at least 30 to the debate. Also if you want to do a screening for children, try to search for cartoons that talk about this issue.

Look for references: in small festivals of social cinema or thematic similar to the cycle you want to organize. Look for the movies you are interested in showing, and when you have selected a few, start contacting the dis-

tributors of each movie. The distributors will inform you of the price of the right of projection and the necessary documents will be processed with you.

Some references here:

Film festivals related to human rights

<http://caostica.com/gizazinea/>

<https://www.zinemaetagizaeskubideak.eus/2020/>

<http://zinegoak.com/>

Film examples:

“MR GAY SYRIA” (AyşeToprak)

“SITIO DISTINTO” (Davide Cabaleiro)

“DESIERTO” (Jonas Cuarón)

Data base of films related to migration:

https://www.zinemaetagizaeskubideak.eus/2020/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=56&Itemid=53&tema=Inmigraci%C3%B3n&lang=es



Email example to contact film distributors:

Dear Mr or Mrs:

We are writing from the association xxxx in xxxx. We are organising a film festival to promote interculturality and human rights in our town. It is a non profit festival, and we will not charge in the screenings.

We are interested in including the film xxxx in the program of the festival.

We would like to know which would be the requirements to screen the film in our space.

Thank you,

Step three: you can now publicize the activity. Create an image that will represent the activity and disseminate it by digital or analogue means (local media, social networks, etc.)

Step four: when the movie cycle week begins prepare the space for the audience to come. Digital movie file previously checked, secured, also the PC and the sound system. Arrange chairs around the screen so that the public can adjust and see the film.

Step five: After every screening, organise discussions about the film topic. A volunteer or youth worker can ask some questions to enhance reflection. When the activity is over is a good moment to ask participants to fill the questionnaire. After watching the movie, we may not have much time for discussion. It is recommended to choose a film of around 90 minutes to be able to dedicate at least 30 to the debate. Some questions that help guide the debate:

- What is the message of the movie?
- How can we transfer what the film tells to our reality?
- Does it offer us any learning?
- Has it helped us see certain situations from a new perspective?

The moment of debate and discussion can be a good occasion to understand if the group of spectators has changed mood because of the film or its theme. Before starting the debate, we can talk about this, without ignoring the fact that our emotions affect us when empathizing with other realities, but without letting this emotions take over our thinking. Each person takes turns expressing how he/she has felt, and together, try to focus this emotions towards critical reflection.

Let us think: what has affected me from what I have seen? Perhaps I have witnessed an injustice? What could we do to change this situation?

After

When the cycle is over, it takes time to assess how the activity went. How many people have participated, what kind of audience (age, etc.) and review the work done to detect what could have been done better.

It is always advisable to have made a small photo registration of the public and the activity, to upload to networks or send, along with a press release, to local newspapers or publications.

Evaluation form example:

- Hoy many people participated:
- What was the age range of the participants
- Did the participants talked after the film:
- Which issues did they talk about:
- Were they interested in this topic:



Do's and don'ts

Make a careful selection of movies, showing diverse realities. It's about breaking stereotypes about migratory experiences; The most advisable is to opt for films that address the theme from stories and protagonists of different kinds. Also to show the reality of your local environment: maybe your territory has experienced both outgoing and incoming migration, if there is any film or documentary showing that, chose it. If there is not, try to talk about it on the discussion after the film.

This is an activity that could fit into a larger project that you are working on in your youth center. Perhaps you are working on the month of awareness of migration realities, or the month of working on interculturality through artistic formats. Do not screen films whose exhibition rights you have not purchased (unless they are freely licensed films).

Innovative aspects for the promotion of interculture

Interculturality is promoted from the generation of reflection on the situation and experience of migrants. Knowing the stories of people from different cultural backgrounds helps us to address the issue of interculturality from its most present and most urgent perspective in our context: migration.

Video, links and external resources

References in which to discover films of migratory themes, interesting for our film cycle. Look for similar references in your context.

<http://caostica.com/gizazinea/>

<https://www.zinemaetagizaeskubideak.eus/2020/>