

Embargoed until 10:00AM ET on Thursday, October 24, 2024



**DOC NYC ANNOUNCES NEW CLASS OF
DOCUMENTARY NEW LEADERS,
AND 2024 LINEUP FOR VOICES OF CANADA
WORKS-IN-PROGRESS PROJECTS**

NEW YORK, October 24, 2024 – DOC NYC, America’s largest documentary festival, which kicks off this year on Wednesday, November 13, announced honorees for the festival’s **Documentary New Leaders** program which celebrates industry whose efforts in distribution, sales, festivals, and marketing bring greater inclusion and equity to the field. The festival also announced its **Voices of Canada Industry Roundtables** line-up that provides the opportunity for six Canadian works-in-progress to receive direct feedback from industry leaders in a series of networking meetings. These projects are in addition to 12 works-in-progress projects that were previously announced as part of the **Live Pitch** event that will be presented as onstage pitches as part of DOC NYC PRO, a series of panels and events that runs concurrently with the festival and supports filmmakers in advancing their careers.

“At DOC NYC, we’re not just spotlighting this year’s standout films – we’re also championing the trailblazers of tomorrow in documentary filmmaking,” says Malikkah Rollins, Director of Industry and Education. “Our New Leaders program is all about celebrating individuals who are carving out a more vibrant and inclusive industry, while our Voices of Canada works-in-progress program features strong Canadian voices telling captivating stories.”

DOC NYC’s 15th edition takes place in theaters in New York and online across the U.S. November 13-21, 2024, with online screenings continuing through December 1. The full lineup of films and events, along with tickets and festival passes, are available at docnyc.net.

Documentary New Leaders is co-presented by A&E IndieFilms. **Voices of Canada Industry Roundtables** is co-presented by the Consulate General of Canada in New York and Telefilm Canada.

DOCUMENTARY NEW LEADERS

DOC NYC's **Documentary New Leaders** initiative honors individuals whose innovative approaches work toward a more inclusive and equitable documentary industry.

"The New Leaders program continues to attract a range of inspiring industry professionals who are working to build a better documentary ecosystem," said DOC NYC Executive Director Raphaela Neihausen. "We look forward to celebrating this incredible group in person at the festival."

The 12 honorees encompass a broad range of experiences, including roles in distribution, education, community engagement, funding, social impact, and organizing. 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 will meet periodically to embark on discussions that address the issues most pivotal to their roles in the field.

The 2024 DOC NYC Documentary New Leaders are:

Keri Brown

Director, Content & Initiatives, ITVS

Supporting the indie in documentary and forging pathways forward for authentic, nuanced storytelling in an ever changing content landscape.

Hansen Bursic

Filmmaker, Journalist & Programmer

Festival Director, Backyard Docs Film Festival

Cultivating new approaches to documentary filmmaking and culture work that center labor, ethics, and community, while constantly challenging the status quo.

Amber Morning Star Byars

Producer, Good Trade Productions

Developing new spaces and opportunities for Indigenous creativity, storytelling, and social justice initiatives to shine within the film industry.

Cindy Choung

Co-Director, Asian American Documentary Network (A-Doc)

Cultivating and nurturing a multigenerational community of AAPI documentary workers

Nivedita Das

Co-Executive Director, Brown Girls Doc Mafia

Championing films, programs, collaborations, and creative communities that place diverse stories, people, power, and social change front and center.

Elena Fortes

Producer

Carving spaces for creative disruption and experimentation in documentary film production and audience development, in order to nurture curiosity and inspire new forms of artistic expression and engagement.

Stephanie Jenkins

Co-Director, Archival Producers Alliance

Building community as a way to preserve the heart, truth and power in the genre we hold dear.

Cecilia Mejia

Vice President of External Affairs, American Documentary

Supporting and uplifting impactful documentary films through intention, collaboration, education, and community building.

Lucy Mukerjee

Documentary Lab Director, Firelight Media

Empowering underestimated filmmakers with the clarity and confidence to complete their films, connect with audiences, and find their unique path.

Juliette Richey

Chief Operating Officer, Picture Motion Campaigns, LLC

Amplifying documentary films to ignite movements, engage diverse communities and drive change through transformative campaigns that bridge entertainment and advocacy.

Elaisha Stokes

Senior Program Manager, Chicken and Egg Films

Breaking down barriers for filmmakers who face gender bias through mentorship, creative collaboration, and business strategy support.

Florencia Varela

Program Lead, Learning & Filmmaker Outreach, Peace is Loud

Building spaces for filmmakers to share knowledge, redistribute power, and build community through the lens of film impact.

VOICES OF CANADA 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 meet with industry and advance their creative projects.

The Voices of Canada Industry Roundtables program will bring six Canadian works-in-progress film projects to NYC for a day of curated meetings and industry feedback. This initiative is co-presented by the Consulate General of Canada in New York and Telefilm Canada.

The 2024 DOC NYC Voices of Canada works-in-progress projects are:

Jenin & the Nakba Between Us

A diasporic Palestinian filmmaker struggles to complete a documentary about returning to Jenin, her family's hometown in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, when her footage takes on radically new meaning and urgency in the wake of October 7th.

Director: Serene Husni

Producers: Marc Serpa Francoeur, Rula Nasser

Seagulls Over the Airwave

Codenamed "Seagull Radio," a daring network of ordinary people defies China's cutting-edge censorship with an ingenious shortwave radio hack, risking everything to deliver uncensored news and spark a revolution of information.

Director & Producer: Leon Lee

The Art of Adventure

Renowned wildlife artist Robert Bateman and spirited biologist Bristol Foster embark on a globe-trotting adventure fusing art, science, activism—and a Land Rover they call "The Grizzly Torque."

Director: Alison Reid

Producers: Alison Reid, Nina Beveridge

This Land of Ours

The cost of paradise, but for whom?

Director: Ngardy Conteh George

Producers: Alison Duke, Ngardy Conteh George

Uncomfortable Truth (working title)

In a small village nestled in the snow-capped Laurentian Mountains, residents are shaken by sightings of mysterious black triangles in the sky. Most believe they have a non-human origin. As the search for answers unfolds, a scientific revolution begins.

Directors & Producers: Guylaine Maroist, Eric Ruel

Undisclosed

This film combines the narrative power of fable and documentary to tell the tale of a demon's insatiable appetite for land and wealth and a people's struggle to conquer its evil spirit.

Directors & Producers: Nadine Pequenezza, Ricardo Acosta

SPONSORS

The festival is made possible by:

Leading Media Partner: THIRTEEN

Major Sponsors: A&E IndieFilms; Apple Original Films; HBO Documentary Films; Netflix

Supporting Sponsors: Hulu; National Geographic Documentary Films

Supporting Media Partner: IndieWire

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Signature Media Partners: *The New Republic*; WNYC

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Friends of the Festival: AgileTix; Bentley Meeker Lighting & Staging; CineSend; ITVS; Posteritati; Ptex; Shiftboard

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

To inquire about sponsor or partnership opportunities for DOC NYC, contact Executive Director Raphaela Neihausen at raphaela@docnyc.net.

TICKETS AND PASSES:

Festival tickets and passes may be purchased at **docnyc.net**

In-person Screenings:

Opening Night (*Blue Road - The Edna O'Brien Story*), **Closing Night** (*Drop Dead City - New York on the Brink in 1975*) and **Centerpiece screening** (*All God's Children*) \$30 General Public / \$25 IFC Center Members

Other festival films: \$20 General Public/ \$18 Seniors & Children/ \$16 IFC Center Members, unless otherwise noted.

All screenings in the Short List: Features, Short List: Shorts, and DOC NYC U sections, as well as all Monday-Friday screenings starting before 5:45pm: \$13 General Public / \$10 IFC Center members

Online screenings:

\$13 General Public / \$9 IFC Center Members

Passes and Ticket Packs:

All Film Pass \$995 (Early bird discount price of \$699 available through October 18)

Grants access to every film screening during the live, in-person festival November 13-26, plus films on the festival's virtual screening platform November 13- December 1. Grants complimentary access, space permitting, to the Festival Lounge, including daily Breakfasts and Happy Hours.

Online Film Pass \$250 (Early bird discount price of \$199 available through October 18)

Grants access to all the films screening on the festival's virtual platform, November 8-26.

Online Shorts Pass \$49

Grants access to all short films screening on the festival's virtual platform, November 13-December 1. On sale November 1.

Ten-Ticket Package for In-Person Screenings \$170

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

DOC NYC PRO Day Pass \$125

Grants access to a single DOC NYC PRO day-long programming track, plus complimentary access, space permitting, to the Festival Lounge for that day, including the day's Breakfast and Happy Hour.

DOC NYC PRO Multi-Day Packs:

4-Day Pack \$450

8-Day Pack \$850

Grants access to a selection of any 4 or all 8 DOC NYC PRO programming tracks and events for one person from November 14-21. Grants complimentary access, space permitting, to the Festival Lounge for days selected, including daily Breakfasts and Happy Hours.

Press is invited to apply for accreditation to DOC NYC 2024. Accreditation grants press access to screen select festival titles on a secure online portal. Contact: stephanie@frankpublicity.com

ONLINE PRESS OFFICE:

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

Downloadable images for the Voices of Canada projects can be found [here](#).

MEDIA CONTACTS:

STEPHANIE DAVIDSON, FRANK PR

Stephanie@frankpublicity.com