Vocation Resources: Movies

*All movie descriptions were taken or altered from the Internet Movie Database (IMDB) website and images came from Google images.

**Animated/Family**

**Big Hero 6**

*Big Hero 6* is an action-packed comedy-adventure about the special bond that develops between Baymax—a lovable, inflatable robot—and a young technological wiz, Hiro Hamada. When a devastating event befalls the city of San Fransokyo and catapults Hiro into the midst of danger, he turns to Baymax and his close friends to help him overcome. Determined to uncover the mystery behind the tragic event, Hiro transforms his friends into a band of high-tech heroes.

**Despicable Me**

Unbeknownst to the neighbors in a happy suburban neighborhood sits a vast secret hideout. Surrounded by a small army of minions, we discover Gru, Planning the biggest heist in the history of the world; stealing the moon. Then, one day, he encounters the immense will of three little orphaned girls who look at him and see something that no one else has ever seen: a potential Dad. The world’s greatest villain has just met his greatest challenge: raising three little girls.

**Up**

Carl remembers the promise he made to his late wife Ellie about going to a lost land in South America. Forced to go to a retirement home after inadvertently hitting a construction worker, he and his house fly away before they can take him. However, Carl has a stowaway aboard: an 8-year-old boy named Russell, who’s trying to get an “Assisting the Elderly” badge. Together, the two embark on an adventure where they encounter talking dogs, an evil villain, and a rare bird named, Kevin.

**Drama**

**Dead Poet’s Society**

Painfully shy Todd Anderson has been sent to the school where his popular older brother was valedictorian. His roommate, Neil, although exceedingly bright and popular, is very much under the thumb of his overbearing father. The two, along with their other friends, meet Professor Keating, a new English teacher who encourages them to go against the status quo. Each does this in their own way and is changed for the better.

**Field of Dreams**

Iowa farmer, Ray Kinsella, hears a voice in his corn field tell him, “If you build it, he will come.” Ray interprets this message as an instruction to build a baseball field on his farm, upon which appear the ghosts of Shoeless Joe Jackson and the other seven Chicago White Sox players banned from the game for throwing the 1919 World Series. When the voices continue, Ray seeks out a reclusive author to help him understand the meaning of the messages and the purpose for his field.
Freedom Writers

Idealistic Erin Gruwell is just starting her first teaching job as an English teacher at Woodrow Wilson High School. For many of the existing teachers, the voluntary integration program implemented two years earlier has ruined the school. The students are unmotivated, participate in gangs, and struggle with life at home. It isn’t until Erin provides an assignment of writing a daily journal that the students begin to open up to her, creating an opportunity for them to learn, grow, and graduate as successful students.

Good Will Hunting

A touching tale about a janitor at MIT has a gift for math and chemistry. This gift can take him light-years beyond his blue-collar roots, but he doesn’t realize his full potential. Then several strangers enter the equation: a brilliant math professor who discovers—even envies—Will’s gifts, an empathetic shrink who identifies with Will's blue-collar roots, and a beautiful, gifted pre-med student. These three help him discover that which lies within him.

Mr. Holland’s Opus

Glenn Holland is a musician and composer who takes a teaching job to pay the rent while in his ‘spare time’ he can strive to achieve his true goal—compose one memorable piece of music to leave his mark on the world. As Holland discovers 'Life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans', and as the years unfold, the joy of sharing his contagious passion for music with his students becomes his new definition of success.

Patch Adams

Robin Williams stars as Hunter Adams, a troubled young man who commits himself to a mental institution in the late 1960s. Adams’ experiences at the institution encourage him to become a doctor. Patch enrolls in medical school, where he finds cold, clinical professionalism that alienates patients from their caregivers. Determined to make a change, Adams clowns around for his patients, getting to know them personally in an effort to make them feel better physically, emotionally, mentally, and spiritually.

Phenomenon

Small-town auto mechanic, George Malley, is a well-liked, but simple man. His life is forever altered when late one night he steps outside and a brilliant flash of light endows him with exceptional brain power, increasing his capacity for and retention of knowledge, as well as gifting him with psychokinetic abilities. These gifts ultimately show him the true meaning of life.

Say Anything

High school senior Lloyd Dobler wants nothing more than to go out with beautiful and intelligent Diane Court. Lloyd attempts to win her heart over the objections of her over-protective father before Diane leaves on scholarship to study abroad in England.
Soul Surfer

13 year-old Bethany Hamilton is a champion surfer who was born to be in the water, but after a fun night out and what should be a fun day in the water surfing, she is attacked by a shark and loses her arm. Rushed to the hospital, she remains calm, and maintains her faith in God. Now she has to re-learn how to do everything with only one arm – including how to surf. It will take her friends, family, and her faith to get her back in the water.

Stand and Deliver

Jaime Escalante is a mathematics teacher at a Hispanic neighborhood school. Convinced that his students have potential, he adopts unconventional teaching methods to help gang members and no hopers pass the rigorous Advanced Placement exam in calculus.

The Legend of Bagger Vance

Promising golfer Rannulph Junuh (Matt Damon) is Savannah, Georgia's favorite son. Adele Invergordon (Charlize Theron) is his beautiful girlfriend from a rich family. While serving as a captain in the US Army during World War I, Junuh is traumatized when his entire company is wiped out in battle. Though he earns the Medal of Honor, he returns to Georgia and lives a shadowy life as a drunk; golf being just a distant memory.

Fantasy

Harry Potter and Sorcerer’s Stone (Movie 1)

Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone is the first film in the Harry Potter series based on the novels by J.K. Rowling. It is the tale of Harry Potter, an ordinary 11-year-old boy who learns that he is actually a wizard and has been invited to attend Hogwarts School for Witchcraft and Wizardry. Harry is snatched away from his mundane existence by Hagrid, the groundskeeper for Hogwarts, and is quickly thrown into a world that is completely foreign to him.

Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets (Movie 2)

Forced to spend his summer holidays with his muggle relatives, Harry Potter gets a real shock when he gets a surprise visitor: Dobby the house-elf, who warns Harry Potter against returning to Hogwarts because terrible things are going to happen. Harry decides to ignore Dobby's warning. Upon his return to Hogwarts, Harry is suddenly hearing mysterious voices from inside the walls, muggle-born students are being attacked, and a message scrawled on the wall in blood puts everyone on guard.

Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban (Movie 3)

Approaching his third year at Hogwarts, Harry Potter has had enough of his muggle relatives. He runs away from them and enters his third term facing trouble from more than one side: using magic outside of the school and news that notorious criminal, serial killer Sirius Black, has escaped the wizard's prison, Azkaban and is apparently headed for Harry. The school calls in supernatural help against Black in the form of Dementors, but unusual things continue to put Harry in peril.
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (Movie 4)

Harry's fourth year at Hogwarts starts at The Quidditch World Cup Final. After the match is over, people dressed like Lord Voldemort's 'Death Eaters' set a fire to all of the visitors' tents and Voldemort's symbol appears in the sky causing a frenzy across the magical community. Returning to Hogwarts, the school is hosting 'The Tri-wizard Tournament', a magical tournament between three well-known schools of magic. Harry is unwittingly selected as the Fourth Champion to participate.

Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (Movie 5)

After a lonely summer on Privet Drive, Harry returns to a Hogwarts full of ill-fortune. Few of students and parents believe him or Dumbledore that Lord Voldemort is really back. The ministry had decided to step in by appointing a new Defense Against the Dark Arts teacher that proves to be the nastiest person Harry has ever encountered. To top it off, Harry's dreams are frequent, startling, and unexplainable. With these many things Harry begins one of his toughest years.

Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (Movie 6)

In the sixth year at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft, and in both wizard and muggle worlds, Lord Voldemort and his henchmen are increasingly active. With vacancies to fill at Hogwarts, Professor Dumbledore persuades Horace Slughorn back from retirement to become the potions teacher, while Professor Snape receives long awaited news. Harry Potter, together with Dumbledore, must face treacherous tasks to defeat his evil nemesis.

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (Movie 7)

Voldemort's power is growing stronger. He now has control over the Ministry of Magic and Hogwarts. Harry, Ron, and Hermione decide to finish Dumbledore's work and find the rest of the Horcruxes to defeat the Dark Lord. Little hope remains for the Trio and the rest of the Wizarding World, so everything they do must go as planned.

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2 (Movie 8)

The final chapter begins as Harry, Ron, and Hermione continue their quest of finding and destroying the Dark Lord's three remaining Horcruxes, the magical items responsible for his immortality. But as the mystical Deathly Hallows are uncovered, and Voldemort finds out about their mission, the biggest battle begins and life as they know it will never be the same again.

Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring

An ancient Ring thought lost for centuries has been found, and through a strange twist in fate has been given to a small Hobbit named Frodo. When Gandalf discovers the Ring is in fact the One Ring of the Dark Lord Sauron, Frodo must embark on an epic quest to return the Ring to the fires of Mount Doom. Frodo is joined by several others as they trudge through snow, mountains, darkness, forests, rivers, and plains, facing evil and danger around every corner to ensure the Ring is destroyed.
Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers

After the fellowship has broken, Merry and Pippin, taken by orcs, make new allies in the Ents, while Legolas, Gimli, and Aragorn make allies with the people of Rohan. All of them must launch an assault on Isengard. Meanwhile, Frodo and Sam force Gollum to guide them through Mordor, trusting him with their lives. The Two Towers continues the epic Lord of the Rings trilogy through this second film in the series.

Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King

The Fellowship of the Ring divides even further to conquer as Frodo, Sam, and Gollum continue their way to Mount Doom. Gandalf and Pippin ride to Minas Tirith to help defend Gandor while Merry remains with Eowyn and the other Rohan fighters. Aragorn, Legolas, and Gimli seek aid from those that live in the Cursed Mountains. All these battles have one goal in mind: distract the Eye of Sauron and buy Frodo a little more time to destroy the ring.

Science Fiction

Man of Steel

A young boy learns that he has extraordinary powers and is not of this Earth. As a young man, he journeys to discover where he came from and what he was sent here to do. However, the hero in him must emerge if the world is to be saved from total annihilation. Clark Kent, also known as Superman, must become the symbol of hope for all mankind.

Star Wars – Episode I: The Phantom Menace

Two Jedis find themselves on the planet Tatooine, where they become friends with a young boy named, Anakin Skywalker. Qui-Gon—one of the jedis—is curious about the boy, and sees a bright future for him. The group must now find a way of getting to Coruscant to solve a trade dispute, but there is someone else hiding in the shadows. Are the Sith really extinct? Is the Queen really who she says she is? And what's so special about this young boy?

Star Wars – Episode II: Attack of the Clones

Ten years after the 'Phantom Menace' threatened the planet Naboo, Padmé Amidala is now a Senator representing her homeworld. A faction of separatists attempt to assassinate her. There are not enough Jedi to defend the Republic against the threat, so Jango Fett’s army of clones is enlisted to handle the situation. Meanwhile, Obi-Wan Kenobi continues to train the young Jedi Anakin Skywalker who fears that the Jedi code will forbid his growing romance with Amidala.

Star Wars – Episode III: Revenge of the Sith

Three years after the onset of the Clone Wars; the noble Jedi Knights are spread out across the galaxy leading a massive clone army in the war against the Separatists. Meanwhile, Anakin's friendship with the Chancellor arouses suspicion in the Jedi Order. When the sinister Sith Lord, Darth Sidious reveals himself and unveils a plot to take over the galaxy, the fate of Anakin, the Jedi order, and the entire galaxy is at stake.
Star Wars – Episode IV: A New Hope

Part IV in George Lucas' epic, Star Wars: A New Hope follows the life of a simple farm boy, Luke Skywalker, as he and his newly met allies (Han Solo, Chewbacca, Obi-Wan Kenobi, C-3PO, R2-D2) attempt to rescue a Rebel leader, Princess Leia, from the clutches of the Empire. The conclusion is culminated as the Rebels, including Skywalker and flying ace Wedge Antilles make an attack on the Empire's most powerful and ominous weapon, the Death Star.

Star Wars – Episode V: The Empire Strikes Back

Fleeing the evil Galactic Empire, the Rebels abandon their new base in an assault with the Imperial AT-AT walkers on the ice world of Hoth. Princess Leia, Han Solo, Chewbacca and the droid C-3PO escape in the Millennium Falcon, but are later captured by Darth Vader on Bespin. Meanwhile, Luke Skywalker and the droid R2-D2 follows Obi-Wan Kenobi's posthumous command and receives Jedi training from Master Yoda on the swamp world of Dagobah.

Star Wars – Episode VI: Return of the Jedi

Darth Vader and the Empire are building a new, indestructible Death Star. Meanwhile, Han Solo has been imprisoned, and Luke Skywalker has sent R2-D2 and C-3PO to try and free him. Princess Leia—disguised as a bounty hunter—and Chewbacca go along as well. The final battle takes place on the moon of Endor, with its natural inhabitants, the Ewoks, lending a hand to the Rebels.

Sports

Invictus

This film tells the inspiring true story of how Nelson Mandela joined forces with the captain of South Africa’s rugby team to help unite their country. Newly elected President Mandela knows his nation remains racially and economically divided. Believing he can bring his people together through the universal language of sport, Mandela rallies South Africa’s rugby team as they make their historic run to the 1995 Rugby World Cup Championship match.

Remember the Titans

One Black and one White high school are closed in suburban Virginia and the students are federally forced to integrate into T.C. Williams High School. The year is seen through the eyes of the football team where the man hired to coach the Black school is made head coach over the highly successful White coach. Based on the actual events of 1971, the team becomes the unifying symbol for the community as the boys and the adults learn to depend on and trust each other.

Rocky Balboa

When he loses a highly publicized virtual boxing match to ex-champ Rocky Balboa, reigning heavyweight titleholder Mason Dixon retaliates by challenging the “Italian Stallion” to a nationally televised, 10-round exhibition bout. To the surprise of his son and friends, Rocky agrees to come out of retirement and face an opponent who’s faster, stronger and thirty years his junior. With the odds stacked firmly against him, Rocky takes on Dixon in what will become one of the greatest fights in boxing history.
The Blind Side

*The Blind Side* depicts the story of Michael Oher—a homeless African-American youngster from a broken home—taken in by the Touhys—a well-to-do white family—who helps him fulfill his potential. Living in his new environment, the teen faces a completely different set of challenges. As a football player and student, Oher works hard and becomes an All-American offensive left tackle. At the same time, Oher’s presence in the Touhys’ lives leads them to some insightful self-discoveries of their own.

The Express

This film focuses on the relationship of Ernie Davis, a gifted African-American athlete, and his football coach at Syracuse, Ben Schwartzwalder. As the civil rights movement is gaining steam, Davis experiences prejudice on campus, in town, and on the field. He handles the situation with a great deal of character and challenges his coach to stand up for his players which in turn leads to a national championship and a Heisman Trophy honor.