

Community Film Workshop Series

Tonight's Session: Eighth Grade

Identity, Visibility, and the Courage to Be Seen




Part of Sentient Meat's monthly educational workshop series exploring the art of film, all attendees tonight are participating as **Student Members** under our nonprofit's educational program. We're glad you're here!

Workshop Overview

We'll watch *Eighth Grade* and reflect together on:

- How we construct identity in the age of social media
 - The gap between the self we perform and the self we feel
 - What vulnerability, awkwardness, and becoming mean for all of us
- ### Session Goals
- Explore themes of self-presentation, anxiety, and authenticity
 - Discuss how technology shapes (and distorts) connection and belonging
 - Consider how communities support young people navigating the pressure to be seen

Session Schedule

Time	Activity
6:00–6:50 PM	 Doors open, Student Member sign-in, tea/snack break
7:00–8:30 PM	 Film screening
8:30–9:30 PM	 Group discussion + reflection

Guided Discussion Prompts

Opening Reflection

- What feelings or memories did the film bring up?
- Was there a moment — painful, funny, or tender — that especially stayed with you?

- How do social media and online self-presentation shape how we see ourselves?

Visibility and Invisibility

Performance and the Self

- Kayla makes YouTube videos about confidence she doesn't yet feel. What is she working through by doing that?

- Kayla desperately wants to be seen — but also fears it. Where do you recognize that tension in your own life or community?
- What does it mean to be "quiet" or "invisible" in a social space? How is that different from chosen solitude?

Connection Across Generations

- How does the relationship between Kayla and her dad work? What does he get right, and where does he fall short?
- What does it mean to really show up for someone who is struggling to articulate what they need?

Rural and Small-Community Parallels

- Kayla's world is suburban, but the social pressures she faces — conformity, surveillance, the fear of not belonging — echo across many kinds of communities. Where do you see that in your own context?
- How do small or tight-knit communities help or hinder the process of self-discovery?

Becoming and Resilience

- The film treats adolescence with unusual seriousness and care. What does it suggest about the work of growing up?
- How do we carry the people we used to be — awkward, uncertain, trying — into who we become?

Optional Reflection Prompt



If you'd like to share your thoughts with our community:

- Write a letter to your eighth-grade self — what would you want them to know?
- Or create a short piece (writing, drawing, collage) about a time you performed confidence you didn't feel, and what happened next.

Student Agreement

All student members must sign in before the screening. Your participation is your acknowledgment of the Safer Spaces Policy and Student Membership terms.

You may indicate agreement via:

- Checking the box on the sign-in form
-  Adding a signature or initials
-  Typing your name on a digital or printed form

Safer Spaces Policy

By participating in this event, you agree to:

- Respect everyone's identity and lived experience
- Listen actively and avoid speaking over others
- Engage with openness, not judgment
- Use content warnings for potentially triggering topics
- Ask for consent before physical contact or intense conversation

If someone makes a request for space, change of topic, or support, we ask you to honor it.

Facilitators are here to support a safe and inclusive environment. You can speak with us at any time if something feels off.

Student Membership Terms

By attending as a Student Member, you agree to:

- Participate in the discussion as part of your educational session
- Sign in and confirm your participation
- Uphold our Safer Spaces Policy during the event
- Consent to your signature being recorded via checkbox, signature line, or typed acknowledgment

This event qualifies as **in-person, instructor-led education** under Ohio Revised Code § 5739.01(B)(3)(q). Your attendance is part of a **nonprofit educational program**, not a ticketed performance.