

Lights, camera, action! High school students debut *Pure Malice*

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For Archbishop MacDonald student Ann Pirvu, *Pure Malice* has been three years of pure work.

The 18-year-old has been toiling on the movie she wrote, directed and acted in since she was in Grade 10. What started out as part of a club activity with half a dozen friends, has culminated with the flick's debut during her graduation year.

The first two years were filmed with camcorders and the project was made more difficult with some less than committed cast members.

"At the beginning of this year, we had

a \$10,000 budget from the school and it went pretty quickly once we got the camera and the sound system that we had. They even provided us with a computer at the school. They were very supportive ... but we had to fight for it," she laughs.

Pirvu says teacher Greg Thompson has been a ray of hope for the cast.

"Through him we were able to do this. He got us the camera, he got us the money, he got us pretty much everything to succeed," she says.

With the new equipment came a new vision of filming the entire movie this year with a committed cast of six main actors and about 15 supporting cast members.

"We shot for four months straight from Sept. 1 until Christmas break. I used my entire spring break just to edit the movie," she says.

No small feat given she had 36 hours of footage which has been whittled down to under two hours to tell the tale of a group of students who kill a teacher.

"The focus of the movie is on the psychological repercussions of doing something wrong and running away from the responsibility of this big burden. It becomes very complex in terms of how the students deal with what they did," says Pirvu.

Pirvu plans to enter the movie into a number of teen movie festivals

throughout Canada and the United States.

"I really want to be an actress. I really just wanted to be part of a movie and ended up taking all the leadership roles that I did because no one else wanted to. You learn so much. I think that was the biggest thing I learned - dealing with people," she says.

Pure Malice runs at the Royal Alberta Museum June 1 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5. The film runs June 2 and 3 at Archbishop MacDonald beginning at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$2.

For information on the movie and the cast and crew check out www.youngcuts.com.

Students to premiere film

A feature film by Edmonton high school students will premiere Wednesday at the Royal Alberta Museum.

Pure Malice is billed as a complex drama focusing on "the psychological repercussions of making an impulsive mistake."

The project was started three years ago by a six-member film club at Archbishop MacDonald high. It has followed the students through their high school years.

Pure Malice will be entered in five movie festivals in Canada and the U.S. this summer. After Wednesday's premiere, it will be shown at Archbishop MacDonald on Thursday and Friday.