

Instagram now offers live streaming option

Students share their favorite moments with the help of Instagram Live

by Katie Kim

Instagram, one of the most popular social media platforms, updated the app and launched a live streaming option.

With this launch, users are able to share what they are doing, when they are doing it and where.

Differing from other apps that offer live stream, after the Instagram Live has ended, the whole video disappears and is unable to be retraced back to the user.

This update gives users the ability to “live the moment” with their audience.

Solely judging from what I witness on my feed, the peers

‘I feel like this live launch helps me show my personality in a more genuine way.’

that I am connected with through Instagram have never done a live stream alone.

“It’s more of a social thing”

Junior Carson Koy said, “not an ‘alone time’ thing. People, myself included, would only go live if they have friends do it with them. I go on it because it’s cool to see who actually starts watching your stream. It could be someone you’ve never talked to but still follow on Instagram. It creates friendship.”

“It’s also cool to know that you’re sharing with an audience that you may not know,” Koy said.

“You may not be able to tell what a person is really like until you hear the way they talk and their emotions and their body language. I feel like this live launch helps me show my personality in a more genuine way.”

Other students choose not to make their own videos, and instead watch others.

“I don’t Instagram Live often. I watch a lot of my friends’ though. I think it’s a really cool concept, even though there was already similar ones like Periscope and Facebook Live but on Instagram, it’s gone forever, kind of like a Snapchat,” Senior Yeji An explained.

“I think Instagram live is really funny because it’s kind of like video chatting. I don’t do it alone though, I would only do it with friends because it wouldn’t be as awkward as it would be if I was going solo,” Junior Stella Garland said.

What I know so far, from attending New Trier, is that I’ve only



Instagram Live helps social media users connect with friends over a live video chat feature in the app | Google Images

met one or two people that do not own an Instagram account.

However, not everyone that has one willingly chooses to put themselves in the hands of their followers whom they may or may not know.

For the ones who are happy to share their experiences, they’re able to because of this new launch in a popular environment.

“I did it once and it was kind of weird to know that these names that pop up on my screen are now

watching whatever I decide to show on camera. When more people started joining in, it was lit,” Sophomore Haseeb Husa said.

Additionally, Instagram Live simply is not as risky as other social media applications that offer a similar live feature.

Instagram is the only application that offers a live streaming option that disappears as soon as they are ended by the user.

It’s safe in case something was said or done on camera that wasn’t

meant to be shown.

It is made clear that Instagram Live is a way for us, the social media obsessed generation, to share our experiences, personality, and to make new friends.

Some think that it’s a step forward in the interactive world and some choose to keep their lives personal.

Newest King Kong film revolutionizes the franchise

New King Kong film redefines the decades long franchise

by Danny Kogan

The release of the most recent remake of King Kong has modernized the classic franchise.

Kong Skull Island manages to stay true to the classic King Kong films, while simultaneously reinventing the somewhat dated film.

The new adaptation portrays the story of a massive ape fighting for his own survival, as well as protecting Skull Island’s ecosystem by scaring off the Big Skullcrawler, a prehistoric animal that destroys everything in its way.

The director, Jordan Vogt-Roberts, re-imagined and brought to life this new version of Kong.

Unlike previous remakes, Skull Island is set in the year 1973, taking spectators in 2017 back to a somewhat forgotten time.

The Vietnam War had recently ended, and two paranoid scientists Bill Randa (John Goodman), and Houston Brooks (Corey Hawkins), figure out a way to make a military escorted expedition to map the exotic island.

They bring along a fugitive guard (James Conrad) and an intelligent photojournalist Mason Weaver (Brie Larson) to help them take on the mysterious land where they are now trapped.

When the group lands on “Skull Island,” the visitors are met by the island native; a massive, terrifying ape named Kong.

Choppers charge Kong, but the beast manages to push them away and watches triumphantly as they burn at his feet.

This angers American Colonel Preston Packard (Samuel L. Jackson), and as a result, Packard becomes set on seeking

revenge for the death of his men.

This vengeful act by the Colonel contradicts the rest of the citizens, who desperately want to get off the island.

Vogt-Roberts produced the films with an experienced eye that manages to capture both the pre-historic and modern motifs in the film.

The movie is still a traditional King Kong movie, but it isn’t a redundant remake of the story that most people have heard.

It differs from other versions in that it’s an action film that’s able to amplify the original intent of the film with modern technology and special effects.

Vogt-Roberts left out the building-crumbling effects that are present in many of the remakes, and chose to focus on characters development.

He also focused on making the movie look real rather than merely action packed.

The movie was shot live on location in Vietnam.

Rather than use a green screen, Vogt-Roberts made the decision to invest in the location to give the film a more realistic feel.

Interestingly, this Kong was the first film to have the main female character be viewed as powerful instead of helpless.

Mason ends up in Kong’s palm, but the bizarre romance that we’ve seen in past Kongs is gone.

This change in story line is no accident. It proves that Hollywood, one of the biggest influencers in society, is taking baby steps to aid in the fight for gender equality.

Though a small detail, this is also the first King Kong film to feature a brunette as the female lead rather than a blonde.

Perhaps the franchise is opening up to a new idea of beauty that it hasn’t before.

These advancements for women illustrate how Hollywood is closely connected to political



The new King Kong film has hit theaters and takes a modern twist on a remake of the classic movie | Tencent Pictures

and social issues, and it shows just how different this Kong film is from its predecessors.

The equality of women in the film is far from perfect, but at least it’s a step in the right direction.

Each generation has made a spin off of the King Kong franchise, continuing to ingrain the King Kong films into American culture.

The first “King Kong” hit movie theaters in 1933, and since then it has been remade five times.

“King Kong Vs. Godzilla” (1963) was a successful spin off of the original classic with the addition of Godzilla: A giant dragon-like creature that tries to destroy Kong.

Godzilla and Kong fight their way through New York City in an epic battle that leaves the city in ruin.

In 1976 there was yet another remake of the movie. In this adaptation, the main male character was an oil crazed businessman instead of the former

explorer seen in the earliest film.

The petroleum frenzy follows the business man as he travels to Skull Island with a group of people, including a woman that the giant gorilla falls in love with.

The next remake in 2005 is arguably the most popular, creating the image of King Kong that most of us associate with the franchise.

The remake paid homage to the original roots of the Kong legacy by opting to keep the story line similar.

The director, Peter Jackson, focused on creating a realistic world instead of making many changes to the story.

The final and most recent remake, “Kong: Skull Island,” was released in early March of 2017 and has taken the box office by storm.

In the first five days, the film raised \$20 million at the box office.

If viewers were expecting a remake of the original King Kong film, the newest film is not for them.

It challenges the traditional ideas

of what King Kong was and what it should be, and brings to light the new wave of cinematography that’s taking Hollywood by storm.

Moreover, the film incorporates a healthy mixture of political messages as well as providing a strong female lead.

With so many adaptations produced in the past few years, it has become a challenge to create an innovative and creative sequel.

Kong: Skull Island defied expectations for a Hollywood sequel.

Without a novel to follow, and therefore less fans engaged with the exact story line, the creators of Kong are free to create the fictional world as they desire.

Warner Bros. studio has announced that a new King Kong vs. Godzilla movie is set to be released in 2020. Until then, Kong fans must wait in anticipation for the new release.