

Fundraising

Fundraising for your production will require some creative entrepreneurial ideas and strategic research. Start by ensuring your budget is as manageable and realistic as possible — evaluate it for any items that you can do without, and look for opportunities to get things for a discount rate, or, even better, for free.

To keep your budget as low as possible, you'll need to call in as many favours as you can. Use your network! Friends and family may be happy to appear in your film, and may be able to connect you with someone who can supply other things you might need — often in return for a production credit. Local community groups might possibly have an interest in your film topic and may be able to provide help.

Fundraising can be a challenge for new filmmakers, and a number of programs restrict their support to established filmmakers. Contests/competitions are a common way though that some established funders provide support to talented new and emerging filmmakers. Current funding opportunities can be found by researching local and national broadcasters, professional associations, government agencies like Telefilm and the National Film Board, and by reading professional film magazines or subscribing to newsletters such as Pacific Cinémathèque's CuedUp.

Selected Funding Sources for Video Projects in the Classroom

Sources of financial support do exist for teachers organizing video production in the classroom. Below is a list that BC, and Vancouver teachers in particular, can apply to:

Ed May Social Responsibility Fund

- Up to \$2000 for teacher initiatives in social responsibility.
- Deadline: November
- <http://pdonline.bctf.ca/opportunities/EdMay/brochure.html>

VSB Artist in Residence Program

- Pays \$450 for seven sessions with an artist listed with the program, some of whom work in the medium of video.
- Deadline: November
- www.vsb.bc.ca/vsbprograms/kto12/Artistinresidence.htm

Art Starts

- Several grant programs for arts projects in schools.
- Deadlines: October, November
- www.artstarts.com/appl.html

VanCity grants

- Several grant programs related to projects that address social justice and environmental responsibility. Some have gone to projects involving youth-produced video.
- www.vancity.com/Community/CommunityPrograms/Grants