



Camera! ACTION!

Workshop Title :

SKILLS & COMMUNITY through STORY-TELLING for the MEDIA AGE

A Future Of Film-Makers From Our Classrooms? (The Kids Are Ready. Are We?)

This workshop will be an interactive presentation, including :

- Using video **technology** to produce **student-driven 'whole person' texts** in the classroom
- The **HOW** and **WHY** of teaching story-telling, using **video** as a tool
- Case Study: The process of carrying out a large project, to create 2013's 90 minute Lutheran **feature film, "Llewellyn Unlikely"**, about a Christian school and the issues of a bullying culture
- The effects of **bullying** in schools, and the **need** for an ongoing move from **care-LESS**, to **care-FULL culture**
- The **effects** (and **pressures**) of large scale **teamwork**, and **community building**
- Dare to dream: What will a Lutheran School of the future look like, if more students and teachers are equipped to present our culture's **ethics** and **stories**, using **audio / visual technologies?**

Participants will be involved in classroom story-boarding & script-writing and 'film' production techniques. They will view and discuss scenes and behind-the-scenes footage from Portland's Lutheran production : cyber-bullying feature film, "Llewellyn Unlikely", with take-home resources to help develop ethical, media-minded productions, classrooms and schools.

Biography Of Presenter

Steve Gollasch. Life-long Lutheran. A married father of four.

Primary School Teacher (24 years' experience : Good Shepherd Lutheran Primary School, Croydon, Vic. & St John's Lutheran Primary School, Portland, Vic.)

Film-Maker (30 years' experience.) Writer, Co-producer and Director: Lutheran feature film "Llewellyn Unlikely"

Favourite Teaching Subjects : Media Studies, Christian Studies, Drama, English.

Stats...

Cruelty. Isolation. Exclusion.

- * Nearly half of our Aussie kids have been bullied online and almost 1 in 4 have had it happen **more than once**.
- * One-fifth of our students have received **threatening** emails.
- * The **psychological** and **emotional** results of cyber bullying (which increases a recipient's sense of loneliness) are similar to physical bullying, but with cyber bullying there is often no escape.
School ends just after 3 p.m. The Internet is on 24 / 7.
- * Girls are twice as likely to be victims **and** perpetrators of cyber bullying.
- * Cyber bullying is increasing amongst 10-17 year olds and physical bullying isn't going away either.

Jesus showed us very simply how people are to treat people, and Lutheran schools model themselves following His direction. The culture of care-LESSness through social media, however, needs on-going attention.

Film Synopsis: "Llewellyn Unlikely"

*It's the story of two 16 year olds... a quiet young man with a hero heart ,
and an edgy girl who's lost hope.*

Shy. Insecure. Awkward. Artistic. Dreamer.

Returning home after four years away, sixteen year old Llewellyn's High School life takes a turn for the worst.

A change occurs for him through his new Teacher, Mr East, some inspired dreams, his Father's battles and his own desire to be heard.

Struggling FOR : the need to be needed and AGAINST : a culture of bullying, will the worrier become the Warrior ?

And will his actions be enough to save Bridie from herself?

The 2 lead roles (16 year old Llewellyn and Bridie), are played by ex-St. John's students: Jackson Tozer and Tegan Saunders, both of whom are now out of school pursuing careers in theatre / film. Steve taught Jackson and Tegan in Grade 6, where they made several short films in class, and he wrote the "Llewellyn" screenplay with them in mind.

An additional 60 teenagers, from Lutheran and other local schools played key roles and extras. "St John's Lutheran Primary School" and "St John's Lutheran Church" were used as locations for 4 major scenes, and many Lutheran Primary students (from Prep to Grade 6) and members of our Church and business community played roles as leads and extras.

This project is an excellent example of Lutherans working closely with the wider community (more than 150 locals were involved) to:

- promote Christian values in a contemporary and relevant way,
- develop skills (students and community members were involved in acting, script-writing, lighting, sound production, editing, special effects and other roles as crew members),
- promoting independence, interdependence, awareness of current mental health issues (relevance to curriculum content)

and the sky's the limit, when students are released with these skills, to "tell story".

How this presentation links to theme/s of the conference

- What shapes quality education in a Lutheran school?

The teaching of the 'whole person' in the context of a community.

- What is the role of Lutheran Schools in developing wise citizens of the 21st century?

Inspiring our students through an education worth having. Kids will run to school when the project they're working on requires their leadership and ideas, enjoyable, challenging teamwork, and technology with powerful results.

Story-telling through films/videos provides a purpose-filled environment, which includes, in the case of "Llewellyn Unlikely", teaching tech. savvy 'digital

natives' (our students) to understand the power of positive on-line communication and the damage of care-LESS cyber-talk.

Wisdom includes the conscious choice to: live in community, create daily acts of kindness (on-line and off), to speak up for the lonely. To 'love one another' in this way creates healthy, happy, confident, settled people.

- What is the contribution of the Lutheran tradition to education in our region? What contemporary educational movements need to be engaged, to make Lutheran schooling better?

To answer two questions with a question: Can we, as Lutherans, become and be seen as powerful contributors in our regions, through community-building Arts projects, such as film-making?

- What does a 'transformed mind, body, heart' look like?

Sometimes it looks like the individual who recognises his own failings, and turns 180 degrees, 'going against the flow', when the 'flow' is a culture of careLESSness. In the feature film "Llewellyn Unlikely", 16 year old Llewellyn overcomes oppression and his own fears, to take a stand on behalf of those who are bullied through careless on-line 'wars' between teens, as well as from within the walls of their Christian High School.

The film features Lutheran content / ethics, such as the wisdom of living with the help of God's Word, the requirement to take a stand on behalf of those who can't help themselves, the cultural practise of story-telling via Chapel / Worship services within our schools and wider communities, and the challenge faced by our teachers and students in actively creating a school culture of courage, humility, wisdom, justice and service.

Workshop requirements :

If accepted...

Steve needs a dark room, a BIG screen / wall, a high-resolution data-projector (though I can provide my own), tables & chairs for workshop participants.

Contact Details :

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