

The Reaction from Educators To NEW YEAR BABY

“A touching, personal journey highlighted by gripping first-person accounts... Poeyv sheds light on the past of an entire nation that is dealing with the aftermath of genocide. **Near Year Baby is a powerful story that will speak to educators and students alike.**”

-Karen Jungblut
Director, Research and Documentation
Shoah Foundation Institute
University of Southern California



"One of the best films that I've seen in years! **This is an excellent resource for educators across the country**"

-Scott Sherman, Ph.D.
Visiting Lecturer on Social Change
Princeton University & Yale University
Winner: UC Berkeley Outstanding Teaching Award



“New Year Baby shines a powerful compassionate light on a dark period in history few of us know enough about and **nothing will move you like the resilience and extraordinary courage that this documentary reveals.**”

-Junot Díaz
Nancy Allen Professor
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Visiting Fellow, Harvard University
Pulitzer Prize Winner



“New Year Baby is a **powerful evocation** of family and refugee history – a thoroughly American theme.”

-Franklin Odo, Ph.D.
The Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D.C.



“New Year Baby raises fundamental questions about family, diaspora experience, and the legacy of genocide. **I plan to use it in my classes on genocide.**”

-Alex Hinton
Director, Center for the Study of Genocide and Human Rights
Author, Why Did They Kill? Cambodia in the Shadow of Genocide
Rutgers University



“New Year Baby was an **excellent, captivating, accessible, personal means** through which to learn about the little known, seldom taught Cambodian genocide.”

-Aya S. Murata
Dean
Pine Knoll Cluster
Andover Phillips Academy



"I invited Socheata to present this to my Leadership class at Yale; there are parts of **this movie that will make you say "Wow."**

-Daylian Cain, PhD.,
Assistant Professor
Yale School of Management



"New Year Baby is an **invaluable documentary to teach students** about the tragic, and enduring consequences of the Khmer Rouge on 'ordinary' victims. Students are able to **connect immediately** with the contemporary consequences of the genocide."

-Laurel Fletcher
Professor of Law
Director, International Human Rights Law Clinic
University of California Berkeley



"I truly feel New Year Baby is the best documentary I've ever seen."

-Ann M. Mallett
Vietnamese American Heritage Archivist
The Vietnam Archive
Texas Tech University

“This is an **amazing and powerful film** that should be screened in **schools across the U.S.** Socheata’s work is beautiful and empowering.”

-Molly Moran
Outreach Director
Yale Council on Middle East Studies

“**Excellent documentary!** There are so many levels to the film—will make for great discussion in the classroom as well as group projects. **Well done!** And thank you for sharing this with us.”

-Christine Laemnan
High School Teacher
Milwaukee, WI

“This film is important because it **encourages more interaction between generations** and it is part of the new medium for recorded history.”

-Brian Marsh
Provision’s Academy

“*New Year Baby* **bears witness to the vitality of the human spirit** and is unique in its use of snatches of levity in a film about such a horrendous period of history. **In a gentle way it deeply penetrates the heart.**”

-Barbara D’Ambruoso
Lauralton Hall

“This movie would be a very unique tool in the classroom to spread awareness about genocide. **High School students and people of all ages should be exposed!**”

-D. Fields
Sullivan West Central School District
New York

“*New Year Baby* reinforces the notion that the **truth**—about a nation’s history and an individual’s history—is the key to peace. *Those who have **truth** to tell should speak.* The rest of us should listen, and **believe. Thank you.**”

-Carol Sutton
Greenwich High School
Connecticut

“**This film is very appropriate for students in middle school through the high school and college levels.** As with any first-hand documentation, there is a **power** of personalizing the story—no matter how sad or horrific. The up-lifting and humorous side of the film will touch students who will also be moved by the heavier segments. Congratulations!”

-Stephanie Spaulding
Hamden Hall Country Day School

“**Great film! I would happily use this in my classroom in a unit on genocide.** I’m writing a curriculum (with five other educators) on genocide throughout the world; I will definitely include this film as a recommendation to be used.”

-Yvette Jordan
Teacher

“This is a great eye-opener about this issue! This is a **great teaching tool**. Let no one deter you from your goal. Your journey is well worth the effort!”

-Polly Ash
Sullivan West High School
New York

“You presented a true life story that is universal. **Children would benefit from your life/family experience because of the existing conditions that exist in our world.** Thank you for sharing such a valuable information.”

-Horatio Ballesteao
Staples High School
Westport, CT

“**Wonderful film.** I have traveled to Cambodia to work with Cambodian teachers and I teach the genocide to all my 10th graders.”

-Michael Bass
Poly Prep CDS

“This film will be an **important resource** in area studies and genocide studies. Issues of the quest for roots and to understand the story of the Cambodian genocide under Khmer Rouge are unmistakable.”

-David T. Ngong
Baylor University
Waco, TX

“The film is **extremely moving**. It shows incredible courage to uncover your family’s story. Opening the doors of the past will create possibilities for the future.”

-Marion Haymann
*King Low Heywood Thomas School
Stamford, CT*

“Thank you! It’s always been difficult for me to teach this subject and ***New Year Baby* will make it more accessible for my students.** Stories like yours remind me of a time when I had a chance to do something important.”

-Joe Wright
*Fairfield Ludlowe High School
Fairfield, CT*

“***Exceptionally educational*** about the Khmer Rouge genocide. Students can learn a history that is often overlooked. Thank you.”

-Arlene Schwartz
World Language Teacher

“This was a very **compelling personal story** that opens up a truly painful and horrible period in our past century... a great resource for a human rights course and a course on modern history.”

-Bill Warner-Prouty
*Windsor Public Schools
Windsor, CT*

“I think this film can be used in **middle school, secondary school, and college** to introduce a topic not often covered. It is also a great tool to use to work with older adults who may not have the writing skills to leave a family history in written form.”

-Christine Gotowka
Tunxis Community College
Farmington, CT

“In our school, we spend a great deal of time discussing character. **I would use this film to discuss aspects of character** (integrity, courage, curiosity, humility, truth) with my students.”

-Brian Kelahan
Hyde Leadership School
New Haven, CT

“The documentary **was very insightful**. It shed a lot of light in an episode of human history that should never be repeated. **It definitely helps people understand how emotionally damaging the Cambodian Genocide was for those who survived**. It was a human way to tell a very tragic story.”

-Ricardo Perez-Almanzar
Warren Harding High School

“Thank you for sharing this experience with us—the film was a moving experience personally and one **that my students need to understand** and celebrate. The history of the Cambodian genocide need to be told to students—students may relate your relationship with your mom and dad with their family.”

-Roberta Goldmoa

“*New Year Baby* succeeded in making a very real to me—an event (Cambodian genocide) that I previously felt very removed from—it educated me as to the cruel realities of that period of time and the effect it had on families. **It put a very human face to an otherwise overwhelming horrific time period.**”

-Dana Gilland
Staples High School
Westport, CT

“The animation was powerful, perhaps more so than actual film footage may have been. **The film richly explains a relatively unknown period that’s suitable for a general audience.** The humor helps to tell that story. I think there’s a lot that mirrors some aspects of certainly other non-Khmer Asian families, and also of any ethnic group’s families. I’m going to tell a Khmer friend about the film and the memory project. Thank you for an exceptional experience!!”

-Ellen Jaramillo
Yale University Library