



## ***The Vacuum Kid***

### **Screening and Workshop Outline / Fee Breakdown**

#### **Theme and Message of Workshop:**

*The Vacuum Kid* and its director, Katharine Mahalic, teach students to embrace their own individuality, appreciate the differences in others, and to embrace their own unique person.

#### **Discussion Topics:**

- \* The importance of individuality.
- \* Acceptance, tolerance and the understanding of others.
- \* The need to say NO to bullying!

#### **Film Synopsis (11 minute documentary):**

Imagine being Kyle, a 5th grade boy from Michigan who stands up for what he believes in - his love for the vacuum cleaner. But it's not always easy being different. Kyle understands something many people never do; uniqueness and individuality are qualities to be treasured, and that when you love something, no matter how much heartache it might cost you, the love is worth the risk.

#### **Audience:**

Elementary and Middle School

#### **What is Included:**

A screening of *The Vacuum Kid*, followed by a Q&A, discussion, and peer group exchange on individuality, self-esteem, and the acceptance of others, facilitated by Director Katharine Mahalic.

#### **Awards:**

New York International Children's Film Festival - Parents Choice Award, 2013  
New York International Children's Film Festival - Audience Award - Ages 8-14, 2013  
Little Big Shots Children's Film Festival - Best International Short Film, 2012  
United Film Festival - Best Documentary, 2012  
Hollyshorts Film Festival - Best Short Documentary, 2011  
Chicago International Children's Film Festival - Best Short Documentary, 2011





## Description of Workshop:

Following a screening of *The Vacuum Kid*, a Q&A is held with Director Katharine Mahalic, along with a peer discussion between the students, facilitated by Mahalic.

(Older students will also have a chance to ask Katharine questions about filmmaking, and how the film was made.)

Students will be asked to talk about bullying, and how it makes them feel that Kyle has been bullied. They will be asked to describe Kyle's unique qualities and reflect on how Kyle's individuality makes him stand out from others. They will also be asked to identify their own unique qualities.

### Grade 2:

Drawing and writing materials will be passed out, along with two *Vacuum Kid* postcards. These materials will be used during the peer-to-peer group exercise, helping students to identify their own individuality and unique attributes, as well as their classmates. This exercise is focused on building self-esteem and respect for others.

### Grades 3rd-7th:

Students will be given a series of *Vacuum Kid* postcards and notecards to create an interactive peer discussion. Topics of group discussion include:

- Identifying self-worth
- Identifying positive and unique characteristics in others
- Understanding and sharing self-misconceptions
- The impact of bullying and how to rise above





## Screening and Workshop Fees:

**Full Day:** \$1,000

**Half Day:** \$500

(+ transport / mileage / accommodations for schools more than 1.5 hrs from St. Louis, Missouri)

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## Private Screening of “The Vacuum Kid” and “Good Dog” with Visit and Q&A with Director

**Price:** \$400.00 (+ transportation, or millage + hotel)

“Groups” include but are not limited to organizations such as art appreciations groups, public libraries, film groups, after school organizations and other not-for profit organizations.

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## Organization Deals:

*If you belong to an organization that would like to host a screening of Welcome to Unity, please see below for **discount options**.*

**Step 1:** Find a school in your area to host a screening!

**Step 2:** Get a screening and Q & A / discussion for \$200.00

## South Eastern Michigan and Chicago Deals:

Accommodations are not needed for screenings located in South Eastern Michigan, and Chicago.  
(note: this may change if an entire school district books an event over several days.)

## School District Deals:

**Book 2 schools — get a third school FREE!**

