

Aekem Singh

Student Leader | Aspiring Filmmaker

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 aekem.me

Profile

I'm a high school student and documentary filmmaker passionate about telling real stories that explore identity, culture, and human rights. I hope to keep creating films that build empathy and understanding while studying media and South Asian studies to deepen my storytelling and help bridge communities.

Education

08/2022 – Present

Worcester, MA

High School

Worcester Academy

Extracurriculars

- 08/2024 – Present

Founder and Leader

Worcester Academy Filmmaking Club

- Created promotional videos for school events
  - Equipped over 30 students with filmmaking skills
- 08/2024 – Present

Leader of South Asian Affinity Group

Worcester Academy Student Diversity Committee

- Planned potlucks, announcements, and cultural events
  - Collaborated with other student groups.
- 05/2024 – Present

Head Monitor (School President Equivalent)

Worcester Academy Board of Monitors

- Elected by students/faculty to the highest form of school leadership.
  - Served as student-faculty liaison, led meetings, organized events, and revised policies.
- 11/2023 – Present

Captain and Forward of the Varsity 2 Basketball Team

Worcester Academy Athletics

- 15-7 record & two tournament wins in 11th Grade
  - Led, trained, & motivated teammates through every play.
- 08/2022 – 12/2023

2 Years of Varsity Football

Worcester Academy Athletics

Professional Experience

- 08/2025 – Present

The Dignity Project Fellowship (Hebrew College)


Fellow at Interfaith Program

- Trained in dialogue skills to foster interfaith understanding & stand up to bigotry
  - Hosted temple visits and taught core principles of Sikhism.
- 2022 – Present


Harvard Sikh Center

Education Fellow

- Collaborated to develop visual content for Harvard edX course, *Sikhism Through Its Scriptures*, which has 53,500 enrollments from 180 countries.

2022 – Present	<b>Sikh Coalition</b> Civil Rights Fellow <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developed curricula with researchers; Shared across 21 states; Presented work to 5,000 educators @ National Council for the Social Studies conference.</li> </ul>
2022 – 2024	<b>Almast Media</b> Stage Manager & Production Assistant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Managed backstage operations &amp; coordinated props &amp; cues</li> <li>Recorded &amp; edited each performance for distribution &amp; archival purposes.</li> </ul>
2021 – Present Westborough Gurdwara Sahib	<b>New England Sikh Study Circle Khalsa School</b> Religious Mentor and Youth Board Member <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mentored students across three subjects: Kirtan (religious hymns), Gurmukhi (Punjabi Script), and Sikh History</li> <li>Served as a bridge between the youth community and the gurdwara's leadership</li> </ul>
06/2016 – Present	<b>Nishkam Media: A Non-Profit Empowering Sikh Youth Through Filmmaking &amp; Visual Storytelling</b>  Workshop Mentor, Associate Director, Editor, & Cinematographer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mentored &amp; trained over 250 students around the US and Canada in the art of Filmmaking/Visual Storytelling</li> <li>Worked on 3 award-winning documentaries, 15+ short films, and a televised Sikh Debate Show</li> </ul>

## Projects

09/2024 – 05/2025	<b>Fifty Years Forward: Celebrating 50 Years of Coeducation at Worcester Academy</b> Director & Editor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Documentary on 50 years of co-education at Worcester Academy, highlighting the historical context of the 70s and the transition of WA from a boys-only school to co-education</li> <li>Interviewed 20+ Worcester Academy female alumni</li> <li>Presented to 500+ students, teachers, &amp; alumni</li> </ul>
10/2022 – Present	<b>Baywatana: "Without a Country"</b> Associate Director/Researcher, Editor & Cinematographer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tells the stories of the religious persecution of Sikhs and Hindus in Afghanistan, and their journey as they seek refuge in new countries.</li> <li>Led a student team and traveled to New York, Vancouver, the UK, and India to interview 40+ individuals</li> <li>Premiered at the Parliament of the World's Religions</li> <li>40+ international screenings, including one at Harvard University</li> </ul>
07/2021 – 12/2023	<b>SEVA: Selfless, Empathetic, Virtuous, Altruistic</b> Research/Script & Cinematographer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This documentary focuses on the COVID relief efforts executed by Sikhs worldwide.</li> <li>Acquired by PBS for national broadcast</li> </ul>
01/2021 – 01/2022	<b>Declaration of a Revolution</b>  Associate Director/Interviewer & Cinematographer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explores the parallels between the 2020 farmers' protest in India and the United States Farm Crisis in the 1980s.</li> <li>21 international film festival selections; won 8 awards</li> </ul>