



**DOC NYC ANNOUNCES “40 UNDER 40” HONOREES,
DOCUMENTARY NEW LEADERS AND
STORYTELLING INCUBATOR PROGRAMS
PLUS WORK-IN-PROGRESS DOCUMENTARIES
FOR “INDUSTRY ROUNDTABLES” MEETINGS**

NEW YORK, October 26, 2022 – DOC NYC, America’s largest documentary festival, announced the honorees and projects across four initiatives that celebrate and develop new talent.

The fifth annual **40 Under 40** list puts a spotlight on young documentary creatives and offers unique networking opportunities at the festival. The third annual **Documentary New Leaders** program honors a group of individuals whose efforts in distribution, sales, festivals, and marketing bring greater inclusion and equity to the field. The second annual **DOC NYC x Video Consortium Storytelling Incubator** pairs first-time feature documentary filmmakers with mentorship from industry veterans. Finally, the festival revealed the line-up for its seventh annual meetings program for works-in-progress docs, **Industry Roundtables** (formerly called Only In New York.)

“Recognizing the creative and organizational stars of our field each year is a highlight of our work at DOC NYC,” said DOC NYC Director of Filmmaker Development Caitlin Boyle. “We’re excited to celebrate both emerging and established talent, and to bring them together for collaboration and career development.”

DOC NYC’s 13th edition takes place in theaters in New York and online November 9-17, 2022, with online screenings continuing through November 27. The full lineup of films and events, along with tickets and festival passes, are available at docnyc.net.

40 Under 40 is co-presented by HBO Documentary Films. **Industry Roundtables** is co-presented by SHOWTIME®. **Documentary New Leaders** is co-presented by A&E IndieFilms.

40 UNDER 40

Now in its fifth year, the **40 Under 40** list shines a spotlight on emerging documentary talent. Past honorees who are returning to the festival with new works in 2022 include filmmakers Isabel Castro (*Mija*), Sara Dosa (*Fire of Love*), Rebeca Huntt (*Beba*), Reid Davenport (*I Didn't See You There*), Alan Hicks (*My Sister Liv*), and Maxim Pozdorovkin (*The Conspiracy*); producers Joe Bender (*The Conspiracy*), Tabs Breese (*Mija*), Shane Boris (*Fire of Love* and *Navalny*), and Rob Hatch-Miller (*The Elephant 6 Recording Co.*); executive producer Lauren Haber (*Aftershock*, *Mija* and *The Return of Tanya Tucker - Featuring Brandi Carlile*); editor Erin Casper (*Fire of Love*) and supervising sound editor Zach Selvers (*The End of the World*).

The 40 Under 40 selection process begins with an open call for applications from filmmakers based in the U.S. and Canada. The final list of honorees was chosen by a selection committee that included DOC NYC staff, industry decision-makers and program alumni. In addition to directors, the list encompasses talent working in producing, editing, cinematography, and other creative roles. The 2022 class will be honored during the November festival at a private cocktail reception.

Honorees include:

Emmett Adler

David Alvarado

Cora Atkinson

Oluwaseun Babalola

Rita Baghdadi

Giselle Bailey

Stephen Bailey

Anthony Banua-Simon

Brian Becker

Edward Buckles, Jr.

Nick Canfield

Daniel Chávez-Ontiveros

Alex Clark

Nicole Docta

Paula Eiselt

Janah Elise

Daniel Garber

Tony Hale

Cassidy Hartmann

Lisa Hurwitz

Zach Ingrasci

Robert Kolodny
Robert A. Martinez
Emma D. Miller
Ashley Moradipour
Igor Myakotin
Bao Nguyen
Avantika Nimbalker
Willow O'Feral
Sunita Prasad
Serginho Roosblad
David Siev
Trevor Smith
Alex Takats
Laura Tatham
Chris Temple
Elizabeth Unger
Tasha Van Zandt
Tyshun Wardlaw
Grace Zahrah

DOCUMENTARY NEW LEADERS

DOC NYC's Documentary New Leaders initiative honors individuals whose innovative approaches to distribution, sales, festivals, and marketing work toward a more inclusive and equitable documentary industry. The 2022 selection process began with an open call for applications, reviewed by a selection committee including DOC NYC leadership, industry leaders, and cohort alumni.

“The New Leaders program continues to attract inspiring and visionary industry pioneers and this cohort is no exception,” said Malikkah Rollins, DOC NYC Director of Industry and Education, who served on the selection committee. “We look forward to enhancing their professional networks and watching their careers grow.”

The list of 11 recipients draws from 9 cities—including New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Denver, Oakland, San Francisco, and others—and reflects the honorees' broad range of experience, including roles in distribution, community engagement, exhibition, social impact, organizing, festival programming, and journalism. While several honorees are filmmakers, this program highlights the cohort's leadership in roles that shape industry practices and culture. Over

the next year, the Documentary New Leaders program will host gatherings for honorees, offering a forum for guest speakers, camaraderie, collaboration and organizing.

The 2022 DOC NYC Documentary New Leaders include:

Emily Abi-Kheirs

Manager of Filmmaker Services, Women Make Movies

Ann Bennett

Filmmaker, Multimedia Producer, Teaching Artist, Prana Productions

Kate Bustamante

Senior Manager, Original Documentaries, Hulu

Dessane Lopez Cassell

Editor, Writer and Curator, *Seen Journal*, Blackstar

Jennifer Crystal Chien

Director, Re-Present Media

Amir George

Artistic Director, Kartemquin Films

Dara Messinger

Director of Programming + Engagement, DCTV

Molly Ramey Murphy

Executive Director, Partnerships and Innovation, Working Films

Jannet Nuñez

Senior Manager, Content & Development, ITVS

Amanda Upson

Interim Director, FWD-Doc

Brian Walker,

CEO, Picture Motion

DOC NYC X VIDEO CONSORTIUM STORYTELLING INCUBATOR

The DOC NYC x Video Consortium Storytelling Incubator, an initiative from DOC NYC and the Video Consortium, provides first-time feature documentary filmmakers with hands-on creative consultation and professional guidance from established industry voices. In a six-month mentorship, emerging filmmakers with underrepresented perspectives receive support and feedback on their story development, creative process, and funding and distribution potential.

Following an open call for applications, the Video Consortium's Filmmaker Advisory Council, in collaboration with DOC NYC, reviewed more than 200 promising work-in-progress documentaries and selected 8 film teams to participate as mentees in the program.

“We’re excited to bring these important, globally minded stories to life in partnership with DOC NYC,” said the Video Consortium’s founder, Sky Dylan-Robbins. “Submissions for the Incubator this year were overwhelming—which speaks to the urgent need for mentorship, for deep community building and for collaborative resource sharing in our field. We’re thrilled to be doing just that within this program—and to be developing these eight rich stories so they can make an outsized impact once they enter the world next year.”

As Incubator participants, mentees also receive free access to DOC NYC’s online educational events; complimentary access to its 8-day professional conference, DOC NYC PRO, and waived submission fees to its Industry Roundtables networking program for works-in-progress.

The 2022 mentee cohort includes filmmakers from Iran, Jordan, Mexico, Spain, and the United States. Honorees are:

Martin Awano, with *Life of the Mind*

Marta Effinger-Crichlow, with *Little Sallie Walker*

Berenice Fernández Mateos and Kryhzal Olalde Dávila, with *Mined Land*

Azza Hourani and Sareen Hairabedian, with *Swinging Fields (WT)*

Sara Khaki and Mohammad Reza Eyni, with *Cutting Through Rocks*

Jethro Patalinghug and Jennifer Mae Huang, with *The Long Rescue*

Patrick Lee, with *Untitled KQT Project*

Alexandra Roca, with *Urge (WT)*

INDUSTRY ROUNDTABLES

New York City is the media capital for documentary, making DOC NYC a unique gathering place for documentary filmmakers worldwide, who can come to the city to leverage its power to advance their creative careers. Since 2016, the festival has run the **Industry Roundtables**

program (formerly called Only In New York) to facilitate face-to-face meetings between leading industry decision-makers and filmmakers with works-in-progress. In 2022, meetings will take place in-person on November 10 and 11.

The selection process for Industry Roundtables begins with an open call for submissions. The final list of 36 projects was chosen by DOC NYC Director of Filmmaker Development Caitlin Boyle. In addition to these projects, film teams being honored on the 40 Under 40 list and Canadian producers with films in the festival program are also invited to take meetings.

“We had an unprecedentedly high number of submissions this year, and have selected a slate of works-in-progress that show particular promise in their creative approach, authorship and vision, and potential for success in the documentary marketplace,” said Boyle “We are thrilled to present this slate of projects to industry representatives, and to jump-start relationships between creative teams and the decision-makers who can help guide these projects to audiences.”

The 36 competitively selected film teams participating in this year’s program include first-time directors and long-time industry veterans from across the world, including Canada, Finland, France, Iraq, Israel, Mexico, Norway, Qatar and the United States. More than 80% of the selected film teams are helmed by filmmakers who identify as women, non-binary or genderqueer; 47% are headed by first-time directors; and 42% are director and/or produced by filmmakers who identify as Black, Indigenous or people of color.

Companies and organizations participating in 2022 Industry Roundtables meetings include:

A&E IndieFilms
ABC Studios
America ReFramed
Black Public Media
Cargo Film & Releasing
Chicken & Egg Pictures
Cinephil
Cinetic Media
CNN Original Films & Series
Conde Nast
Disney
Disney's Onyx Collective
Disney+
ESPN Films
Fifth Season

FILM 45
Firelight Media
Fox Rothschild LLP
GQue Films
Hartley Media Impact Initiative at Auburn Seminary
HBO Documentary Films
Hulu
IFC Films
Imagine Entertainment
Impact Partners
International Documentary Association
Kickstarter
Meadowlark Media
NBC News Studios
NEON
Netflix
Odyssey Impact, Inc.
MTV
Paramount+
Points North Institute
Represent Justice
Sideways Film
Story Syndicate
Submarine Entertainment
The Film Collaborative Inc.
Together Films
Transform Films, Inc.
WME Agency
WNET
Women Make Movies

Selected projects include the following works-in-progress. Projects denoted with an (*) indicate teams that are part of our Voices of Canada cohort.

#WhileBlack *

Witnesses who filmed the deaths of George Floyd, and others, step forward about the citizen journalist videos that have ignited global movements, exploring how technology and social media shape the trauma of racial violence against African Americans.

Directors: Sidney Fussell, Samantha Knowles

Producers: Ann Shin, Geeta Gandbhir

ADA: My Mother, My Architect

Ada Karmi-Melamede is Israel's most important living architect, as well as an unusual role model and mother. Her daughter, a former architect, sets out to tell her unique story against the backdrop of the turbulent country Ada loves.

Director: Yael Melamede

Producer: Hilla Medalia

All American

In this modern, coming-of-age documentary, immigrant and first-generation American girls confront gender expectations, economic disadvantages and cultural divides while defining themselves and their futures within the fastest-growing high school sport in the country: women's wrestling.

Director: Mark Andrew Altschul

Producers: Mark Andrew Altschul, Trish Dalton and Evan Murphy Johnson

Bam Bam: The Story of Sister Nancy *

A feature music documentary that explores the wild story behind how Sister Nancy's hit song, "Bam Bam," became the most sampled reggae vocal of all time.

Director: Alison Duke

Producers: Alison Duke, Ngardy Conteh George

Barbara Hammer Project

An exclusive look at the iconic life, work and legacy of pioneering lesbian experimental filmmaker, Barbara Hammer, tracing her prolific canon alongside never-before-seen documentations of her life and body to reveal Barbara's unconventional attempts to live on forever.

Director: Brydie O'Connor

Producer: Elijah Stevens

Between Earth and Sky

Renowned ecologist Nalini Nadkarni studies "what grows back" after a disturbance in the rainforest canopy. After surviving a life-threatening tree fall, she must turn her research question onto herself to explore the effects of disturbance and recovery throughout her life.

Director: Andrew Nadkarni

Producers: Katie Schiller, Swetha Regunathan

Break the Game

Watch a video game legend embark on a quest to recapture her lost fame, shatter world records and find love in the digital age.

Director: Jane M. Wagner

Producer: Jane M. Wagner

Chain of Rocks

A death row inmate accepts a plea deal for a crime after 30 years of maintaining complete innocence. Now, an activist that once fought for his release is faced with the moral dilemma of whether the fight was in vain.

Director: Damon Davis

Producer: Chris Renteria

Comparsa

When tragedy strikes on the outskirts of Guatemala City, two lionhearted sisters recruit a group of local kids to transform their community's pain into an artistic statement of hope and resistance, culminating in a night of spectacle and street performance.

Directors: Vickie Curtis, Doug Anderson

Producer: Anna Hadingham

Cycle

Deconstructing the systemic cycle of police brutality in the United States, *Cycle* independently investigates the officer-involved shooting death of a young man stopped while riding his bicycle in the early morning hours before his community's Juneteenth Day Celebration.

Director: Laura Dyan Kezman, William Howell

Producer: Vianca Fuster

Daddy

One family's coming of age story, which also happens to be an old man's coming out story.

Director: Hannah Myers

Producer: Emily Simoness

Downwinders: First We Bombed New Mexico

A Latina cancer survivor ignites a movement challenging the government's cover-up and refusal to provide reparations to Latinx and Native residents who've suffered multigenerational cancers they tie to Trinity, the world's first nuclear bomb, detonated in New Mexico in 1945.

Director: Lois Lipman

Producer: Lois Lipman

Everest Dark *

A revered Sherpa climber comes out of retirement and returns to Mount Everest one last time to try to find the bodies of his friends missing in the Khumbu icefall.

Director: Jereme Watt

Producer: Michael Bodnarchuk, Merit Jensen Carr

Finding the Money

An underdog group of economists dubbed “Modern Monetary Theory,” or MMT, are on a mission to turn our understanding of the national debt upside down. They say the national debt is not our debt; instead, it’s our money.

Director: Maren Poitras

Producers: Maren Poitras, Ines Hofmann Kanna

Flophouse America

Twelve-year-old Mikal is born and raised in the hotel room he shares with his parents, both struggling with alcohol addiction. Mikal’s biggest wish is for them to stop drinking, but what does it take for someone to change their ways?

Director: Monica Strømdahl

Producers: Beathe Hofseth, Siri Natvik

Happy Campers

The working-class denizens of a scrappy seasonal trailer park reveal the secrets to a rich life as the march of capitalism closes in on their shabby Shangri-La.

Director: Amy Nicholson

Producer: Amy Nicholson

Home and Native Lands *

The story of two doctors living in the Japanese Canadian internment camps after losing their homes and identities.

Director: Alice Shin

Producer: Eiko Brown

Home is a Hotel

Within the walls of their 80-square-foot SRO hotel rooms, a diverse group of San Francisco residents strive against cyclical forces and a housing crisis in their search for a place to call home.

Directors: Kevin Wong, Kar Yin Tham

Producers: Todd Sills

I Will Be The Best of You

A rare, harrowing, observational film that takes a personal and unflinching look at one family's painful history of intergenerational trauma, violence and addiction.

Director: Rebeca Byerly

Producer: Kat Vecchio

Impossible Town

When her father dies unexpectedly, Dr. Ayne Amjad is thrust to the helm of a decades-long struggle to aid a southern West Virginia town beset by cancer-causing chemicals.

Directors: Scott Faris, Meg Griffiths

Producer: Meg Griffiths

Keepin' Up With The Joneses: Hank, Thad & Elvin Jones

Hank, Thad and Elvin Jones were African American musical geniuses who attained fame as jazz performers and composers from the 1950s on, while dealing with racial segregation and violence. But family conflicts kept them from playing together or becoming legends.

Director: Rob Levi

Producer: Rebecca Halbower, Josh Blum

Kings of Kawergosk

Two Syrian Kurdish football (soccer) prodigies who have spent their entire childhoods mired in Kawergosk Refugee Camp are swept up into the camp's mythology of football, and hope that their tremendous talents can bend destiny.

Director: Timothy Wu

Producers: Timothy Wu, Sabir Rasheed

Lust on Earth: The Global Cultures of Infidelity

In this stunningly candid exploration of infidelity, adulterers and victims of unfaithfulness in 40 countries break their silence to compare norms, laws and taboos while also revealing their own personal escapades.

Director: Michael LaPointe

Producers: Michael LaPointe, Dara Diaz

Qatar Stars

A four-year story of girlhood in all its joys and growing pains, through intimate access to a multinational rhythmic gymnastics school led by a former Russian gymnast.

Director: Danielle Beverly

Producer: Jawaher AlMoawda, Marco Williams

Russians At War *

Since February 24, when Russian tanks rolled into Ukraine and the world awoke to a very different reality, Anastasia has quietly and unassumingly been on the ground in Russia taking her camera and great risk to document what she encounters.

Director: Anastasia (Last Name Withheld)

Producer: Cornelia Principe

Shaken

Following a flawed medical diagnosis, a couple faces a staggering criminal charge and state removal of their children. An intimate portrait of a family torn apart by injustice, *Shaken* is also a gripping account of their battle to stay together.

Director: Asher Levinthal

Producer: Kellen Quinn, Caitlin Mae Burke

The Book of Vaughn

A documentary on the life, light and legacy of one of underground comics' most mysterious and legendary figures, Vaughn Bode, The Cartoon Guru.

Director: A. Nick Francis

Producer: Jorge Novoa

The Messengers

The Messengers follows four Conservative climate activists from a growing movement known as the "eco right." Working in diverse areas—the church, in agriculture, the youth movement, and in city government—they have chosen to lead the fight for climate action within their own conservative worlds.

Director: Nadia Gill, Dominic Gill

Producer: Nevo Shinaar, Nadia Gill

The New York Love Songs

Filmed with personal journey intimacy for fifteen years, *The New York Love Songs* is an immersive portrait of millennial musicians on the journey from jazz school to adulthood, as the aughts give way to a new digital frontier.

Director: Darah Golub

Producer: Darah Golub

The Remarkable Women

A global hybrid documentary series telling untold stories about the women behind the success of iconic men.

Director: Nora Jacobson

Producer: Jane Applegate, Alice Look

The Siren Song

Two sisters had kept searching for love and a place of their own since they were teenagers but until today, they had found nothing. Now in their 80s, they hope to find it at an unimaginable place: the sea bottom.

Director: Eden Bernal

Producer: Polly Yeung

The Track *

A contemporary coming of age journey following three Muslim teenagers chasing their Olympic dreams in post-war Bosnia while training on their bullet-riddled luge track discarded after the 1984 Winter Games in Sarajevo.

Director: Ryan Sidhoo

Producer: Ryan Sidhoo

Untitled Creede Documentary

Can Americans on either side of today's political and social divides actually live together in the same place? In conservative Creede, Colorado, population 357, the unlikely combination of mining families and progressive theater people have no choice but to try.

Director: Kahane Cooperman

Producer: Innbo Shim

Untitled Muscogee Nation Documentary

When the Muscogee Nation suddenly begins censoring their free press, a rogue reporter fights to expose her government's corruption in a historic battle that will have ramifications for all of Indian Country.

Directors: Rebecca Landsberry-Baker, Joe Peeler

Producer: Garrett Baker, Conrad Beilharz

Untitled Nomads Documentary

An overworked family from rural Iowa and a troubled older woman in search of healing join the growing nomadic movement, led by "vanlife" evangelist Bob Wells. When the fantasy of road life meets reality, each must overcome adversity and self-doubt.

Director: Vanessa Carr, Josh Gleason

Producer: Xan Parker

HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS

All festival attendees and staff will be required to comply with our Health & Safety protocols while attending DOC NYC events. For the latest information, please review our policies [here](#).

SPONSORS

The festival is made possible by:

Leading Media Partners: *New York Magazine*; The WNET Group

Major Sponsors: A&E IndieFilms; HBO Documentary Films; NBC News Studios; Netflix

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Friends of the Festival: Agile Ticketing; CineSend; DCTV; Essentia Water; Fever Content; Kickstarter PBC; Ptex; Shiftboard

DOC NYC is produced and presented by IFC Center, a division of AMC Networks.

TICKETS AND PASSES:

Festival tickets and passes may be purchased at docnyc.net/tickets-and-passes.

In-person Screenings:

Opening (*Maya and the Wave*), **Centerpiece** (*Gumbo Coalition*, *Cirque du Soleil: Without a Net*) and **Closing Night** (*The Conspiracy*) **screenings:** \$25 General Public/\$20 IFC Center Members

Other festival films: \$19 General Admission/\$17 Seniors & Children/\$16 IFC Center Members, unless otherwise noted.

All screenings in the Short List: Features, Short List: Shorts, Winner's Circle and DOC NYC U sections, as well as all Monday-Friday screenings starting before 5:00pm: \$12 General Admission/\$10 IFC Center members

Online screenings:

\$12 General Public/\$9 IFC Center Members

Passes and Ticket Packs:

All Film Pass \$995

Grants access to every film screening during the live, in-person festival November 9-17, plus films on the festival's virtual screening platform November 9-27.

Online Film Pass \$250

Grants access to all the films screening on the festival's virtual platform, November 9-27.

Online Shorts Pass \$49

Grants access to all short films screening on the festival's virtual platform, November 9-27. On sale November 1.

Ten-Ticket Package for In-Person Screenings \$160

A package of 10 festival tickets for regular in-person screenings at a discounted price.

Five-Ticket Package for Online Screenings \$45

Ten-Ticket Package for Online Screenings \$80

A package of 5 or 10 online tickets at a special discount price.

DOC NYC PRO Day Pass \$125

Grants access to a single DOC NYC PRO day-long programming track, plus complimentary access to the NBC News Studios Lounge at Cinépolis Chelsea for that day, including the day's Breakfast and Happy Hour.

DOC NYC PRO Multi-Day Packs:

4-Day Pack \$450

8-Day Pack \$800

Grants access to a selection of any 4 or all 8 DOC NYC PRO programming tracks and events for (1) individual from November 10-17. Grants complimentary access to the NBC News Studios Lounge at Cinépolis Chelsea for days selected, including daily Breakfasts and Happy Hours.

Press is invited to apply for accreditation to DOC NYC 2022. Accreditation grants press access to screen select festival titles on a secure online portal, and to attend in-person pre-festival press screenings. Contact: publicity@norget.com

ONLINE PRESS OFFICE:

Downloadable images and press notes for individual films in the festival program, as well as the festival poster, can be found [here](#).

Downloadable images for 40 Under 40 honorees can be found [here](#).

Downloadable images for Documentary New Leaders can be found [here](#).

Downloadable images for Storytelling Incubator can be found [here](#).

Downloadable images for Industry Roundtables can be found [here](#).

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