

Session 6
Education Paths

Goals

- To demonstrate awareness of educational, vocational, and technical training opportunities available after high school.
- Students will consider long term goals in reference to continuing their education after high school.

Materials

Activity 1
Activity 2
Activity 3
Activity 5

Procedure

Greet the students. Wait until the students are seated and quiet. Briefly describe the goals of today's lesson. Reintroduce yourself to the students if necessary.

Script

Understanding the plethora of career paths is the first step toward understanding what's out there. There are different types of career experiences – shadowing, mentoring, cooperative education, internships, and apprenticeships. On-the-job experience can be the ultimate reality check.

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Activity 1: Education Paths

There are many paths that lead to a career. Match the education path to the corresponding explanation. After you have matched the corresponding explanation, be sure to have a back up plan. Choose 3 education paths that you would consider taking to lead to your career.

Activity 2: Getting To Know You

Real exploration really begins with getting to know you. Our educational path can be a journey to ourselves. Start by discussing the following questions.

Activity 3: High School Planning

Planning for high school can be a lengthy process? How far along into the process are you? Check off the statements that are true.

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Activity 4: Virginia Hero

Timothy Francis Robbins (born October 16, 1958) is an American Academy Award-winning actor, screenwriter, director, producer, activist and musician. He is the longtime partner of actress Susan Sarandon, with whom he shares liberal political views. At 6 ft 4_ in (194 cm), Robbins is one of the tallest actors in Hollywood.

Robbins was born in West Covina, California, to Mary (née Bledsoe), an actress, and Gilbert Robbins, a publishing executive, nightclub owner, musician and folk singer.^{[1][2]} Robbins has two sisters, Adele and Gabrielle, and a brother, David. Robbins moved to Greenwich Village with his family at a young age while his father pursued a career as a member of the folk music group The Highwaymen. Robbins started doing theater at age twelve and joined the drama club at Stuyvesant High School. He spent two years at SUNY Plattsburgh and then returned to California to study at the UCLA Film School.

Robbins's acting career began at Theater for the New City, where he spent his teenage years in their Annual Summer Street Theater and also played the title role in a musical adaptation of Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's *The Little Prince*. After graduation from college in 1981, Robbins founded the Actors' Gang, an experimental theater group, in Los Angeles with actor friends from his college softball team. He also took small parts in films, such as the role of frat animal "Mother" in *Fraternity Vacation* (1985). His breakthrough role was as pitcher "Nuke" LaLoosh in the 1988 baseball movie *Bull Durham*.

He received critical acclaim for his starring role as an amoral movie executive in Robert Altman's 1992 film *The Player*. He made his directorial and screenwriting debut with 1992's *Bob Roberts*, a mockumentary about a right-wing senatorial candidate. Robbins then starred alongside Morgan Freeman in the critically acclaimed *The Shawshank Redemption*, which was based on Stephen King's short story.

Robbins has written, produced, and directed several films with strong social content, such as the critically acclaimed capital punishment saga *Dead Man Walking* (1995), starring Sarandon and Sean Penn. The film earned him a Oscar nomination for Best Director. His next directorial effort was 1999's Depression-era musical *Cradle Will Rock*. Robbins has also appeared in mainstream Hollywood thrillers, such as 1999's *Arlington Road* (as a terrorist) and 2001's *Antitrust* (as a malicious computer tycoon). Robbins has also acted in and directed several Actors' Gang theater productions.

Robbins won the Best Supporting Actor Oscar and the SAG Award for his work in *Mystic River* (2003), as a man traumatized from having been molested as a child. In 2005, he won the 39th annual Man of the Year Pudding Pot Award given by the Hasty Pudding Theatricals of Harvard. His most recent acting roles include a temporarily blind man who is nursed to health by a psychologically wounded young woman in "The Secret Life of Words" and an Apartheid torturer in "Catch a Fire".

In early 2006, Robbins directed an adaptation of George Orwell's novel *1984*, written by Michael Gene Sullivan of the Tony Award-winning San Francisco Mime Troupe. The show opened at Actors' Gang, at their new location at The Ivy Substation in Culver City, California. In addition to venues around the United States, it has played in Athens, Greece, the Melbourne International Festival in Australia and the Hong Kong Arts Festival. Robbins is considering adapting the play into a film version. As of June

2007, Robbins is filming *The Return* (2007) with co-star Rachel McAdams. Shooting is taking place in Illinois, including scenes filmed at Mojo's Music in Edwardsville, Illinois.

Robbins lives in New York City with actress Susan Sarandon, with whom he has been involved since their meeting on the set of *Bull Durham* in 1988. They have two sons: Jack Henry (born 1989) and Miles Guthrie (born 1992). Robbins is an avowed supporter of Ralph Nader and appeared on stage in character as Bob Roberts during the "Nader Rocks the Garden" rally at Madison Square Garden during Nader's campaign for president in 2000. Robbins is a prominent spokesperson for anti-globalisation, a frequent critic of U.S. President George W. Bush, and a vocal opponent of the war in Iraq.

In 2003, a 15th anniversary celebration of *Bull Durham* at the National Baseball Hall of Fame was cancelled by Hall of Fame president Dale Petroskey. Petrovsky, who was on the White House staff during the Reagan administration, said Robbins' public stance against Bush and the war represented "a danger." *Durham* co-star Kevin Costner defended Robbins and Sarandon, saying "I think Tim and Susan's courage is the type of courage that makes our democracy work... Pulling back this invite is against the whole principle about what we fight for and profess to be about."

Tim is an avid baseball and hockey fan. He supports the New York Mets and the New York Rangers and frequently attends games. In 1995, Robbins did a series of promos for the MSG network advertising upcoming Rangers games. Tim and Susan are also huge Bruce Springsteen fans.

Activity 5: Quote for Discussion

Read the quote. What do you think the author was trying to say? Do you agree with Mr. Washington? Explain why you agree or disagree.

We're all destined to leave some kind of mark. I really believe that. But I also believe we miss our marks from time to time, and without a certain push in the right direction we might never find the path we were meant to follow.

Denzel Washington

Activity 6: Teen Health and Safety

Avoiding Anxiety

We asked our readers (ages 14-17) to tell us what worries them most about going back to school. More than 600 of them replied. A third of all those who took our survey said they worry most about schoolwork. No surprise there. Getting ready for a new year of schoolwork can definitely be challenging because you'll be learning more advanced things. So worrying about whether you'll do well enough in school is pretty common. If this is your biggest worry, at least it's nice to know you're not alone.

But not everyone said schoolwork was the thing that worried him or her most. Just as many readers said they worry most about social issues like fitting in, having friends, being judged, or being teased. And since social life is such a big part of school, it's not a shock that so many students say social issues are their biggest worry.

Besides schoolwork and social stuff, another category ranked high on the worry list: appearance. One-fourth of the people who responded to our survey said appearance issues worried them most of all. If this is you, you've got plenty of company, too.