



JUMP IN THE DOC. DOCUMENTARY IDEAS LABORATORY DOCUMENTARY FILMS FOR CHILDREN

Catalog of ideas for
documentaries for children
2021

CENTRUM
KULTURY
FILMOWEJ

Project idea

JUMP IN THE DOC.

Documentary ideas laboratory

JUMP IN THE DOC is an educational experiment aimed at creative people who want to create documentaries and have an idea for a story about the world of children or young people. The program stems from the need to create media that will help us talk to children and adolescents, especially that the pandemic is a difficult time for the mental health of the youngest.

Documentaries for young audiences are popular at festivals, in educational programs and on TV in the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany and the Scandinavian countries. We want it to be similar in Poland.

The first edition of the program started in 2020. For almost a year, filmmakers, children and tutors have been working on the development of ideas for documentaries. We would now like to present them to the Polish film industry in order to jointly create the conditions for the production, financing and distribution of documentary films for children in Poland

WHAT HAVE WE DONE?

We first met in January 2020, during the 1st Documentary Film Forum for Children, where Meike Statema (head of IDFA Kids & Docs) presented us with a vision of children's documentaries Eldorado that the Netherlands is. This is how it all started. Then we worked for a year, together with the creators, on the development of ideas for documentary films for children. Along the way, some found producers, others won funding and awards. However, they all need action that will pave the way for them to meet a young audience.

WHAT IS OUR GOAL?

We have a dream that Polish documentaries for children will appear in Polish cinemas, on television and in educational programs. Telling stories about young people the viewers can meet at school, in the yard or because of common interests. For this to happen, we must produce documentaries for children in Poland, and institutions and organizations that can support this process must see its not only potential but also its mission. Today we present you with the ideas that require the support of producers, financing institutions, distributors, TV broadcasters, educators, teachers and parents. We check the resources at our disposal and start to act.

Karolina Śmigiel and Diana Gaik – masterminds behind and coordinators of the project.

About the program:



Katarzyna Ślesicka - deputy director of the Andrzej Wajda Film Culture Center, film producer

A documentary is an artistic adventure and a great lesson of truth that we all miss so much. Children also need it. This is why we established Jump in the Doc. Our project is not only an educational activity, it is also building the future audiences. That is why we encourage the entire film industry: creators, producers, distributors, broadcasters, film funds to open up to this new film genre in Poland.



Maciej Cuske - Polish film director, screenwriter and camera operator, Jump in the Doc tutor.

I highly recommend Jump in the Doc. Documentary Ideas Laboratory! Not because I have the pleasure to contribute to it, but because it is unique. We try to help adults develop their ideas for documentaries for children. And we are supported in this by... children who give a completely unique perspective and very wise remarks. Isn't that great? The program is very intensive and practice-oriented. Together, we take the first steps and bring ideas to the final pres-



entation to potential producers, so that they can move boldly into the world.

Katarzyna Ślesicka - deputy director of the Andrzej Wajda Film Culture Center, film producer

When I was working on my film "I Dance for You", I didn't think about whether its audience would be children or adults. Only when the film qualified for the section Kids & Docs at the IDFA festival and won an award there, I started to think about it in the category of a documentary that can be an invitation to talk with children and teenagers.

Conducting Jump in the Doc workshops made me realize how important it is to support filmmakers in developing ideas for documentary films. Especially those that are ultimately dedicated to the youngest, and therefore the most demanding, audiences. The support network in Jump in the Doc is extremely extensive - in addition to the care of tutors, the organizers provide consultations with experts from the CKF, a child psychologist, and most importantly - numerous meetings with children who accompany the directors during their work on each project from the very beginning.



Catalog of ideas for documentary films for children

Created as part of the 1st edition
of Jump in the Doc



ENGLISH TITLE: „GIRL'S STORIES”

ORIGINAL TITLE: „DZIEWCZYŃSKIE HISTORIE”

Directed by Agnieszka Borzym

Cinematography: Kachna Baraniewicz

Producer: Marta Dużbabel and Agnieszka

Rostropowicz-Rutkowska

Production company: Pinot Films

Estimated duration: 52 minutes

Country: Poland

Language: Polish

Production stage: pre-production

Estimated production end date:

January 2023.

Total budget: EUR 168 500

Requirements: EUR 83 930

Confirmed partners: Canal +

We are looking for: TV broadcasters, financing,
co-producers

Contact: +48 500 228 298

Producer's e-mail:

mduzbabel@pinotfilms.pl,

arostropowicz@pinotfilms.pl

AWARDS

Doc Lab Poland, Docs To Start - Dok Leipzig Recognition, Krakow Film Festival, Krakow Poland 2021 Netflix New Voices Award, Sunny Side of the Doc, Talent Hub Pitching Session, La Rochelle France 2021

LOGLINE

„GIRLS' STORIES” IS ABOUT BEING ON THE VERGE OF BECOMING A TEENAGER. THERE ARE MANY SECRETS OF ADOLESCENCE TO DISCOVER, FOR EXAMPLE-WHETHER THE FIRST PERIOD IS AN END OF SOMETHING OR JUST A BEGINNING?

SYNOPSIS

Jagoda is 10 years old. She spends a lot of her time with friends. She also loves to ask her parents many difficult questions. At school, sex education classes have begun, and the first menstruation is discussed. The first period can bring a lot of emotions and changes in relationships with family and peers. „Actually, it would be good to have it over, or maybe better not, because it won't be just once ...” the girls wonder. The boys in their class are also starting to grow up and go to sex education classes separately. „But what kind of problems could they have?” the girls wonder. Biology, hormonal changes, pimples and great dilemmas come into their lives. Adults are not always supportive.

„Girls' Stories” will be a documentary for youngsters, as well as for adults. The protagonists will introduce us to the girl's world that every woman remembers well. And every boy who watches the movie will find out something and maybe finally „understand”

GIRL'S STORIES

dir. Agnieszka Borzym



ENGLISH TITLE: „KING MATT THE FIRST”
ORIGINAL TITLE: „KRÓL MACIUSZ PIERWSZY”

Director: Jaśmina Wójcik
Cinematography: Jakub Wróblewski
Producers: Marta Dużbabel,
Agnieszka Rostropowicz-Rutkowska,
Production company: PINOT FILMS

Estimated duration: 75 min
Country: Poland
Language: Polish

Production stage: development
Estimated production
end date: 2023.

Budget: EUR 293,000
Requirements: EUR 250,000

Confirmed partners: HBO Europe,
Polish Film Institute, Academy of Fine Arts

We are looking for: financing, co-producers

Contact: Agnieszka Rostropowicz-Rutkowska

Producer's e-mail:
arostropowicz@pinotfilms.pl

AWARDS

Go East Development Award, Go East Talent Lab, Go East Film Festival 2021,
Wiesbaden, Germany

LOGLINE

ZOJA AND LEA ARE SISTERS, WHO ARE FASCINATED BY KING MATT THE FIRST, A BOOK BY JANUSZ KORCZAK ABOUT THE RULE OF CHILDREN. INSPIRED BY THE BOOK, THE GIRLS PLAY OUT SOME OF ITS SCENES, BOLDLY EXPLORING THE SURROUNDING NATURE. THANKS TO THEM THE AUDIENCE LEARN ABOUT THE WORLD IN WHICH THE POWER OF AGENCY IS VESTED IN CHILDREN.

SYNOPSIS

„King Matt I” is a book that every new generation of children loves. It tells the story of a young boy, who becomes king after his father dies. The novel addresses such issues as the experience of war, betrayal, death, loneliness or injustice.

The creative documentary records the journey of two sisters. They read the novel, which inspires them to explore nature at first, but then they give up the plot in favor of uninhibited play. The two are the audience's guides in the world of childhood. The viewers join them in sound, choreography and art workshops where the children discover various ways to express themselves with the body, sound, rhythm, motor activities and sensorics. In the movie it's the children who are in charge and control the entire process. Adults, on the other hand, simply follow them without interfering. They stand aside, which lets them better understand and learn their world. Thus, the traditional roles are swapped in the movie: it's adults who learn from children and not the other way round.

KING MATT THE FIRST

dir. Jaśmina Wójcik



ENGLISH TITLE: „BROTHER OF MY BROTHER”

ORIGINAL TITLE: „BRAT MOJEGO BRATA”

Director: Zofia Żurawska-Maguza
Cinematography: Magdalena Bojdo

Production stage: development
We are looking for: a producer

Estimated duration: 15 min
Country: Poland
Language: Polish

Contact: +48 787 859 017,
e-mail: zofiazurawskamail@gmail.com

LOGLINE

13-YEAR-OLD FRANEK IS THE OLDEST OF THE SIX SIBLINGS WHO CONSTANTLY ACCOMPANY HIM. IN A HOUSE FULL OF PEOPLE, THE BOY SEEKS LONELINESS. WILL HE MATURE BY TAKING INDEPENDENT TRIPS TO CLIMBING CLASSES IN CRACOW OR THE FAMILY PLANNING A MOUNTAIN CAMPING TRIP?

SYNOPSIS

Franek (13) is the oldest brother among six siblings. He lives with his family in a house near Cracow. They are all homeschooled and are always together.

Every day there is a great commotion in Frank's house. Younger siblings are playing loud with each other, arguing, being messy and expecting the elders to participate. At times, such chaos is hard to deal with.

The family is planning a trip to the mountains. You have to test the tent, plan the trip, prepare a packing list, and share the responsibilities. The boy is also supposed to get involved in the preparations, but he is not willing to work with his younger siblings. He needs a private space on his own.

Franek escapes to his own room, where he spends his time reading books. However, even there he is often visited by his brothers. More and more often he is irritated by the lack of freedom. You can clearly see that he is entering adolescence.

Recently, Franek started taking weekly climbing lessons. He goes there by train on his own. He comes back late in the evening. This time, after returning, he joins the siblings who spend the night in the tent. They have time for common conversations, banter, brotherly love.

What is Franek like among siblings? How does a boy do without his loved ones during trips to Cracow? Will the experience of independence change his view of family relations and a family trip to the mountains?

BROTHER OF MY BROTHER

dir. Zofia Żurawska-Maguza



ANGIELSKI TYTUŁ: „WHO ARE YOU PLAYING FOR?”

ORYGINALNY TYTUŁ: „DLA KOGO GRASZ?”

Director: Szymon Chęciak

Budget: 19 500 EUR

Needs: 19 500 EUR

Estimated duration: 20 min

Country: Poland

Language: Polish

We are looking for: a producer

Contact: szymon.chęciak@gmail.com

Production stage: development

LOGLINE

A STORY OF TWO TEENAGERS GETTING READY TO GO TO A TOURNAMENT THAT COULD BE A SPRINGBOARD TO THEIR FOOTBALL CAREER. BOTH ARE LOOKING FOR THEIR IDENTITY AND VALUE, BUT IN COMPLETELY DIFFERENT WAYS. ONE THROUGH COMPETITION, MURDEROUS TRAINING, AND THE OTHER THROUGH BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH COLLEAGUES, HAVING FUN AND A MORE RELAXED APPROACH TO TRAINING.

SYNOPSIS

Paweł (14) is passionate about football. The boy works hard, he is even obsessed with responsibilities. He tells his mother that if he works as much as everyone else, he will not break out. That is why he wants to work more and be more focused. His everyday life is a drastic diet, supplementation, physiotherapists, motivational literature, and additional training.

Marcel (14) is Paweł's teammate. With the rigor that Paweł imposes on himself every day, he could last maybe half a day. For him, fun, parties, music, friends and relationships are most important. He may not be overworking in training, but when the match time comes, he gives 100 percent of himself and stands out because of his ingenuity and fantasy. Marcel's dad, PE teacher, seems to be a person who cares more about his son's success than Marcel himself. The relationship with his father is very important to Marcel, which is why the boy struggles between his own idea for himself and his dad's expectations.

Paweł and Marcel are getting ready to perform at the tournament, which may be a springboard to their sports career. Scouts from Polish and foreign clubs are present at such events, which puts additional pressure.

Paweł works hard. His enormous determination comes from his willingness to prove his worth and impress his father, who is always at work. After winning the tournament, Paweł says: „if only my dad could see it.”

Marcel's approach stands in sharp contrast to the regime that Paweł is imposing on himself. Marcel shows much more distance to himself and ease in dealing with his peers.

Which path will prove to be more effective?

WHO ARE YOU PLAYING FOR?

dir. Szymon Chęciak



ENGLISH TITLE: „THE WORLD ACCORDING TO JĘDREK”

ORIGINAL TITLE: „ŚWIAT WEDŁUG JĘDRKA”

Director: Aleksandra Bielska

Cinematography: Jakub Strumiński

Production stage: development

We are looking for: producer, animator

Contact: bielskaola@gmail.com

Estimated duration: 15 min

Country: Poland

Language: Polish

LOGLINE

JĘDREK IS 8 YEARS OLD AND HAS A VERY WELL-DEFINED VISION OF ART. HE IS SURPRISED WHY HIS PEERS DO NOT LIKE ART. AFTER ALL, IT GIVES SO MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPRESS ONESELF. HE DECIDES TO SHARE HIS DOUBTS WITH THE CHARACTERS HE PAINTED.

SYNOPSIS

The documentary is aimed at a young viewer. It will take us into the world of a child's imagination and emotions. 8-year-old Jędrrek will guide us through it. The boy loves art. He does not understand why his peers do not share his enthusiasm. After all, painting gives you so many opportunities to express yourself, to talk about emotions.

The film will be a story about the world from Jędrrek's perspective. There will be two intertwining threads in it. The first one, containing creative elements in the form of animation - is the quintessence of the boy's understanding of art. Its emotional dimension. The animation will show the hero in the world of his paintings. He will meet the characters he painted. He will tell them where they came from, why they are here with him, why they are important to him.

The second thread is observation. We will see Jędrrek in everyday situations. From lessons at school, through relationships with loved ones. The observation will be a contrast to the colorful world of animation. Through capturing important moments (both happy and sad), the source of his painting inspiration will be shown, as well as the role of art in the boy's life..

THE WORLD ACCORDING TO JĘDREK



ENGLISH TITLE: „JUST PINKI”

ORIGINAL TITLE: „BYŁ SOBIE PINKI”

Directors: Ewa Martynkien,
Wojciech Szczupak
Cinematography: Małgorzata Leśniak
Production company: STAMTAD

Estimated duration: 20 minutes
Country: Poland
Language: Polish

Production stage: assembly
Estimated production end date:
Spring 2022.

Budget: EUR 16 300
Requirements: EUR 5450

Confirmed partners: Voiceland

We are looking for: a distributor

Contact: +48 887 177 000
Manufacturer's e-mail: info@stamtad.co

LOGLINE

PINKI IS A LARGE BLACK DOG WHO HAS SPENT HIS ENTIRE LIFE IN A SHELTER. AS YEARS GO BY, HIS CHANCES OF ADOPTION DECREASE. TOGETHER WITH PINKIE, WE GET TO KNOW THE EVERYDAY LIFE OF THE SHELTER. DOES THE DOG HAVE A CHANCE FOR A REAL HOME WITH PEOPLE WHO WILL LOVE HIM?

SYNOPSIS

Pinki is the film's main character. He is a large, energetic dog who has never left his box, like many other dogs with a long shelter history. For him, the shelter is a safe place where he finds care and support. He knows it very well, just like the people who work there. In the film, Pinki shows us around his world, shows his box, observes work in the office, and observes life in a sheep pen and a cat hospital. He is excited about Saturdays because that's when volunteers take him for a walk.

Pinki is 5 years old. As years go by, his chances of adoption decrease. There is less and less time to find a responsible home, so one day the volunteers and caretakers from the shelter decide to do something. Pinki changes the box to a much bigger one, thanks to which he gains dog friends who live next door, passes the cat reaction test, gets his own page on social media, learns to ride a bus, visits the „pet spa”. Everyday life in the shelter goes on in the background of Pinki's story.

„Just Pinki” is an intimate, cheerful documentary for children with a happy ending. It is a story about the unique bond that we humans can have with animals and mutual understanding.

JUST PINKI

dir. Ewa Martynkien

PROJECT COORDINATORS

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The project is organized
by Andrzej Wajda Film Culture Center

PROJECT CO-FINANCED BY:



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