It's a Wrap:
Librarians, Filmmakers and Archival Collections

Presented by
Monika Antonelli, Outreach Librarian
Daardi Sizemore Mixon, University Archivist
A long time ago...

Sesquicentennial

- 150th anniversary
- Founded October 7, 1868
- 2017-2018 celebration
- Programming encouraged
At a university far, far away...

Campus Common Read

- Library led campus initiative
- Encouragement from Provost to use local book
- Needed a keynote event
Two Weeks in May

• About two weeks in May 1972
• Peaceful protests on and off campus and how the community responded
• Leadership
  • President Nickerson
  • Mankato Police Chief
  • Students
Action!
Finding a Story to Tell

- What are noteworthy events in your community or at your university?
- What’s available at local archives?
  - Collection guides
  - Digital collections
  - Archives staff

*The Reporter, 5 May 1972*
Finding our story

Internal to the university
- *Out of Chaos* book
- *Out of Chaos* primary sources (letters and interviews)
  - Transcripts included
- Digitization
  - School newspaper
  - Audio files
  - Photographs
  - Multiple formats key!

External to the university
- Primary source film available on YouTube
- Potential alumni participation (interviews)
- Possibility of discovering additional primary source material
Film making is a collaborative art form

April 27, 2017, Photo by Pat Christman
Mankato Free Press
Timeline

• The project took 19 months (April 2016 – November 2017)
• Originally a 20 minute film that turned into a 50 minute film
• An ambitious endeavor
Behind the Scenes

• Buy in from Film Department and Library (April–May 2016)
  • Multiple meetings and email exchanges
  • Took on the role of film producer

• Applying for funding (Summer-Fall 2016)
  • Worked with Film department faculty member
  • Received a Small Arts Project Grant from our local Prairie Lakes Regional Art Council
  • Grant requirement that the Library contribute matching dollars
Behind the Scenes

- Enroll in film production classes (Fall 2016- Spring 2017)
  - Introduction to Film Production (Fall 2016)
  - Advance Film Production (Spring 2017)
- Assembled a crew (Fall 2016-Spring 2017)
  - Taking film production classes provided guaranteed twice weekly access to student crew members
- Researching content (April 2016-August 2017)
  - Outreach graduate assistant (20 hours a week)
Archival Materials

• Find archival friends
  • Paperwork
    • New donations
    • Oral histories
  • Equipment
  • Identify collections
  • Digitization on demand

Students blocking Hwy 169. Image courtesy of Don Olson
Public Domain Resources

• Video
  • Internet Archive (https://archive.org/)
    • Universal Newsreels
      https://archive.org/details/universal_newsreels
    • Prelinger Archives – Home movies, amateur films, industrial films
      https://archive.org/details/prelinger
    • Presidential Campaign Ads 1968
      https://archive.org/details/Election_Ads_03
    • US military videos (Lookout Mountain Air Force Station, etc.)

• Images
  • National Archives (https://www.archives.gov/)
Community Help

Facebook group
  • Mankato Memories

Looking for photographs of Mankato Police Chief Charles Alexander.

Hi Everyone! The documentary film, Two Weeks in May, which tells the story of the student protests in Mankato during the 1970s is coming along. But we have a few holes we need to fill. One of those holes concerns acquiring photos of Mankato Police Chief Charles Alexander.

As those of you who were there know, Police Chief Alexander played an important role at that time. He and his officers were able to allow students to express their first amendment rights at the same time keep the city of Mankato safe from destruction. He has been highly praised by all who had contact with him.

I have contacted both the Mankato Public Safety Center and the Blue Earth County Historical Center, but neither were able to help us on this matter.

I am hoping that someone out there might have some photos we could use for the film. Or that there might be someone out there who could look at the photos we have from the protests and help us identify if Police Chief Alexander is in any of our pictures.

You can contact me through Facebook, by email at monika.antonelli@mnsu.edu or by phone at 507-389-2507.

Thanks everyone for your support of this project! We are looking forward to sharing the final film with you. You are all invited to a free screening at Minnesota State University, Mankato on November 1st!
Filmmaking and Fair Use

Documentary Filmmakers’ Statement of Best Practices in Fair Use


Two key questions:

• Did the unlicensed use “transform” the material taken from the copyrighted work by using it for a different purpose?

• Was the amount and nature of material taken appropriate in light of the nature of the copyrighted work and of the use?

• Both questions address whether the use will cause excessive economic harm to the copyright owner.
Filmmaking and Fair Use

Fair Use Checklist

Thinking Through Fair Use from University of Minnesota Libraries

- [https://www.lib.umn.edu/copyright/fairthoughts](https://www.lib.umn.edu/copyright/fairthoughts)
### The Scripts

**Storyboard:**

**May 9, 1972 Vietnam War Protests at Minnesota State College and Its Relevance Today**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. President James Nickerson.</td>
<td>Source: MSUM ARCH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Mankato State College</td>
<td>Source: MSUM ARCH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Students newspaper headline / Vietnam War</td>
<td>Source: MSUM ARCH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Student newspaper headline / Kent State massacre</td>
<td>Source: MSUM ARCH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Peaceful gathering of MSC students</td>
<td>Source: MSUM ARCH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. May 8, 1972 President Nixon broadcast</td>
<td>Source: Online video found at the Miller Center, University of Virginia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. May 9, 1972 Student newspaper headline page 3</td>
<td>Source: Nixon orders N. Vet. ports mined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. May 20, 1972 Student newspaper headlines</td>
<td>Source: MSUM ARCH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. MSC alumni interview</td>
<td>Source: Video footage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. MSC student protesters meeting on campus</td>
<td>Source: YouTube video</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. MSC student protesters walking to the bridge</td>
<td>Source: YouTube video</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. George Witty, the State Patrol and Nicollet County Sheriff</td>
<td>Source: YouTube video</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Nickerson talking on the car radio</td>
<td>Source: MSUM ARCH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. May 20, 1972 Reporter headline</td>
<td>Source: MSUM ARCH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **2 pages; One side narrative; other side screen visuals**
- **Became the trailer for the film**

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**The Scripts**

Dr. James Nickerson served as Mankato State College’s president during the tumultuous 1960s and 1970s, a decade that bore witness to an unpopular war being fought in Vietnam. At a time when student protests at Kent State had been killed by National Guard members, many consider it was Nickerson’s leadership that kept violence from escalating on the Mankato campus.

On May 8, 1972, President Richard Nixon’s order the mining of North Vietnamese ports without consulting Congress, which incited public opposition and outrage against the war. On May 9, 1972 ant-war student protests erupted on campuses across the United States, including the Mankato State College campus. Over 200 students, and some as close to 1000 students, gathered on the Mankato State College campus and then took to the streets.

Tensions were high on both the college and community sides of the protest, as the city came to a halt. Hundreds of motorists were affected and traffic was blocked for miles. Nicollet County Sheriff George Witty and the State Patrol prepared for the student protesters to cross the bridge. It was President Nickerson and the Mankato Police Chief, Charles E. Alexander, who worked to keep actions from mounting to violence. Although tear gas was eventually used that evening to clear the crowd.

Today, the legacy of student protests of the past are active again on campuses around the United States with movements like #BlackLivesMatter. Students today are using modern resources like social media and also borrowing tactics of the past, like marches and kneeling.
Narrative script (February – March 2017)

- Based on a chapter in the book, *Out of Chaos*

The 1960s were a time of unprecedented change, optimism and turmoil. With the introduction of The Pill, at the start of the decade, the Sexual Revolution was introduced. Harvard lecturer and researcher Timothy Leary began to experiment with hallucinogens and would later encourage people to “turn on, tune in, and drop out.” Interest in communal living, spiritual consciousness, and rock music soon followed. A full blown cultural revolution was under way.

In the political arena, John F. Kennedy, America’s youngest president, bestowed the country with a sense of enthusiasm and hopefulness. However the United States soon found itself engulfed in grief over the president’s assassination, when his life came to an abrupt end on November 22, 1963. With less than a year remaining to complete the work started by JFK, a promise of economic prosperity was heralded by President Johnson in his 1964 State of the Union Address. A Civil Rights bill quickly followed, but the Civil Rights movement itself would eventually stall. By the end of the 1960s the United States awakened to find itself entangled in an uncertain foreign war which would later come to dominate the public’s awareness.

The year 1968 marked significant change in perceptions about the war. First, North Vietnam and the Viet Cong attacked all of the major cities in South Vietnam in what would come to be called the Tet Offensive. Although U.S. and South Vietnam troops fought off the attack, more Americans began to conclude that the war had become a stalemate with no end in sight. With his poll numbers dropping, President Lyndon B. Johnson chose not to run for re-election, and Richard Nixon went on to win the 1968 presidential election on a promise of “peace with honor.”

Though Nixon felt he could end the war quickly, the realities of the situation did not cooperate. One of Nixon’s strategies was to end American involvement in the Vietnam War by transferring all military responsibilities to South Vietnam. This tactic was known as Vietnamization. But when...
The Scripts

Shooting script (March 2017)

- Split pages
- Left side narrative; right side screen visual

| TWICE WEEKS IN MAY  
Mankato State College Documentary |
|-----------------------------------|
| NARRATOR  
The 1960s were a time of unprecedented change, optimism and turmoil. With the introduction of The Pill, at the start of the decade, the Sexual Revolution was introduced.  
Harvard lecturer and researcher Timothy Leary began to experiment with hallucinogens and would later encourage people to "turn on, tune in, and drop out."  
Interest in communal living, environmentalism, spiritual consciousness, and rock music soon followed.  
A cultural revolution was under way. |
| MONTAGE CLIP OF IMAGES FROM THE 1960s |
| NARRATOR  
In the political arena, John F. Kennedy, America's new young president, instilled the country with a sense of enthusiasm and hopefulness. However, the United States soon found itself engulfed in grief when his life came to a tragic end following his assassination on November 22, 1963.  
Kennedy's successor, Lyndon Johnson, dedicated his presidency to fulfilling and even expanding JFK's unfinished legacy.  
The Johnson administration boldly pushed forward comprehensive civil rights legislation and a war on poverty. |
| CLIPS OF KENNEDY IN DALLAS  
CLIP SHOWING PEOPLE CRYING AFTER THE SHOOTING  
CLIP OF PRESIDENT JOHNSON GIVING HIS 1964 STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS  
CLIP OF CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVISTS |
The Scripts

Shooting script with citations (March 2017)

- Identified the images and where they came from
- Information used for closing credits

TWO WEEKS IN MAY
Mankato State College Documentary
Shooting Script with Citations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NARRATOR</th>
<th>MONTAGE OF NAMES FROM THE 1960S</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| The 1960s were a time of unprecedented change, optimism and turmoil. With the introduction of the MoD, at the start of the decade, the Sexual Revolution was introduced.
| Internet Archive - Presidential Campaign Ads 1960s |
| https://archive.org/details/Presidential%20Campaign%20Ads%201960s  |
| Kennedy lecture and researcher Timothy Leary began to experiment with hallucinogens and would later encourage people to "turn on, tune in, and drop out.
| https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:2006-03-19%203-20WFC%20Leary%20lecture%20%28cropped%29.jpg
| Interest in communal living, environmentalism, spiritual consciousness, and rock music soon followed.
| Universal Newsreel - 1967, 06/04 |
| https://www.youTube.com/watch?v=4414a34a-d3 |
| A cultural revolution was under way.
| John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, Boston |
| https://www.jfklibrary.org/AssetLibrary/VPK-FT-14-0455.wmv
|

<table>
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<tr>
<th>NARRATOR</th>
<th>CLIPS OF KENNEDY IN DALLAS</th>
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| https://www.jfklibrary.org/AssetLibrary/VPK-FT-14-0455.wmv
| Kennedy's successor, Lyndon Johnson, dedicated his presidency to fulfilling and even expanding JFK's unfinished legacy.
| Presidential Library and Museum, Boston |
| https://www.jfklibrary.org/AssetLibrary/VPK-FT-14-0455.wmv
| The Johnson administration boldly pushed forward comprehensive civil rights legislation and a war on poverty.
Shooting B roll

- Students shot most for film classes
- Extra footage captured to enrich the story and to provide greater flexibility when editing
- Examples
  - Current footage of North Star Bridge
  - Footage of campus Vietnam War Memorial
  - Footage of current campus protest
Filming Interviews

- Filmed 12 interviews; used footage from 9
- Interviewed alumni, university faculty/staff, and emeriti
- Interviews were 45 to 90 minutes in length
- Used only 3 to 7 minutes from each interview
- Used basic list of questions
Editing the Film

• Two thirds of the film was edited in class by MSU senior Ryan Neil
  • Capstone Project
• Hired a Ryan as the editor to complete the film over the summer 2017
• Software used: Adobe Premier Pro
Voice actors

• Used voice actors to diversify and add variety to the film
• Enlisted the "best" voices on campus
• Also provided opportunities to students in a Writing and Speaking for Broadcast course
Credits

• How much information do you include?
• Credits designed by MSU senior Joshua Koimene
• Separate little mini film
• Check spelling!
Credits

FILMS
Mankato Vietnam Protest on May 9, 1972 (Donated by RONALD L. AFFOLTER)
Mankato Dem 1969 & 1970 (Donated by BARBARA CARSON)
Protest video for Don, October 24, Summit Center (Donated by INTEGRATED MARKETING)
Scott Hagebak Interview (Donated by BARBARA CARSON)

PHOTOS
Roger Funfsinn
Robert H. Nielsen
Donald J. Olson

IMAGES
Mankato State Daily Reporter (1972)
Mankato State Reporter (1970, 1971)
Reporter (1975)
Film Music

- **Stay away from copyrighted music!**
- Free music
  - Student composers
  - Found sound or public domain recordings
- Licensing services
  - Premium Beat ([www.premiumbeat.com](http://www.premiumbeat.com))
    - $49 for perpetuity rights
- Contracting
  - Contract with local musicians to use music or create new material
Funding

• Internal
• Partners
• Grants

FUNDING PROVIDED BY
Library Services, Minnesota State University, Mankato

With additional funding support from the
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY, MANKATO

And a grant provided by the PRAIRIE LAKES REGIONAL ARTS COUNCIL
from funds appropriated by the MINNESOTA STATE LEGISLATURE
Expenditures - Equipment

• Grant money ($2000) purchased
  • Tascam audio recorders
  • Three tripods
  • Tripod dolly
  • SD cards
  • Lav mics
  • XLR cables
  • External hard drives
• Also used Film Department equipment/software at no cost
Expenditures - Staff

- Student film editor
  - Work over the summer 2017
  - $15 an hour
  - 20 hours a week for 12 weeks
  - Total $3600
Expenditures - DVD Authoring/Cinema Projection

- Film formatting and DVD creation
  - DVD authoring services $1,375
  - DVD replication for 750 units & shipping $826
  - Digital Cinema Projection services $550
  - Quality screening (plus digital file on 2 thumb drives) $250
Copyright and contracts

• Who owns your film's copyright?
• Can be complicated
• Get contracts in place at the beginning if possible
• Talk to your administrative business office
Show Time

- Common Read Keynote Event – Documentary premiere and panel of contributors
- Repeat showings
- Common Read program tie-ins

![MSU Film Students Premiere "Two Weeks in May" Protest Documentary]

![Tie-Dye a T-Shirt!]

Join us by the fountain and make some groovy 70s gear.

**Tie-Dye a T-Shirt!**

Wednesday, October 18th
12:00-2:00pm
Isabella Room by the fountain
Minnesota State University, Mankato, MN

Come make a FREE tie-dye shirt.
Make it to wear to the Common Read Keynote Event on November 1st, or just because you want a tie-dye shirt!
T-shirts will be provided but you are welcome to bring your own too!
Impact

- Knowledge about local university/community history
- Preserve the story
- Impact
  - Students
  - Crew
  - Community
- Film festivals
It's a Wrap

Role of the Archives in Documentary
• Confirm/affirm that source material exists
• Support of archival research
  • Identifying, digitizing, and more
• Collaboration around new collections, interviews, images, etc. (aka Paperwork)
• Preservation of documentary materials
It's a Wrap

Filmmakers
- Lead actor vs supporting role
- Need a story to tell
- Need research support from librarians and archivists
- A filmmaker walks into archives looking for a story...
  - What are they interested in?
  - What stories have not been told?
  - What resources are available?

Film students
- Real life experience in a supportive environment
It's a Wrap

Librarians why make a documentary?

• Does it fit with your mission?
• Upcoming events/celebrations?
• Supporting role vs lead actor?
Questions?

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Monika.Antonelli@mnsu.edu

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