



#NOCOPACADEMY

T H E D O C U M E N T A R Y



SCREENING TOOLKIT

NoCopAcademy.com

SOAP  BOX
PRODUCTIONS & ORGANIZING

Linktr.ee/NoCopAcademy

"Write yourself into history. Not because you're vain, but because you're important, your work is important, you're building off the work of your ancestors, and someone will be building off of yours."

MARIAME KABA

WE MAKE OUR
OWN HISTORY



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INTRODUCTIONS

About the No Cop Academy Campaign

From 2017-2019, #NoCopAcademy was a grassroots campaign launched by Assata's Daughters, Black Lives Matter - Chicago, People's Response Team, For The People Artists Collective, and many more grassroots organizations to mobilize against Rahm Emanuel's plans to spend \$95 million for a massive training center for Chicago police in West Garfield Park on the city's West Side. The campaign, composed of 104 organizations, refused any expansion of policing in Chicago, and demanded investing in Chicago youth and communities.

About SoapBox Productions and Organizing

SoapBox Productions and Organizing is a film and social activism 501c3 nonprofit specializing in multimedia storytelling for structural social change. Our mission is to utilize media to power, frame, and sustain social movements that advance holistic solutions to root problems. In tandem with grassroots organizing efforts for racial, economic, and social justice, SoapBox delivers emotional impact storytelling for liberation. We produce documentaries, fiction films, podcasts, articles, and community-based programming that intend to educate, agitate, inspire, and ultimately transform.



PLANNING YOUR SCREENING

Public Safety Reminders

- Decide if it makes the most sense for the screening to be in person, virtual or hybrid
- Emphasize the importance of communal care and collective responsibility, especially when gathering for a radical cause
- Ensure that adequate masking and PPE materials are available for those who may not have access to them on site
- Prior to screening start make an announcement regarding masking requirements throughout the duration of the film
- With the surge in COVID-19, flu and RSV encourage people to get tested before they go. If they test positive or have symptoms of COVID-19, encourage them to stay home
- Select a venue size and location (depending on the season outside is always an option) that can accommodate more people than anticipated so that people have the option to spread out and social distance
 - Check to ensure that the space has adequate ventilation



What to Expect in the Film

- From 2017-2019, Chicago Black youth and other youth of color powerfully organized and led an effort against the construction of a \$95 million dollar cop academy, and demanded the city of Chicago fund youth and communities instead. This one-hour documentary chronicles the explosive #NoCopAcademy campaign through those who lived it
- The film will speak to and depict a few visuals of police violence, so offering a triggering warning is suggested
- The film is 59 minutes long (56 min without credits)
- The film has English captions and Spanish subtitles available
- A 58 min censored version available as well

Accessibility

- If conducting a film screening in person, ensure that the venue is accessible for those community members who may need to use mobility devices
- If planning an audience interaction component, ensure that all speakers have microphone access
- Include ASL interpreters to accommodate community members who may be deaf or hard of hearing
- Ensure the venue space has bathrooms that are accessible for different mobility needs and genders
- If conducting the film virtually, be sure to give community members the option to join and have audio and captions in different languages

Logistical Information

- Create a goal in mind for screening the film
- Is it for political education purposes? Media and journalism? Presentation purposes? Is the film being shown as a portion of a workshop?
- Answering these questions will help inform what type of audience engagement makes the most sense. (i.e panel, Q&A, shareback/audience reaction)
- Decide if the film will be open to the public or shared with people just in your network
- Decide if you would like a member of the campaign and/or filmmaker to be a part of the film screening. When possible, we encourage screeners to compensate folks (campaign member/filmmaker) for their time.
- It is best practice to have buffer time for the film, before and after to accommodate for potential technical difficulties



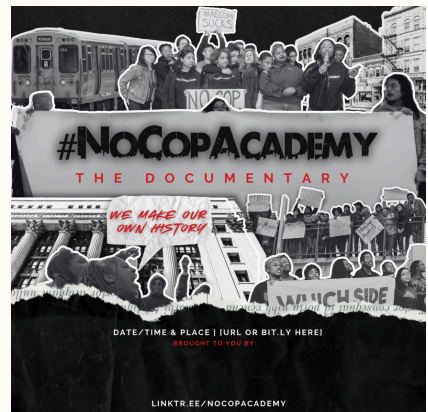
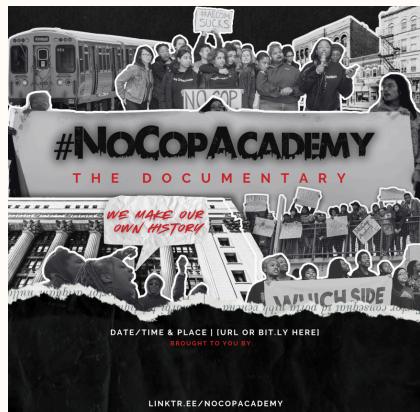
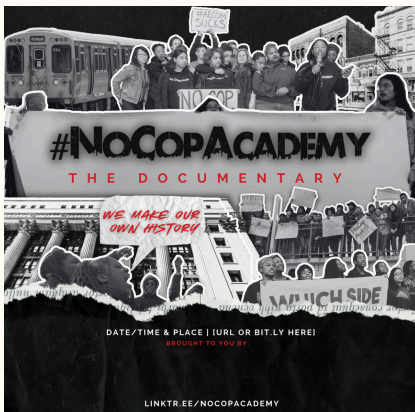
PROMOTING YOUR SCREENING

Promotional Material

We've made it easy to create your own poster and promo for your screening with dimensions for Facebook, Instagram, & Twitter! Below are poster graphic templates with space/editable text to include partnering organizations, time, location, etc.

- Poster Promo (24x36in)
- Poster Promo (IG Story - 16x9)
- Poster Promo (IG Post - Square, 1080x1080)
- Poster Promo (IG Post - Vertical, 1080x1350)
- Poster Promo (Twitter Horizontal, 1600x900)
- Official Film Posters

When hosting a public screening using Eventbrite or Facebook events to help keep track of RSVP's!



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR YOUR EVENT

Film discussion questions post film:

- What were some of your emotional responses to the film?
- Was there anything in the film that was shocking or new to you?
- What moments, people, or ideas resonated with you the most while watching the film?
- What is one thing that you learned about the way that the young people of #NoCopAcademy organized?
- What do you think this film and the #NoCopAcademy campaign is saying about our world?
- Are there any thoughts or follow up questions that the film spur in you?
- How did understanding the political context of the campaign add to the emotional moments of the film?
- How does the political climate (major issues, the way city council is run, etc.) of Chicago differ or similar to the political context of our city/town/state/country?
- How can you take action around an issue you're passionate about or that impacts your community in a way that #NoCopAcademy did? Another way?
- What's the importance of storytelling in struggles like this?
- Why is it important to document struggles like this?
- How does the work #NoCopAcademy did connect to current fights like #StopCopCity in Atlanta, a Free Palestine, or other struggles?

Additional Resources for Your Event

Offer other NCA resources - Be sure to share out #NoCopAcademy resources as a follow up for those who are energized and inspired by the film. The NCA website is as follows <https://nocopacademy.com>

Organizing Toolkit - An 80 page toolkit available in English and Spanish that documents our work and details how we built power throughout the duration of our campaign.

Timeline - This interactive tool shares a digital timeline of the campaign, by us, for us. People from across the city and continent who took action to support #NoCopAcademy shared testimonials, and the videos and photos show what really happened.

Chant Playlist - Listen, learn, use, repeat. A chant playlist featuring chants we used specific to the campaign, songs we remixed and chants regarding abolition more broadly.

Get Feedback!

We encourage each screening organizer to create their own feedback material. This can look like printed questionnaires for folks to engage as the event ends or maybe a link to share with partnering orgs after the event. Some basic questions can include:

1. Rate the screening (1 to 10)
2. How did you hear about this screening/film?
3. What's something we could have done differently?
4. What's your biggest takeaway from this event?
5. What question would have liked to have been asked?

Acknowledgements

Special thank you to Danbee Kim for designing this toolkit,
Destiny Harris for building it out, and David A Moran for
putting it together!

Film poster designed by Citlali Perez

Photos: p.2-5 by Sarah-Ji

Photo: p.7 by David A Moran

SOAPBOX

