**VIVO (Video Out) + VISA 375 Micro-Cinema Curatorial Partnership***50 hrs over the Fall Semester*

**Organization Description**

VIVO Media Arts is a non-profit artist-run media arts centre that has been a steward of critical media arts production and history for over four decades. VIVO’s varied supports include providing access to equipment, studio and screening facilities, workshops, distribution services, and curated exhibitions, video library and special events. We also hold Western Canada’s largest reference library and archive of media and video art. For the proposed partnership, a student selected by Christine D’Onofrio from her VISA 375 class “The Artist in Society” will work with Casey Wei, the Video Out Distribution Manager at VIVO, to access and research in VIVO’s extensive media library and archive. The student will then program a series of screenings, once a month, to take place in VIVO’s very own micro-cinema space.

**Partnership Overview**

This pairing is VIVO’s fourth consecutive year participating in VISA 375. With graduation in sight, conversations between senior students and arts organizations outside of the university are integral to developing the student’s network beyond the institution. Involvement in the day-to-day environment of a non-profit arts organization provides invaluable insight into how artists and their art work move through the community and the larger public.

In past years, students from VISA 375 have partnered with the various departments of VIVO to facilitate programming and dissemination of media art and have been given ambitious tasks that has connected them to VIVO’s media library and archive, and as a result an integral part of Vancouver’s cultural history. This year’s student, Cassandra Bourchier, will develop curatorial experience to execute her vision in programming with VIVO’s extensive resources, and in turn, said resources will be made known to the emerging artists and cultural workers of tomorrow.

**Partnership Description**

Cassandra will conduct research at VIVO through the guidance of Video Out. Onsite versus offsite research will be determined on an on-going basis between Casey and Cassandra, as their schedules dictate. The partnership will begin with Cassandra getting oriented in the day-to-day operational flow of VIVO, touching base with the departments and staff, and learning the Video Out and library procedures. Once the structural knowledge is in place, Cassandra will be free to research her subjects of interest. As discussed, the first half of the semester will be spent more at VIVO, and the latter half will be more off-site working remotely, as Cassandra’s other commitments become more demanding. The partnership will culminate in the programming of two screenings over the course of the semester (dates TBD). Cassandra will gain experience in all aspects in the curatorial and programming process: research and conceptualization, facilitation with artists and VIVO, PR and advertising, etc.

Aside from her own programming, Cassandra will be immersing herself in VIVO itself, which means volunteering at screenings and special events as her schedule allows. Her goal for this partnership is not just project specific, but to fully take advantage of an opportunity to gain experience in what it can mean to be an “Artist in Society,” post graduation.