



THE SAUL ZAENTZ
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

We Invest in Opportunities for Educational Advancement

At the Saul Zaentz Charitable Foundation, we are deeply committed to creating standards of fairness and a level playing field for those living in poverty and adversity by supporting equal treatment through high quality early childhood learning and improving K-12 and college graduation rates.

What's at Stake

Important policy decisions are being made at all levels of government that directly affect how our communities support its youngest members. Investing in children and their families is important to us all. Here's why:

\$7.30 is the potential ROI value for every \$1 spent on high-quality early childhood education.

Source: The Learning Policy Institute (2019)

39TH is where the U.S. is ranked globally in terms of overall child health and well-being.

Source: The Lancet (2020)

90% of a child's brain development occurs before kindergarten entry at age five.

Source: The Hunt Institute (2021)

Ready to Help?

Join our network — visit our website and connect with us on social media.



fb.me/SaulZaentzCharitableFoundation



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saulzaentzfoundation.org



About Saul Zaentz

Saul Zaentz was a media entrepreneur in the music and film industry. He built the largest independent Jazz record label in the world, Fantasy Records and, through the *Saul Zaentz Company*, became a prominent independent film producer. His film projects earned 34 Oscar® nominations and 22 wins, including three Academy Awards for Best Picture®. His major works included *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *Amadeus*, *The English Patient* and *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*.

What distinguished Saul Zaentz in the entertainment industry was his bold action in selecting artists and projects and his willingness to take substantial risks in advancing his productions.



We Work With Pioneering Organizations

Our investments support organizations across the U.S. that are driving action to advance important issues.



In partnership with the Harvard Graduate School of Education, The Saul Zaentz Early Education Initiative promotes the knowledge, professional learning, and collective action necessary to cultivate optimal early learning environments and experiences. Its work relies on interlocking strategies for impact by conducting research to drive policy and practice, designing and spreading high-quality professional learning, and pioneering a fellows program to build a pipeline of new leaders.



The Saul Zaentz Innovation Fund in Film and Media was founded in 2016 to address under-represented communities in the film, television and XR industries. By providing funding for emerging regional voices and connecting Baltimore creatives to prestigious artists, veteran executives, and successful entrepreneurs in the entertainment industry, our aim is giving voice to those who have been excluded.



The Hunt Institute brings together people and resources to inspire and inform elected officials and policymakers about key issues in education, resulting in visionary leaders who are prepared to take strategic action for greater educational outcomes and student success. In 2016, The Hunt Institute became an independent, nonprofit entity and joined forces with Duke University's Sanford School of Public Policy to pursue research, educational partnerships, and events related to improving education policy.





Ignite a Conversation in Your Community About the Importance of Early Learning

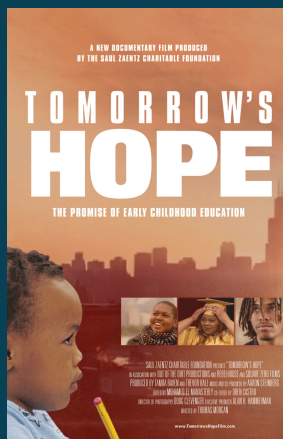
The Saul Zaentz Charitable Foundation-produced documentaries featured below are available for free community screenings. Visit saulzaentzfoundation.org to learn more about the films, or email hello@saulzaentzfoundation.org to receive information about hosting a screening.



Starting at Zero explores the power of investing in high-quality early childhood education so that all children and families have the opportunity to attain the American Dream. The film brings together the voices of policymakers, educators, academics, business leaders, pediatricians, parents, and children. It features five current and past governors who are champions of early childhood education: Governors Steve Bullock of Montana, Kay Ivey of Alabama, and Ralph Northam of Virginia, as well as former Governors Jim Hunt of North Carolina, and Phil Bryant of Mississippi.

“As an early childhood educator for over 25 years, I found this documentary to be more than inspiring.”

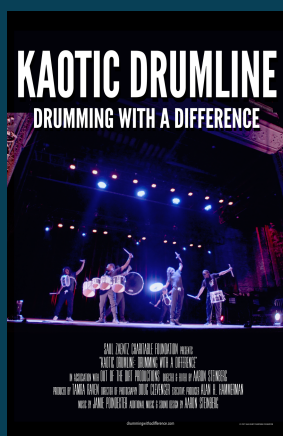
— Sandra Rojas, CINEMACY



Tomorrow's Hope brings us into the journey of passionate educators and tenacious kids and their families on the South Side of Chicago, determined to carve out the future despite a sea of incredible challenges. The film reunites three high school seniors who started out in the Educare preschool's first-ever class, exploring the continuing effects of early childhood education as they navigate their way through difficult circumstances. Exploring the contrast of promises kept against a pervasive backdrop of promises broken, *Tomorrow's Hope* celebrates the resilience of the human spirit.

“An enlightening film that really illustrates the power of childhood education and how it shapes a student for their entire life.”

— Chicago Crusader



On the South Side of Chicago, the Kaotic Drumline brings people together with creativity, energy and hope. The group was started by Chicago's Jamie Poindexter and has performed at President Obama's inauguration, can be heard at Chicago Bulls games, and has collaborated with musicians like Snoop Dogg and Chance the Rapper. *Kaotic Drumline: Drumming With A Difference* is a documentary short that explores these connections and looks at how drumline music brings people together with inspiration and vitality.

“In this film, you learn about drumming, but also about Chicago, and about why the drumline does the work it does.”

— Wildsound Film Podcast