

**DOC NYC FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES  
“40 UNDER 40”  
CELEBRATION OF RISING TALENT  
WITH OPEN CALL FOR NOMINEES**

**New Initiative Co-Presented with Topic Studios**

July 18, 2018 – DOC NYC, America’s largest documentary festival, announced “40 Under 40,” a new initiative under the umbrella of its 2018 DOC NYC PRO programming slate.

“40 Under 40” celebrates emerging talent in the documentary world, including directors, producers, cinematographers and editors, during the 2018 edition of the festival, held November 8-15 at IFC Center, SVA Theatre and Cinopolis Chelsea. “40 Under 40” is co-presented by TOPIC STUDIOS, joining the festival for the first time as a sponsor.

“At DOC NYC, we’re always looking for fresh voices,” said the festival’s Artistic Director Thom Powers. “The ‘40 Under 40’ initiative allows us to spotlight the best and the brightest of a new generation.”

“We’re so glad to partner with DOC NYC to co-host the inaugural ‘40 Under 40,’ said Adam Pincus, EVP, Programming & Content for Topic/ First Look Media. “It’s a huge priority for Topic to seek out new storytellers at the forefront of culture so we are especially looking forward to engaging with rising talent and finding new ways to collaborate.”

“40 Under 40” honorees will participate in exclusive networking meetings with key financiers, distributors, broadcasters and industry figures during the festival’s “Only In New York” sessions at DOC NYC PRO at Cinopolis Chelsea. In addition to being highlighted in the festival’s Industry Guide and on its website, the group will also be special guests at a by-invitation celebratory luncheon with industry leaders.

To qualify for consideration for the 2018 “40 Under 40” class, nominees must be born in 1979 or later and be based in the U.S. or Canada. Nominees must have at least one credit in the position of director, producer, cinematographer or editor on a feature-length documentary with national distribution via theaters, television or a digital platform. Veteran filmmakers and industry figures in the documentary field can submit a recommendation for one or more nominees on the DOC NYC website ([www.docnyc.net](http://www.docnyc.net)), until Friday, August 17, 2018. The festival’s programming team will evaluate nominations to select a list of 40 honorees representing a wide diversity of talent.

ABOUT FIRST LOOK MEDIA'S TOPIC:

[Topic](#) is the ambitious new storytelling brand (Topic.com) and entertainment studio (Topic Studios) from [First Look Media](#), dedicated to supporting creators at the forefront of culture. From Academy Award®-winning films (*Spotlight*,) to television, digital and audio (*Missing Richard Simmons* podcast), we explore a wide range of subject matter, both fiction and nonfiction. Our approach – challenging, compelling and unconventional – reflects our commitment to discovering and amplifying independent new voices and supporting established ones. Current projects at Topic Studios include Debra Granik's acclaimed film, *Leave No Trace* and the political documentary from Kimberly Reed, *Dark Money*, both out in theaters now.

ABOUT DOC NYC:

DOC NYC, America's largest documentary festival, takes place over 8 days in November; the ninth edition will be held November 8-15, 2018 at New York's IFC Center, Cinopolis Chelsea and the SVA Theatre. The 2017 festival showcased over 250 films and events with more than 350 filmmakers and special guests appearing in person. In addition to premiering feature-length and short documentaries, the festival's highlights also include DOC NYC PRO—a series of in-depth panels and master classes—and the Visionaries Tribute awards ceremony that honors major figures in the field of nonfiction film. DOC NYC is produced by the IFC Center. [www.docnyc.net](http://www.docnyc.net)

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