

# MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

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## MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE LAUNCHES NEW SCIENCE AND FILM TEACHER'S GUIDE TO ACCOMPANY ITS SLOAN SCIENCE AND FILM WEBSITE

**For elementary, middle-school, and high-school teachers to help students explore STEM subjects in classrooms and online at [scienceandfilm.org](http://scienceandfilm.org)**

Astoria, Queens, NY, October 5, 2016—*Sloan Science & Film*, a website devoted to exploring the intersection of science and film published by Museum of the Moving Image with support from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, is proud to announce the launch of the **Sloan Science & Film Teacher's Guide**, a guide to short science-related films that may be used in the classroom. The guide, which may be viewed online or downloaded at [scienceandfilm.org/about](http://scienceandfilm.org/about), offers an introduction, teaching framework, study questions, and links to additional resources for 46 narrative films—all supported by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation's nationwide film program—with subjects ranging from evolution to mathematics, available via streaming video on the *Sloan Science & Film* website. Each film is also correlated to New York and National Standards in the Sciences. Access to all films and the Teacher's Guide is free.

"The Sloan Science & Film Teacher's Guide fills the need for short films which can be used to help engage students in science learning within classrooms," said *Sloan Science & Film* Executive Editor Sonia Epstein. "These films are not didactic, but instead use all the tools of dramatic storytelling to explore science and technology themes, and to show scientists as relatable characters. We hope the new Teacher's Guide will become a useful resource for educators nationwide."

The Teacher's Guide was developed by Epstein and the Museum's Director of Education Jordan Smith, who said, "in addition to serving more than 50,000 students each year with on-site student tours, screening programs, workshops, and after-school partnerships, the Museum also provides support for classroom teachers through professional development programs and online resources. The new Teacher's Guide is an opportunity to help teachers easily access quality film content, and explore ways to meaningfully incorporate it into their classroom work."

The 46 short films available on the *Sloan Science & Film* website were awarded Sloan grants for original work that engages with science and technology themes and characters. The shorts are drawn from six of the nation's top university film schools, which are supported through Sloan's film school program, part of the foundation's nationwide film development pipeline. Each filmmaker consulted with a science

professor on the accuracy of the film's scientific content. Films range in duration from four to 33 minutes, averaging 20 minutes.

"We are delighted with this wonderful guide that makes these award-winning short films supported by Sloan available to teachers and students for the first time," said Doron Weber, Vice President and Program Director at the Sloan Foundation who started the film program. "While we continue to support new science films at the nation's leading film schools that focus on great stories with wonderful characters, this creative MoMI guide deploys 'reverse engineering' and harnesses these accessible films as an entrée to STEM subjects for classroom use."

Among the stories in the films: In *Flood*, written and directed by Katy Scoggin, a journalist interviews her father, a paleontologist who is also a creationist; in *Standing8*, written and directed by Michael Molina Minard, a boxer risks losing his chance to compete because of a traumatic brain injury; in *The Visionary*, written and directed by Joel O. Shapiro, Nikola Tesla struggles with his dream of universal access to electricity; and in *Paprika*, directed and animated by Katalin Nivelt Anguelov, Vitamin C is invented.

The Sloan Science & Film Teacher's Guide distinguishes each film by subject and age group. Subjects covered in the films include astronomy, chemistry, biology, ecology, genetics, evolution, mathematics, physics, and technology. Each film is correlated with National Standards, New York State Standards, and New York City Science Scope and Sequence for grades K–12. Furthermore, the guide proposes discussion questions and scientific resources for deeper engagement with each film's subject. The Guide will be expanded in the years to come, as more films are made available.

### **About Sloan Science & Film**

*Sloan Science & Film* ([scienceandfilm.org](http://scienceandfilm.org)) is an online publication that covers all things science and film. The site is published by Museum of the Moving Image and funded by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation in New York. Under the direction of Executive Editor Sonia Epstein, *Sloan Science & Film* publishes articles four times a week and hosts a growing archive of over 40 short films available for streaming any time. The site also catalogues over 500 film projects, including short and feature films, which have been supported via the Sloan Foundation's partners. The site publishes news, interviews with scientists and filmmakers, and commissions critical pieces from notable scientists about film. Follow *Sloan Science & Film* on Facebook (@scienceandfilm).

### **About Museum of the Moving Image**

Museum of the Moving Image ([movingimage.us](http://movingimage.us)) advances the understanding, enjoyment, and appreciation of the art, history, technique, and technology of film, television, and digital media. In its stunning facilities—acclaimed for both its accessibility and bold design—the Museum presents exhibitions; screenings of significant works; discussion programs featuring actors, directors, craftspeople, and business leaders; and education programs which serve more than 50,000 students each year. The Museum also houses a significant collection of moving-image artifacts. In addition to *Sloan Science & Film*, the Museum publishes *Reverse Shot*, the popular film magazine, and *The Living Room Candidate*, an archive of presidential campaign

commercials from 1952 through 2016.

### **About the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation**

The New-York based Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, founded in 1934, makes grants in science, technology, and economic performance. Sloan's program in Public Understanding of Science, Technology, and Economics, directed by Doron Weber, supports books, radio, film, television, theater and new media to reach a wide, non-specialized audience. It aims to give people a keener appreciation for the increasingly scientific and technological world in which we live, and to convey the challenges and rewards of the scientific and technological enterprise. The Foundation's film program consists of fifteen program partners through which Sloan nurtures and develops individual projects with different grants until they are successfully launched. Sloan has helped develop such films as Morten Tyldum's *The Imitation Game*, Mathew Brown's *The Man Who Knew Infinity*, Michael Almereyda's *Experimenter*, Rob Meyer's *A Birder's Guide to Everything*, Musa Syeed's *Valley of Saints*, and Andrew Bujalski's *Computer Chess*. For more information about the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, please visit <http://www.sloan.org>.

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### **MUSEUM INFORMATION**

Hours: Wednesday–Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday, 10:30 to 8:00 p.m. Saturday–Sunday, 11:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Museum Admission: \$15 adults; \$11 senior citizens (age 65+) and students (18+) with ID; \$7 youth (3–17). Children under 3 and Museum members are admitted free. Admission to the galleries is free on Fridays, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Film Screenings: Friday evenings, Saturdays and Sundays, and as scheduled. Unless otherwise noted, tickets are \$12 adults / \$9 students and seniors / \$7 youth 3–17 / free for Museum members at select levels. Advance purchase is available online. Ticket purchase may be applied toward same-day admission to the Museum's galleries.

Location: 36-01 35 Avenue (at 37 Street) in Astoria.

Subway: M (weekdays only) or R to Steinway Street. Q (weekdays only) or N to 36 Avenue.

Program Information: Telephone: 718 777 6888; Website: [movingimage.us](http://movingimage.us)

Membership: <http://movingimage.us/support/membership> or 718 777 6877

Museum of the Moving Image is housed in a building owned by the City of New York and has received significant support from the following public agencies: New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; New York City Economic Development Corporation; New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; Institute of Museum and Library Services; National Endowment for the Humanities; National Endowment for the Arts; and Natural Heritage Trust (administered by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation).