



BACKPACK making big strides!



Above: BACKPACK Director, Sarah Mondale, and Vera Aronow, Jerry Jordan and Randi Weingarten talk school privatization and more on a panel at the American Federation of Teachers TEACH 2017 conference in Washington, D.C.

New website, Matt Damon, more screenings, oh my!

Walk, skip, and jump your way over to our [brand, spankin' new website](#) today! Not only is it beautifully-designed by the talented crew over at [OrangeStatic](#) (thank you, Olivia Klaus!), it has tons of cool features and useful information, too. The [Community Resources page](#) is one of our favorites—it's packed full of downloadable and editable content that you can share and use to have an exciting BACKPACK screening of your own. We also have a fantastic Discussion Guide written by Barbara Miner of Rethinking Schools, that includes FAQs ready to help you answer those tough questions that come up in discussions about charter schools, vouchers, testing, and the need to preserve—and strengthen—America's public schools.

Since we last messaged you, hundreds of teachers saw BACKPACK FULL OF CASH at the TEACH 2017 conference organized by the American Federation of Teachers in Washington, DC. The July 19th film screening was followed by a lively Q&A with a panel led by AFT President Randi Weingarten, which included BACKPACK filmmakers Sarah Mondale and Vera Aronow, as well as Jerry Jordan, head of the Philadelphia Federation of Teachers.

The filmmakers also attended wonderful screenings at the [Macon Film Festival](#) in lovely Macon, GA, and, just last week, at the [Summer Summit of the Wisconsin Public Education Network](#) in Lake Mills, WI, where dedicated public school advocates of all stripes came together from around the state. It was a remarkable gathering of parents, teachers, school board members, elected officials, education journalists and students.

Last but not at all least, our Community Screenings Campaign is now in full swing with upcoming screenings scheduled in:

- Albany, NY — **New York State Writers Institute** — Friday, September 8, 7:00pm, University of Albany, Page Hall, downtown campus. (*filmmakers in attendance*)
- Boston, MA — **Backpack Full of Cash Premiere & Round-table with Matt Damon** — Wednesday, September 13, 7:00pm, Wheelock Family Theatre, 200 Riverway, Boston, MA 02215. (*Matt Damon, Nancy Carlsson-Paige, local activists, and filmmakers in attendance*)
- Stanford, CA — **SCOPE at Stanford University, part of the Brown Bag Seminars** — Wednesday, December 6, 4:30pm, The Learning Hall at the Center for Education Research at Stanford University (CERAS), 520 Galvez Mall Stanford, CA 94305.

Plans are also in discussion for more screenings this fall in Denver, San Francisco, Alberta, Canada, and many other places. The list is growing everyday. Please keep the requests coming. We WILL get back in touch with you soon.

Please visit www.BackpackFullOfCash.com for continued updates and to request information about how you can host a screening in your community. Make a tax-deductible donation to help fuel the BACKPACK Community Engagement Campaign. We cannot do this without your support.

Thank you!

Sarah Mondale, Vera Aronow, and the BACKPACK team

SIGN UP TO HOST A SCREENING

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