



‘Autimific’ Stories

Q & A with filmmaker Tifa Tong





Life in Me

Focus on Ability International Film Festival

FOCUS ON ABILITY
SHORT FILM FESTIVAL

Remember to vote for my film
August 8 - 14, 2023
International

NOVA.
EMPLOYMENT
2023
FOCUS ON ABILITY
SHORT FILM FESTIVAL
OVER \$100,000 IN PRIZES

Tifa Tong
Life in Me
International Documentary
New Zealand

Watch on www.FOCUSONABILITY.com.au

Life in Me

Title: Life in Me

Author: Tifa Tong

Category: International Documentary

Year: 2023

Location: New Zealand



Envisioning Diné Bikéyah
102 Years From Now
Navajo Family Voices
Intergenerational Conference



Art as Communication

- Artistic Expression is Communication
- Conveys the non-verbal world.
- Nurtures values of enjoyment and creativity.
- Safety and predictability of imaginative worlds and possibilities.



Art and Advocacy

1. Listening and learning from Autistic people

2. Embracing the wide spectrum of diversity

- Communicating on their own terms.

3. Agency and Control

- Teaches boundaries and consent.
- Empowerment to design their own lives, pursue their own aspirations and visions for the future.

4. Respect

- learning opportunity to critique responses of non-Autistic communities, challenging society, systems, and services.

Creating Opportunities for Artistic Expression

- **Respect** the passion of our children's artistic expressions.
- **Create opportunities** for art to be incorporated into all aspects of learning.
- Encouragement of art not as a 'reward' but as necessary component of **well-being**.
- Consider art as **a skill** and not only as an extra-curricular activity.
- Consent and privacy ask for **permission**.



Tools and Resources to Support Artists:

Access!

- Platforms and digital media (Procreate, iMovie, tablets)
- Share the hobby, support special interests!


Secure Opportunities

- Find art groups, studios, programs
- Film festivals, art competitions, shows

Therapeutic

- Art Therapy
- Music Therapy
- Dance Therapy





Ahèhee',
Thank you!

Sandra Yellowhorse, “Mother” and PhD

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