

## Documentary Reflection

The way I came up with my idea was I was thinking of someone who was a big inspiration to me and someone I was inspired to be like. Amandla Stenberg is a black female and in the industry of acting, modeling, singing, those type of things, it is very hard for black women to find their spot in it, so for her to keep going and being strong after being let down by comments from the media all the time, is really amazing and inspiring to me. This subject of black woman and activism is important for me because black women are shut down a lot everywhere in the world and to actually speak about it and explain in a documentary is really good. I felt empowered making this video.

I hope my audience is everyone. I feel like some of my audience will know the "Don't Cash Crop on my Cornrows" video and have different feelings on it and some people won't like my topic. I have learned that if you want to make change you have to speak out.

The challenges for me in this project were getting the right information and making sure it was under the time limit. I overcame these challenges by shortening clips and turning things around to make them shorter, as well as focusing on the more important issues. She is involved in so many different things that I had to focus on her activism. Time constraints were terrible. My first film was 6 minutes long and I loved it. But I had to keep it under 3 minutes. I still have the longer version.

My storyboard helped me a lot with revisions and because for my narration I read it off from there. It also helped me keep track of my credits.

Peer reviews were very helpful because I needed to try and do this in an amount of time that wasn't very long and it was something I was really looking forward to achieving. They made suggestions on what could be cut and how to expand my clips so I could see my narration and cut right up to the point I started talking. The Art Society did not have any suggestions. They said they liked the longer version and I should keep it the way it was. I thought the evaluation/criteria from Castleton University was super helpful and I think everyone needs for someone to actually tell them what they did wrong and right instead of just letting it go. It really helped. They really helped me think about what was most important and how to concentrate on those points and let the other stuff go. They also suggested I add clips of her talking instead of just me. They also helped with finding a soundtrack to match my movie.

I learned from viewing work from my peers that I wasn't the only one that had struggles or that were rushing and everyone makes mistakes that can easily be fixed and it is okay. I learned that many people are embarrassed when they show their movies.

I think I got the point across about Amandla and what she does and who she is as an activist person. My movie was successful in the way that you can understand what I'm

explaining. It is also interesting to watch with all the clips and the videos of her talking. It does not get boring.

I view myself as a hard working filmmaker but obviously not the best one. This is my first year and I have a lot to learn. I have grown a lot and I understand a lot more now about the software and editing. I was nervous to share my films to the public at first because I didn't want to be judged. With viewing my film at a film festival or on a big screen I think it is a very good experience for me to get judgement because when you're grown up and doing more things you're still going to get judged either in a good way or a bad way. You also have to be able to defend your ideas.