Project #1  **POETRY FILM**

Conceive, plan, and shoot a short, silent, B&W Super8 film. The film should be 3 minutes in length. Shoot outside in DAYLIGHT only. Work in groups of 3. You are responsible for paying for the processing & shipping of your film.

**Skills:** Framing, Screen Direction, Pre-Production, Visual Elements

This is an IN-CAMERA EDIT assignment, meaning that the order in which you shoot will be the order in which we will view your images. Compose each of your shots very carefully, considering how long each one will remain on the screen. Consider the relationship between the images you place next to one another. Meaning is created by the composition and information that is contained within the images, as well as by the juxtaposition of one image to another. **USE A TRIPOD unless you require the shaky look of handheld camera movement for a particular shot.**

The assignment is called a POETRY FILM because you should be thinking in purely visual terms without the use of written or spoken language within the film. NO DIALOGUE is needed. Think in terms of communicating by association, by evocation. Focus on the graphic qualities of the image. Try to explore visual metaphors. **Do not think of creating a story as you would in a Fiction or Documentary Film.**

**CHOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING IDEAS:**

**PLACE:** Make a short film exploring a particular PLACE. Your place should be an EXTERIOR location where you are free enough to move around so that you have the ability to compose strong images and explore your chosen environment. If people are emblematic of your PLACE then you may include them in your shots, but keep in mind that this is NOT an exploration of character. It is fine to exclude all people.

**EMOTION:** Make a short film exploring a single EMOTION. This is an opportunity to get creative and think symbolically, not just literally. The choice of emotion is yours, as well as how you choose to depict or evoke it. This option should also be shot in EXTERIORS with available daylight. It is fine to stage things for the camera if you wish. You can bring objects or actors to your EXTERIOR location.

**REMEMBER**

- Shooting on Super 8 means that every shot you take will be included in the film. PLAN, THINK, and BLOCK before you shoot!
- Choose your locations so that you can control as much of the environment and background as possible.
- Try to allow space in your plan for experimentation, but give yourself a roadmap!