

CURRICULUM VITA

WILLIAM ZAVALA

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EDUCATION

University of Pittsburgh	a Film History/Theory course in Graduate Film Studies Program	2010
Stanford University	M.A. Communication/Documentary Film & Video	1996-98
Regional Occupational Program, San Diego	Technical TV Production	1986-88
University of California, Santa Cruz	B.A. Psychology	1982-84
University, Extension, Media Centers	Twelve Film, Video, Multimedia and Photography Courses	1982-92
University of California, San Diego Extension	Two courses	1981
San Diego Mesa College	Three Courses	1981
Southwestern College (San Diego area)	Architecture + General Education	1979-81

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Visiting Lecturer (2021-2024) / Lecturer (2018-21, 2024) Univ. of Pittsburgh	Fall 2018-present
HELP PLAN AND TEACH UNDERGRADUATE INTRODUCTORY AND INTERMEDIATE FILMMAKING COURSES IN FILM AND MEDIA STUDIES PROGRAM. MENTOR STUDENTS. COORDINATE EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES. CREATED 'DOCTOBER' INTERCOLLEGiate FILM EVENT.	
Lecturer Point Park University School of Communication	Fall 2024
DESIGNED AND TAUGHT NEW VERSION OF HISTORY OF DOCUMENTARY CINEMA COURSE TO GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS.	
Visiting Instructor Native Voices International Documentary Workshops, Uganda	Dec 2017, May 2019
DESIGNED AND TAUGHT TWO, 3-WEEK DOCUMENTARY COURSE TO REGIONAL ASPIRING FILMMAKERS.	
Associate Professor (Assistant Professor 2005-2011) Pittsburgh Filmmakers	Sept 2005-Dec 2018
TAUGHT COURSES IN FILM, VIDEO AND AUDIO PRODUCTION. COORDINATED INTERNSHIPS AND STUDENT WORK OPPORTUNITIES. DEVELOPED COURSES IN DOCUMENTARY PRODUCTION AND AUDIO PRODUCTION. CREATED & CONDUCTED THREE RIVERS FILM SYMPOSIA, 2008-12.	
Instructor The Art Institute of Pittsburgh	Oct 2004-Sept 2005
TAUGHT SIX COURSES IN FIELD PRODUCTION AND NON-LINEAR EDITING.	
Academic Media Center Associate / Adjunct Professor Robert Morris University	Aug 2004-May 2005
TAUGHT TWO CLASSES IN COMMUNICATION DEPT; MANAGED EQUIPMENT ROOM; COORDINATED COMPLETION OF DOCUMENTARY IN RMU'S CENTER FOR DOCUMENTARY PRODUCTION AND STUDY.	
Instructor Sundance Institute, Salt Lake City, UT	June 2001
CO-TAUGHT "GEN-Y FILM CAMP", A SUMMER VIDEO PRODUCTION COURSE FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS. DESIGNED CURRICULUM, TAUGHT DIRECTING, DV PRODUCTION AND FINAL CUT PRO.	
Instructor Palo Alto Adult Education, Palo Alto, CA	Aug 1998-Aug 1999
TAUGHT SEVERAL 6- AND 8-HOUR COURSES IN FIELD PRODUCTION, EDITING, AND STUDIO PRODUCTION.	
Intern Coordinator Mid-Peninsula Access Corp, Palo Alto, CA	Aug 1998-Aug 1999
HEADED PROGRAM IN WHICH HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE INTERNS PRODUCE CABLE PROGRAMMING FOR NON-PROFIT GROUPS. RECRUITED & TRAINED INTERNS IN PRODUCTION AND POST.	
Course Assistant Documentary Film & Video Program, Stanford University	Sept 1997-June 1998
GAVE TUTORIALS, HANDLED EQUIPMENT TRAFFIC, TROUBLESHOOTING. INITIATED A LUNCHTIME FILM SERIES.	

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Global Competency Certificate Program Center for Int'l Studies, Univ. of Pittsburgh	Nov 2023-Nov 2024
Speaking in the Disciplines Fellowship The Dietrich School Undergraduate Studies	Spring 2023
Anti-Racist Pedagogy Workshop Center for Teaching and Learning, Univ. of Pittsburgh	Nov 2022

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

Independent Producer & Freelancer San Francisco, Pittsburgh	July 1998-present
SEE FILMOGRAPHY (NEXT PAGE) FOR PARTIAL LIST OF PRODUCTIONS. CLIENTS INCLUDE: PITT GRADUATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH, HILLEL ACADEMY OF PITTSBURGH, CITY OF S.F., ASIAN ART MUSEUM, STANFORD UNIV., OAKLAND ZOO, INTUIT, INC., PROJECT READ, KITCHEN SISTERS.	
Senior Interviewer University of California Survey Research Center, Berkeley, CA	Oct 1992-Aug 1996
CONDUCTED FIELD INTERVIEWS FOR SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY OF AIDS; LOCATED HARD-TO-FIND PEOPLE.	
Editor JBC Video, San Francisco	Oct 1995-Aug 1996
EDITED EVENT COVERAGE VIDEO WITH LINEAR EDITING, EFFECTS, AND MIXER SYSTEM	
Archivist Oddball Film & Video, San Francisco	Nov 1995-July 1996
RESEARCHED ARCHIVAL FOOTAGE NEEDS FOR CLIENTS IN LARGE PRIVATE COLLECTION. HELPED DESIGN DATABASE.	
Producers' Assistant Bill Jersey/Quest Productions, Berkeley	Jan-Apr 1995, Mar 1996
VISUALS RESEARCH FOR DOCUMENTARIES; LOCATING AND PRE-INTERVIEWING SUBJECTS; PREPARING PROPOSALS.	
Assistant Director West Coast Projections, Inc., San Diego	1989-91
ASSISTED IN CORPORATE MEDIA PRODUCTION AND PRESENTATION. DIRECTED SMALLER-SCALE PRODUCTIONS.	
Special Effects Colorist American Film Technologies, Inc., San Diego	1989
COLORIZED SF/X SEGMENTS OF DIGITIZED B&W FILM WITH TARGA COLOR SYSTEM.	

GRANTS and FELLOWSHIPS

The Heinz Endowments Small Arts Initiative recipient for "Lenses on the Law" project	2020-2022
The Heinz Endowments Small Arts Initiative co-recipient for "Changing the Want Ads" project	2018-2019
The Heinz Endowments Small Arts Initiative co-recipient for "Hard Hatted Women" project	2015-2016
The Sprout Fund Seed Award co-recipient for "Palimpsests" photo project	2012-13
Robert Flaherty Film Seminar Fellow	2011
National Hispanic Scholarship Fund Scholarship	1997-98
Princess Grace Foundation USA Honorarium for Thesis Project	1997
M.A. Program, Stanford University Full One-Year Fellowship	1996-97

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY as PRODUCER/DIRECTOR

Four Women of Gulu Town <i>Independent Documentary</i>	2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ROXBURY INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL, 2025 ▪ INDIEFEST FILM AWARDS, 2025 ▪ TORONTO INTERNATIONAL WOMEN FILM FESTIVAL, 2025 ▪ THE AFRICAN FILM FESTIVAL, 2025 ▪ AFRICAN WOMEN ARTS & FILM FESTIVAL (in GABON), 2025 ▪ DOCUMENTARIES WITHOUT BORDERS INT'L FILM FESTIVAL, 2025 	
McConomovie <i>Short Documentary for the CMU Int'l Film Festival</i>	2023
Do You <i>Music Video for Orange G</i>	2023

Pitt Chimes In On...	<i>Short Experimental Documentary</i>	2022
People of the Year Videos	<i>Pittsburgh-Italian Scholarship Fund</i>	2021, 2022
Explainer Video	<i>for Scholarly Research at Univ. of Pittsburgh's School of Public Health 2018</i>	
	▪ AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION FILM FESTIVAL, 2019	
Commonfilm	<i>Short Film</i>	2018
	▪ CAUGHT LOOKING FILM SCREENING AT PNC PARK, PITTSBURGH, PA	
KaramoJokes	<i>A survey of humor in the Karamoja region of Uganda</i>	2017
Yes, We're Open	<i>Online Commercial for Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation</i>	2015
A Blueprint for Jewish Life	<i>Promotional Video</i> For Hillel Academy of Pittsburgh.	2011
Luck	<i>Documentary.</i> Strangers reveal their personal beliefs when asked, "What's the luckiest thing that ever happened to you? What's the unluckiest?"	2010
	▪ WQED-TV (PBS) BROADCAST ON "FILMMAKER'S CORNER" PITTSBURGH, PA 2011	
	▪ FILM KITCHEN, PITTSBURGH, PA 2010	
	▪ DISTRIBUTED ON SERMONSPICE.COM	
Virgil Cantini: The Artist in Public	<i>Documentary</i> Elegaic examination of the public art of the late sculptor and muralist.	2009
	▪ PITTSBURGH CENTER FOR THE ARTS, PITTSBURGH, PA	
	▪ SCREENING WITH LIVE ACCOMPANIMENT, IONSOUND CONCERT	
Today I Baled Some Hay to Feed the Sheep the Coyotes Eat	<i>Documentary</i> One week on a sheep ranch in Montana, during lambing season.	2008
	▪ WQED-TV (PBS) BROADCAST ON "FILMMAKER'S CORNER" PITTSBURGH, PA 2011	
	▪ JUROR'S CHOICE + AUDIENCE AWARD, SUSQUEHANNA SHORTS FILM FESTIVAL, LEWISBURG, PA 2008	
	▪ FIRST PLACE, SHORTS COMPETITION, THREE RIVERS FILM FESTIVAL, PITTSBURGH, PA 2008	
Over, and Out	<i>Short Film</i>	2008
	▪ FILMMAKER'S AWARD, PUBLIC DOMAIN PRIVATE DOMINION (EVENT) 2008	
	▪ MOUNTAINEER SHORT FILM FESTIVAL, MORGANTOWN, WV 2013	
Hand Job	<i>Short Film</i>	2008
	▪ MEDIA TONIC (EVENT) INSTALLATION, PITTSBURGH FILMMAKERS, 2008	
See Something Different: The 26th Annual Three Rivers Film Festival	<i>Festival Trailer</i>	2007
Consuming Conversation	<i>Museum Installation video</i> For noted metalsmith Harriete Berman.	2006
	▪ VIEWER DISCRETION FILM SERIES, PITTSBURGH, NOV 2006	
	▪ FACULTY SHOW, PITTSBURGH FILMMAKERS, FEBRUARY 2006	
Earth and Home	<i>Educational video</i> Exploration of ecological design in residential architecture.	2003
San Francisco Beledi	<i>Documentary/Performance video</i> For popular dance troupe FatChance BellyDance.	2003
Zoo Lessons	<i>Two Children's Education videos.</i> For Mills College and The Oakland Zoo.	2000-01
New Justice: San Francisco's Drug Court	<i>Public Information video.</i> Narrated by Martin Sheen.	2000
In Search of the American Dream	<i>Television pilot.</i> A rollicking journey through the Nevada desert.	2000
Drawbridge	<i>Master's Thesis Project video.</i> History of unusual ghost town on San Francisco Bay.	1998
	▪ DISTRIBUTED BY ENVIRONMENTAL MEDIA CORPORATION, 2001-06	
	▪ WINNER, MACFARLANE AWARD, CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2003	
	▪ BAY TV-SAN FRANCISCO BROADCAST ON PROGRAM "BAY WINDOW" 2001	
	▪ SECOND PLACE, EARTHVISION FILM & VIDEO FESTIVAL, SANTA CRUZ, CA, 1999	
	▪ THIRD PLACE, DOCUMENTARY, ATAS COLLEGE TELEVISION AWARDS (STUDENT EMMYS), 1999	
	▪ KTEH -SAN JOSE BROADCAST ON PROGRAM "VIDEO I",1999	

- FILM ARTS FESTIVAL, SAN FRANCISCO, 1998
- PUBLIC SCREENING AND DISCUSSION, S.F. BAY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, 1998

Roller Derby: Theatre of Pain <i>Student film. Sync-sound.</i> On the survival of the sport.	1997
▪ HAMBURG INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL, 1998	
▪ STUTTGART FILMWINTER, 1999	
Dealing With the Truth <i>Student video.</i> Profile of a “dishonest” used car dealer.	1998
▪ BRADDOCK LIGHT, OUTDOOR SCREENING, BRADDOCK, PA 2009	
▪ NOMAD VIDEOFILM FESTIVAL, S.F./PORTLAND/SEATTLE, 2000	
Kids on Candy <i>Student film. B&W non-sync sound.</i> On children, on candy.	1996
A Summer Workshop <i>Conference video.</i> For Native American Renewable Energy Education Program.	1996
Interpreting in the AA Setting <i>Instructional video.</i> Sign language interpreter instructional tape.	1993
38 Reasons to Watch <i>Station promo.</i> 2-minute spot for cable access station Channel 38.	1992
▪ FINALIST, STATION PROMO CATEGORY, HOMETOWN VIDEO AWARDS, 1992	
Del Mar and the Drought <i>Informational video.</i> One town’s response to chronic water shortages.	1991
▪ FINALIST, DOCUMENTARY CATEGORY, WESTERN ACCESS VIDEO EXCELLENCE AWARDS, 1991	

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY as CREDITED CREW

Masculine Artifacts <i>Installation Video by Derek Reese</i> Sound Recordist	2021
Activist Alumni <i>Exhibition video for Chatham University</i> Editor	2019
Changing the Want Ads <i>Independent Documentary by Pat Ulbrich</i> Editor, Additional Camera	2019
▪ PITTSBURGH SHORTS FILM FESTIVAL, 2019	
Hard Hatted Women <i>Independent Documentary by Pat Ulbrich</i> Director of Photography, Editor	2015-17
▪ EXHIBITION VIDEO, RIVERS OF STEEL NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA, INDIANA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA	
Sustainability Pioneers <i>Web Series by Kirsi Jansa</i> Online Editor	2014-2017
Jumpstart to Success <i>Training Video for YouthWorks, Inc.</i> Director of Photography	2013
People + Places <i>Exhibit Video for Carnegie Museum of Art</i> Director of Photography	2013
LEARN Bus <i>Promotional Video for Whitehall Public Library</i> Producer	2012
Life, Cancer, and the Pursuit of Hockey <i>Independent Documentary</i> 2 nd Camera and Sound	2010-11
Portrait of a Campaign <i>Robert Morris Univ. Center for Documentary Production and Study</i> Editor	2005
Fixation <i>Independent film (premiered at Three Rivers Film Festival)</i> Director of Photography	2003
A Hard Straight <i>ITVS-funded independent film</i> Sound Recordist	2002-03
(Nine Training Videos) <i>Intuit Corp.</i> Editor	2002-03
(10+ Local TV B-roll packages) <i>The Asian Art Museum</i> Videography, Editor	2000-03
Traces of the Trade <i>NEA-funded film by Katrina Browne</i> Sound Recordist	2001
The Making of “Star Wars: Attack of the Clones” <i>Lucasfilm DVD</i> Sound Recordist on 2 shoots	2001
Vinculum Symphony <i>NEA-funded project by Beth Custer, Composer</i> Editor	2000
(30+ productions) <i>Stanford MediaWorks, Stanford U.</i> Camera, Sound Recordist, Post-prod Ass’t	1998-00
Real Sex (segments) <i>Independent producers for HBO</i> P.A., Asst. Sound Recordist	1998, '99
Rock the Vote (segment) <i>Tracey Trench Prod.’s for MTV</i> Sound Recordist	1998
Fly Girls <i>Silverlining Productions for The American Experience, PBS</i> P.A.	1998
Crime & Punishment in America <i>Quest Productions for KCET</i> Post-production Ass’t	1996
San Francisco: The Way It Was <i>Quest Prod.’s for KQED-TV</i> Research Assistant, P.A.	1995

Crossroads: A Story of West Oakland <i>Quest Prod's for KQED-TV</i>	Research Assistant, P.A.	1995
A Conversation with Thomas Moore <i>Quest Prod's for KQED-TV</i>	P.A.	1995

OTHER WORK

Palimpsests: Ghost Signs of Pittsburgh Project Director, Photographic Exhibit	Mar 2014
People of the Decade Excerpt of essay in <i>Pittsburgh Post-Gazette's</i> "Cutting Edge" section	Jan 2010
Teacher's Guide to "Drawbridge" <i>Environmental Media Corp.</i>	July 2001
"Odd Jobs" <i>Harpers Magazine</i> Submission to Readings section	Aug 2000

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

Co-director of Programming <i>Backyard Docs Film Festival</i>	2021-present
Co-Founder/Director <i>The Documentary Salon (film society)</i>	2006-present
Selection Panel <i>Heinz Endowments Small Arts Initiative</i>	July 2022
Chapter Manager <i>SMPTE Pittsburgh</i>	Apr 2018-2020
Panelist <i>Broadcast Education Association Conference, Las Vegas, NV</i>	Apr 2018
Advisory Board Member <i>Several Independent Documentary Projects</i>	2008-present
Film Festival and Contest Juror <i>various</i>	2005-present
Literacy Tutor <i>Project Read of San Francisco</i>	1999-2000
Media Production Intern <i>Institute for Food and Development Policy, San Francisco</i>	1992-93
Events Committee <i>Project for Youth and Non-Violent Opportunities, San Diego</i>	1990-92

TECHNICAL PROFICIENCIES

● Basic ●● Intermediate ●●● Advanced

Video Camera Operation (various Sony, Canon, and Panasonic digital cinema and mirrorless cameras)	●●●
Film Camera Operation (various 16mm and Super-8)	●●●
Digital Photography	●●
Field Sound Recording	●●●
Multi-Camera Directing & Technical Directing	●●
Non-Linear Editing, Adobe Premiere Pro	●●●
Non-Linear Editing, Final Cut Pro X	●●●
Post-Production Sound Mixing, for video	●●
Post-Production Color Correction	●●
Compression and Web Video Delivery	●●
Adobe Photoshop	●●
Microsoft Office: Word, Excel, PowerPoint	●●●
Content Management Systems (various)	●●