

Isak Vaillancourt, MA

Ontario · 705-618-3544 · isakvaillancourt@gmail.com · [linkedin.com/in/isakvail](https://www.linkedin.com/in/isakvail) · isakvail.ca

EDUCATION

Toronto Metropolitan University, Master of Arts

Sept 2021 - Aug 2022

Formerly known as Ryerson University

Media Production, GPA: 4.17 (4.33 scale)

Research interests include: *advanced production, immersive technology, social justice movements, visual culture, critical race theory, and Indigenous research frameworks*

Laurentian University, Bachelor of Arts

Sept 2015 – Apr 2019

Communication Studies, Honours, Cum laude

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Independent Multimedia Artist

Nov 2016 - Current

Isak Vail, Sudbury & Toronto ON.

- Directed and produced an award-winning short documentary about racial inequality and social justice which six film festivals across North America have selected
- Led and facilitated community art projects (i.e zines & creative sharing spaces) for Black, Indigenous, and racialized youth living in Northern Ontario
- Collaborated with a community organization and sponsors to create a digital billboard and social media campaign that honoured cultural celebration and youth leadership in all sectors, which has reached over 45,000 people across Northern Ontario
- Technically proficient in camera equipment, lenses, lighting techniques, Adobe Creative Suite, and Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) video compliance

Project Lead

Feb 2022- May 2022

Toronto Metropolitan University, Toronto ON.

- Led the development and execution of a panel discussion, resource package, and community consultation survey about anti-racism practices within higher education
- Provided mentorship to a team of 4 dedicated undergraduate students on best practices for event management and principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion
- Monitored project timelines and budget to ensure the project was completed in a timely and cost-effective manner
- Project findings were shared at the 2022 Learning & Teaching Conference hosted by the Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching at Toronto Metropolitan University

Communications Coordinator

Feb 2021- Jun 2021

Atikameksheng Anishnawbek, Naughton, ON.

- Provided communications support for the Emergency Response team in relation to COVID-19 and Mental Health/Addictions crisis
- Designed a user-friendly web portal for band members which significantly improved web functionality resulting in a 14% increase in traffic
- Coordinated closely with Gimaa, Council, and political office to develop and strengthen community consultation sessions
- Developed two monthly multimedia newsletters which highlighted the First Nation to external audiences

LEADERSHIP & OUTREACH EXPERIENCE

Co-Founder & Director of Communications

June 2020 - Current

BLM Sudbury

- Co-led the creation of a “BIPOC LIVES MATTER” community arts ground mural, which garnered national attention.
- Oversaw \$30,000 in sponsorship revenue for an arts and culture festival and ensured that sponsorship agreements were honored in print, web, and social
- Led the creation of the Virtual Museum of Black History, an online interactive and educational space for Black History Month 2021
- Managed the technical team for a 2-day large-scale online conference using Zoom Webinar with over 1000 registrations
- Built and maintained relationships with over 30 community partners and organizations to promote collaboration and allyship

EXHIBITIONS & FILM SELECTIONS

Group exhibition, *Is this real life | Est-ce la vraie vie*, Art Gallery of Sudbury, Canada. Co-curated by Anik Glaude, Deanna Nebenionquit, and Aidan Ware, 2022

Finalist, Querney’s Audience Choice Award, *amplify*. Junction North International Documentary Film Festival, Sudbury, Ontario, Canada, 2022

Official Selection, *amplify*. Black Truth Film Festival, United States, 2022

Best Northern Ontario Film, Jury Award, *amplify*. Queer North Film Festival, Sudbury, Ontario Canada, 2021

Official Selection, *amplify*. Inside Out Toronto LGBT Film Festival, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, 2021

Group exhibition + Festival, *Into the Matrix: Unearthing Black Futures, Up Here 7: Urban Art and Music Festival*, Sudbury, Ontario, Canada, 2021

Group exhibition + Festival, *ETHEREAL, Up Here 6: Urban Art and Music Festival*, Sudbury, Ontario, Canada, 2020

Official Selection, *amplify*. Colorado International Activism Film Festival, Denver, Colorado, United States, 2020

GRANTS, AWARDS & RESIDENCIES

Rising Youth Community Service Grant

2022

TakingITGlobal, \$1500

OUTTv in Media Production

2022

Yeates School of Graduate

Toronto Metropolitan University, \$5000

Aditya Jha Graduate Award in Media Production

2022

Yeates School of Graduate
Toronto Metropolitan University, \$3676

Community Arts Mentorship Program
Myths and Mirrors
8 Month Residency

2021-2022

Black Graduate Student Scholarship
Yeates School of Graduate
Toronto Metropolitan University, \$5,000

2021

Ryerson Graduate Fellowship
Toronto Metropolitan University, \$3,500

2021