The Institute for Policy and Governance; the Learning Technology Center; Innovation Space; and Institute for Creativity, Arts and Technology partnered to bring Thenmozhi Soundarajan, transmedia artist, theorist, and musician to Virginia Tech for a month-long residency on digital storytelling. Soundarajan conducted a series of workshops for students, faculty, and community members. Student and instructor engagement and hands-on learning opportunities are critical to every discipline offered at Virginia Tech. The digital storytelling tool offers promise for instruction, evaluation, and reflection for students, faculty, and staff. A digital story is a short, three to five minute video that is pieced together from found material (i.e. video, photographs, letters, news clippings, etc.). The community digital storytelling effort highlights local voice and sharing through an individual’s lenses (perspective and actual camera and video lenses). Understanding the value of this tool and determining the skills necessary to implement it effectively in and outside the classroom could help add value to the technological supports on campus and through outreach programs. Soundarajan presented excerpts from her work in digital storytelling in the New River Valley, as well as examples of this work from her 10 years in the field of training and digital story production.

Participants: Thenmozhi Soundarajan, The Institute for Policy and Governance, the Learning Technology Center, Institute for Creativity, Arts and Technology

Type: Workshop