



# SEE, HEAR, FEEL, FILM

MARY GALLAGHER & SUSAN STEINTHAL

**Curriculum:** ELA & the Arts

**Grade:** 3

**District:** Dobbs Ferry UFSD

**School:** Springhurst School

**Principal:** Mr. Douglas Berry

**Superintendent:** Dr. Sidney Freund

## **Project Description**

*See, Hear, Feel, Film* was designed for third graders by the Jacob Burns Film Center in Pleasantville, NY. It is specifically geared to increasing film and media literacy for third grade students. The program is divided into five units, each lasting approximately one month. Each unit consists of films as well as activities for before and after viewing, designed to improve student skills in interpreting, analyzing, and evaluating visual media.

## **Project Comments**

The stories were of high quality and served to introduce the students to a wide variety of films not usually seen in their popular culture. The films introduced them to children from all over the world. Not only did these stories come from different cultures but they also included children with special needs, like the blind boy in *The Color of Paradise*. The content was very real and presented problems and situations that the students could relate to in their own lives, such as moving away from friends.

## **Impact on Students**

The films allowed the students to employ their own feelings through a wide variety of characters. They were able to walk in the shoes of others and experience conflict and problem solving through these characters. The children were able to enhance their observation skills by examining films in a way that they never had before. They were able to see the perspective of the film maker and learn the tools that were used to communicate feelings, problems, conflict, and point of views of characters in different situations. They had the opportunity to further develop their understanding by participating in language arts activities relating to the films and their characters.