

ACTION IDEAS

The Wan Fambul Newsletter

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Fambul Tok

Learn

Our Community/Your Community

WHAT

- Learn about Sierra Leonean culture and community through *Fambul Tok*, the film
- Learn about your community through comparison and reflection

WHY

As a Wan Fambul branch, you are bettering your community. To better your community, you must know what it needs, and to know what your community needs, you must first learn who your community is. Learning about your own community can be challenging, because it is hard to see when you are within it. Therefore, a great way to investigate your own community is to look to another community and compare. This action will not only grow your understanding of Sierra Leone but also of your own community.

HOW

Step One: **Watch The Film!**

1. FIND A TIME

The time should be convenient for all members of your branch. Because the film is probably longer than your normal meeting time, you can either have a movie night after school or watch it over two weeks' meeting times.

2. FIND A LOCATION

The location can be your normal meeting place, if it is held during school hours. If the event is happening outside of school hours think of a fun and convenient site that would allow for a film screening. Is there somewhere else fun in your school or town to watch movies?

3. FIND THE TECHNOLOGY

Is there a TV and DVD player you can use? What about a projector and computer? In a pinch, you can also watch it on a computer.

4. WATCH THE MOVIE

Make sure everyone is clear about when and where you are screening the film. When you do watch *Fambul Tok*, consider what you are learning about Sierra Leonean community. What does their community LOOK like? What does their community FEEL like? What does their community SOUND like?

LEARN Our Community/Your Community Continued

Step Two: Reflection Session

You should hold a reflection meeting as soon as possible after watching the film, so the following week's meeting would be best. Whatever you decide, inform every member when the meeting is happening and what will be occurring at the meeting. During your reflection session, you will answer the following four questions:

- a. What does Sierra Leonean community LOOK, SOUND, and FEEL like?
- b. What does our community LOOK, SOUND, and FEEL like?
- c. How do we differ?
- d. How are we the same?

* Hold an open discussion with each question. Remember, we want all voices heard. Designate a note-taker so that your group can look back on the discussion.

Step Three: Compile Information

Be sure to document what you learn. This can be simply writing up the notes taken during the Reflection Session, or a more involved process of creating posters about Sierra Leonean and your own community, which could be displayed at your school. Let your imagination roll, just be sure you keep records of what you learn!

NOTE: This action is adapted from 'Activity C: A Sense of Community' in the *Educational Guide*. Feel free to check out the *Educational Guide* and read about the alternative version of this activity. Adapt your action however you think will work best for your own branch!

Engage

Teach the Tok

WHAT

- Share what you have learned about Fambul Tok and Sierra Leonean community with your school
- Promote alternative forms of resolving conflict

WHY

Teaching your peers about Fambul Tok is a great way to start growing the movement. And by teaching the material, you will become even more proficient in it!

HOW

Using *Fambul Tok*, the film, and the *Educational Guide* as resources, compile the information you feel is most important to know about and learn from Fambul Tok. How you share this information will depend a lot on the opportunities within your school and the capacity of your group. Here are a few excellent ways you can teach and engage your fellow peers:

1. Make a poster
2. Distribute information packets
3. Send out a school-wide email
4. Run an assembly
5. Hold an after school info-session
6. Lead a class about Fambul Tok

ENGAGE Teach the Tok Continued

However you choose to share the information, include details and contacts for your own Wan Fambul branch. This action is a great way to spark interest in Fambul Tok, Wan Fambul AND grow your own Wan Fambul branch.

Connect

Coffee House Benefit Night

WHAT

- Raise money for a Fambul Tok Peace Club at a school in Sierra Leone
- Host a fun night of talent and education on Fambul Tok
- Make a connection with students in Sierra Leone

WHY

There are amazing Fambul Tok student groups in Sierra Leone called Peace Clubs. Their members are eager to connect with American students, but some of the clubs need financial support to get resources like DVD players, projectors, and paper for pen pal correspondence. By fundraising for a specific Sierra Leonean school, you will start a connection that will only grow stronger over time!

Step One: **Connect with a Fambul Tok Peace Club and identify their needs**

To begin your connection, contact us at chloe@catalystforpeace.org and we will link you with a specific Peace Club in Sierra Leone. Refer to your Toolkit for more details about how to support a sister club in Sierra Leone. We will also help you identify the school's needs.

Step Two: **Plan Action**

1. FIND A TIME AND A LOCATION

Decide on the best date and time to hold your Coffee House Benefit Night. The location could be your school, a local meeting hall, or a coffee shop. Aim to find a space you can use for free and is available at your chosen time.

2. FIND TALENT

Start by recruiting your peers. You never know who might have a hidden talent. You may also want to ask some well-known artists from your local community. However, as this is a fundraiser, talent should be willing to donate their time for free. The talent could be musicians, comedians, actors, etc.

3. FIND TECHNOLOGY

What will you need for this event? More than likely, you will need at least one microphone and speakers. Often performers have their own set up, so ask your talent what they can provide.

4. FIND COFFEE

Ask local vendors for donations of coffee and baked goods. Be prepared to talk about what Fambul Tok and Wan Fambul are, what your Wan Fambul branch does, and exactly where the funds raised will be going. You can spend a little on food and drinks, but often you will be able to find donations, especially free coffee!

CONNECT Coffee House Benefit Night Continued

5. DECIDE PRICES

There are two ways to price a Coffee House Benefit Night. Either you can charge for admission, or charge for the coffee and baked goods. It is good to choose one or the other, as this will not prohibit people from attending. You should be reasonable with prices, because you are catering to your peers. If you are able to set up the event all for free and by donation, remember every dollar you make is a dollar raised. While fundraising is a main goal, it is also important to have a good attendance rate to increase awareness of your Wan Fambul branch.

6. DECIDE EVENT VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

You need to secure commitment from volunteers. Encourage every member of your branch to step up and volunteer. As a group, outline what specific roles you will need, times these roles are necessary, and who can do what. Outside help is also an option and can be a great way to get new members.

Step Three: Run the Coffee House

Confirm both your volunteers' and talent's commitment one week AND one day before the event. On the day of the action, keep ALL the money received in one specific, secure location.

Share

'Who We Are' Video

WHAT

- Create a video about your community
- Share it with the world!

WHY

Understanding community identity is important in community cohesion. By creating and sharing a 'Who We Are' video, you will help establish your own group identity. Additionally, people want to know about you and your Wan Fambul branch; the Fambul Tok community wants to know what your Wan Fambul branch is doing, the students in Sierra Leone want to know about your daily life, and your community wants to know how you present yourself.

HOW

Be creative and have fun!

STEP ONE

Decide what you want to tell about yourself as a group and how you want to present that information. Do you want to perform a skit? Do you want to hold interviews? Do you want to film it like a short or a documentary?

STEP TWO

Figure out who is going to do the filming. Does someone have a camera? You can always use a built-in webcam on a computer or even a cell phone.

SHARE 'Who We Are' Video Continued

STEP THREE

Edit the video! Do you know anyone with video-editing experience? If not, the editing does not have to be complicated. Keep in mind your level of knowledge and experience with editing when filming your video.

STEP FOUR

Share your video: share it on the Wan Fambul Facebook page, share it on YouTube, share it with your school, and/or share it with your sister school in Sierra Leone. Just get it out there!

NOTE: If you are unable, or do not want to do a video, you can also do this action in the form of a blog. Or you can create your own blog in addition to the video. If you choose to create a blog, be sure to share the page on Wan Fambul Facebook Group, and we may post it on the official Fambul Tok Blog!



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FOR PEACE

Wan Fambul Branches are inspired by the work of **Fambul Tok**, the ongoing grassroots community and peacebuilding efforts of the people of Sierra Leone. To learn more about Fambul Tok, visit fambultok.org and fambultok.com.

The Wan Fambul program is created and maintained by Catalyst for Peace, Fambul Tok's U.S. program partner.

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