

Bring the RISE Social Legacy Project to your school.

A Family History & Video Legacy enrichment program for upper-elementary students.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

We propose an 8–10 week rotating VAPA enrichment program that teaches upper-elementary students to research, interview, and document their family histories through professional-quality video storytelling. Grounded in California's VAPA Media Arts standards and the National Core Arts Standards, each student graduates with a polished, take-home video keepsake — a priceless family legacy artifact created entirely by the student. Two experienced facilitators deliver 1–1.5 hours of in-classroom instruction each week, plus behind-the-scenes review and quality assurance.

01 • ABOUT RISE SOCIAL

RISE Social is an educational initiative under RISE Reporting, a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to building social literacy, self-expression, and real-world media skills in young learners. Our programs bridge the gap between traditional classroom instruction and the multimedia-driven world students are growing up in. The Legacy Project builds on our beta pilot curriculum (risereporting.com/risesociallegacy): where the beta offers individual families a self-guided introduction, the school-based program delivers structured, classroom-scaled instruction with two trained facilitators, giving every student a guided, supported experience.

02 • PROGRAM VISION

Family stories are disappearing. With each generation, voices, memories, and histories are lost — not because they weren't worth keeping, but because no one captured them in time. The RISE Social Legacy Project gives students the skills, tools, and guidance to change that. Students act as investigative journalists and documentary filmmakers within their own families — conducting interviews, gathering archival materials, writing compelling narratives, and producing a finished film that tells the story of where they come from. The result is more than a school project. It is a keepsake families will treasure for decades.

03 • PROGRAM STRUCTURE AT A GLANCE

Duration	8–10 weeks per classroom rotation
In-class session	1–1.5 hours per week, per classroom (morning preferred)
Behind the scenes	~1 hour per session day for facilitator review & quality assurance
Format	Rotating through participating classrooms across the school year
Instructors	2 trained RISE Social facilitators (social media + multimedia production)
Final output	A personalized family history video keepsake for every student

The rotating model ensures whole-grade reach without disrupting core academic scheduling: each classroom completes the full course, then facilitators rotate to the next. Morning sessions let students engage creative and analytical work at peak attention and give facilitators structured time for review and progress check-ins the same day. The review hour is what turns a rough class project into a polished take-home keepsake.

04 • TECHNOLOGY & EQUIPMENT

Students use devices and free platforms already common in school settings: a personal or school-issued laptop, Canva for title cards and storyboarding, built-in cameras, voice recording apps, and free editing tools (iMovie, CapCut, ClipChamp, or equivalent). **No specialized software purchase is required from the school or families.** To model best practices in class, we ask the school or district to support basic program-level equipment where possible — portable tripods, a ring light or LED panel, USB microphones, an HDMI adapter, and portable storage for secure file transfer. We maximize free and open-source tools wherever possible and can provide cost estimates on request.

05 • WEEK-BY-WEEK CURRICULUM

1	Why Stories Matter	Introduction to family history and legacy; program orientation; students receive their investigator's kit.
2	The Art of the Interview	Interview skills, active listening, question framing, and guiding a conversation to surface meaningful memories.
3	Researching Your Roots	Guided investigation of family history; gathering photos, documents, and heirlooms; at-home research begins.
4	Storytelling & Script Writing	Turning research into narrative; drafting story outlines, interview scripts, and documentary structure.
5	Cameras & Visual Composition	Framing, natural light, horizontal shooting, cinematic basics; Canva for title cards and design.
6	Voice, Narration & Audio	Writing and recording narration; microphone technique and vocal presence.

7–8	Field Production	Students conduct family interviews at home with a production checklist; facilitators review submitted footage.
9	Editing & Post-Production	Selecting footage; adding narration, photos, titles, and music in a free editor.
10	Premiere & Celebration	Final keepsake review and delivery; class screening celebration with family invite option.

06 • THE TAKE-HOME KEEPSAKE

Every student who completes the program receives a finished, edited video documenting their family's unique history. Each keepsake may include a recorded interview with a parent, grandparent, or elder relative; archival family photos and documents woven into the visual narrative; student-written and student-recorded narration connecting generations; designed title cards and on-screen text; background music selected by the student; and a personal closing message from the student to their family. Families receive the finished video as a digital file they can save, share, and revisit for generations.

07 • OUR FACILITATION TEAM

The program is delivered by a two-person team, so students have both instructional depth and hands-on technical support in every session. The **Lead RISE Facilitator** — a curriculum specialist in social literacy education, youth storytelling, and program facilitation — leads lesson delivery, narrative coaching, and student mentorship. The **Multimedia & Social Media Trainer** — a professional with hands-on experience in content creation and video production — leads all technical instruction: camera, audio, lighting, editing, and final film delivery.

08 • VAPA ALIGNMENT & EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS

VAPA Media Arts — Creating	Students conceive, plan, and produce an original short documentary using digital tools, original footage, narration, and designed visuals.
VAPA Media Arts — Presenting	Students present a finished media product to an audience with purposeful story, aesthetic, and structure.
VAPA Media Arts — Responding	Students analyze and reflect on their own and peers' media works, building critical vocabulary.
VAPA Media Arts — Connecting	Students connect personal and family narratives to broader cultural, historical, and social contexts.
VAPA Visual Arts	Design principles, typography, and layouts that support each film's tone and message.

VAPA Theatre / Performance	On-camera narration, on-screen presence, and directing interview subjects.
ELA — Writing & Narrative	Interview scripts, narration drafts, and story outlines grounded in research and personal voice.
ELA — Speaking & Listening	Interview skills, active listening, narration, and peer feedback.
Social Studies	Family history, cultural heritage, immigration, and generational experience as primary-source historians.
Social-Emotional Learning	Empathy, identity, intergenerational connection, and pride through preserving the family's story.

The program is designed to complement and extend the work of your existing VAPA specialist; our facilitators coordinate with the specialist and classroom teachers to align with ongoing arts instruction and school-wide learning goals.

09 • WHAT WE ASK OF A PARTNER SCHOOL

- Principal and staff endorsement of the program as a VAPA enrichment offering
- 1–1.5 hours of dedicated classroom time per week (morning preferred) for each participating classroom during its rotation
- ~1 hour of non-classroom time per session day for facilitator review, feedback, and quality assurance
- Support toward the basic program equipment outlined in Section 04, where possible
- A designated quiet space for in-class recording demonstrations on select sessions
- Family communication support for program information, at-home assignments, and consent forms
- Coordination with the VAPA specialist to align with existing arts enrichment goals

10 • WHY NOW

The stories students can capture today — from aging grandparents, from parents at the peak of their memory, from relatives who may not be here in ten years — cannot be recovered once they are gone. This program asks students to act while there is still time. Your school has the opportunity to give its students something no standardized test can measure: the knowledge of where they come from, told in the voices of the people who lived it, preserved forever in a film they made themselves.

Ready to talk? We welcome the opportunity to meet, answer questions, and tailor the program to your school's schedule and community. Write to hello@risereporting.com or visit risereporting.com/risesociallegacy.