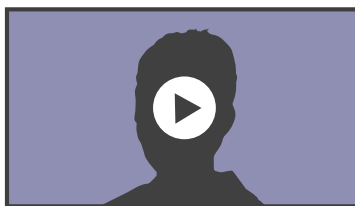


TEACHER OF THE YEAR



teacheroftheyearfilm.com

FOR IMMEDIATE

RELEASE:

JANUARY, 2017

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DOCUMENTARY FILM, TEACHER OF THE YEAR, TO RECEIVE GRANT
FROM THE NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

“Teachers making movie about heroic teacher receive national grant”

RALEIGH, NC – At Large Productions is pleased to announce that they have received a grant from the NEA Foundation to help finish their documentary film, TEACHER OF THE YEAR. The film explores the question, “What happens when a real teacher tries to be a Hollywood hero?” Rob Phillips, an English teacher, and Jay Korreck, an instructional coach, have been working on the feature-length film since 2013 when they began following Raleigh history teacher and former Teacher of the Year, Angie Scioli. The film juxtaposes Scioli’s quest for perfection as a teacher, mother, and burgeoning Red 4 Ed and Moral Monday activist with the simplistic portrayals of teachers in Hollywood films.

“Teachers are often presented as either heroes or hacks,” says Phillips, the film’s co-director, “and our film explores how the oversimplifications, illuminated by the scholars we interviewed, reveal and reinforce problematic notions about what teachers really do. We hope our film will lead people to question how media portrayals impact real teachers, socially, economically, and perhaps politically.”

Korreck said, “When people and organizations you respect endorse your work, it’s gratifying. We are especially thankful to the NEA Foundation, John Wilson, Mark Jewell, the North Carolina Association of Educators, Yevonne Brannon, and Public Schools First NC for their support in making this grant a reality. It will take us a long way toward giving our film the final polish and the audience it deserves.” Korreck went on to explain that the grant funds will be used for post-production services such as sound mixing and color correction.

The grant funds will cover half of the film’s post-production budget, and the filmmakers have launched a 45-day Kickstarter campaign to pay for remaining costs such as Errors & Omissions insurance and film festival application fees. “We hope to have our film included in film festivals so that we can share Angie’s story with people across the United States. We think that her story and what is happening with education in North Carolina will appeal to a wide audience,” said Phillips. The film will premiere on March 2, 2017 at the Teachers, Teaching, and Media Conference at Wake Forest University. For more information about the film or how to support their fundraising efforts, visit teacheroftheyearfilm.com or follow the film on Facebook [@teacheroftheyearfilm](https://www.facebook.com/teacheroftheyearfilm).