



**ida**

**international  
documentary  
association**

**fiscal years  
2016-2019  
report**

**17** 18

# Dear Friends,



I am pleased to share with you the International Documentary Association's (IDA) Organizational Report covering our activities from 2016 to 2019. IDA continues to be a champion for documentary filmmaking around the world, and as you will read in the pages that follow, this has been a busy time for the organization.

At IDA, our work is focused on supporting a thriving and inclusive documentary culture, and the individual filmmaker and their needs are at the heart of our mission. In recent years we have made great strides to enhance the financial support available for documentary projects. In addition to our longstanding Pare Lorentz Documentary Fund and fiscal sponsorship program, we launched the IDA Enterprise Documentary Fund in 2017 with support from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. Over the last three years, the Enterprise Fund has granted \$3 million in development and production funds to filmmakers working on original and contemporary feature-length documentaries that integrate journalistic practice into the filmmaking process. With support from the Jonathan Logan Family Foundation, we launched the Logan Elevate Grant to support emerging women filmmakers of color. All of these initiatives reflect IDA's commitment to enhancing diversity and inclusion in nonfiction storytelling.

In addition, IDA's biennial peer-to-peer conference, Getting Real, has become a cornerstone of our work. The tremendous passion and enthusiasm for documentary brought by participants at the conferences in 2016 and 2018 was inspiring. Attendance has grown from 700 participants to more than 1,000. Covering a wide range of themes such as creativity, diversity and sustainability, Getting Real provides insights into the day-to-day struggles and achievements of filmmakers. Getting Real offers a space to discuss the challenges and opportunities across our collective experience, and the conference is evolving to provide a critical forum for us—the documentary filmmaking community—to share our knowledge and ideas and truly work together to improve the field.

We have been a vocal and active advocate for filmmakers in jeopardy and continue to work to protect filmmakers, issuing calls to action, publishing op-eds to raise awareness of critical issues, and signing more than 70 amicus briefs in partnership with the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press.

I'm happy to report that IDA has been expanding our programs to new regions beyond Los Angeles. We are providing filmmakers in Austin, San Francisco, Chicago and New York City, among others, with opportunities for professional development and cultural enrichment, and we'll keep building that as we move forward and try to become an organization that truly serves the entire documentary community, wherever they may be.

With gratitude,

SIMON KILMURRY  
IDA Executive Director

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# who we are

## *Board of Directors*

### OFFICERS

KEVIN IWASHINA / President  
LAUREN LEXTON / Co-Vice President  
JAMES COSTA / Co-Vice President  
FONDA BEROSINI / Secretary  
JAMES ACKERMAN / Treasurer  
JACK LERNER / Member at Large

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CAROLINE LIBRESCO  
VINNIE MALHOTRA  
STEPHEN NEMETH  
CHRIS PEREZ  
BRENDA ROBINSON  
AARON SAIDMAN

## *Current Staff*

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NIKI BHARDWAJ / Events Coordinator  
MAGGIE BOWMAN / Director of Programming, Getting Real '20  
KENNY BROWN / Grants & Awards Coordinator  
JINA CHUNG / Director of Development & Partnerships  
CASSIDY DIMON / Public Programs and Events Manager  
MARY GARBESI / Accounting and Administration Manager  
AMY HALPIN / Deputy Director  
ANGELA JANG / Filmmaker Services & Accounting Associate  
SIMON KILMURRY / Executive Director  
CARRIE LOZANO / Director, IDA Enterprise Documentary Fund  
ROUNAK MAITI / Digital Communications Coordinator  
DANA MERWIN / Program Officer  
TRENT NAKAMURA / Awards Campaign & Strategic Partnerships Manager  
LEANN SCRIMMAGER / Administrative Assistant  
RANEL SHUBERT / Awards Competition Manager  
JEFFREY SIGMUND / Controller  
TOM WHITE / Editor, *Documentary* Magazine  
SUSAN YIN / Manager, Communications, Design and Digital Projects  
  
MICHAEL E. MORALES / Legal Counsel  
  
LINDA BUZZELL / Founder  
BETSY A. McLANE / Director Emeritus  
SANDRA RUCH / Director Emeritus

**\$8.5  
million**

in funds raised  
through ida's  
fiscal sponsorship  
program per year

**\$1.2  
million**

in grants awarded  
to documentary  
filmmakers  
annually

**33,700**  
creators and  
documentary  
enthusiasts  
subscribe to our  
newsletter

**6,500**  
event registrants  
each year



## Mission

IDA supports the vital work of documentary storytellers and champions a thriving and inclusive documentary culture.

## Vision

We are dedicated to the vision of a world where documentary creators flourish. Through our work, we connect audiences with the best of the form, provide resources, create community, and defend the rights and freedoms of documentary artists, activists and journalists around the globe. We do this work because we believe that documentaries enrich and deepen our culture, fostering a more informed and connected world.

## Our Work

- IDA represents a global community of filmmakers, and we serve 3,968 individual and organizational members worldwide.
- We award \$1.2 million annually in production and development grants directly to documentary filmmakers annually, along with technical and legal support.
- We help filmmakers raise more than \$8.5 million annually to support documentaries in production.
- We reach an online community comprised of 33,700 email subscribers and 81,000 on social media channels.
- 6,500 people register for our programs and events annually.
- 1,000 documentary filmmakers and industry professionals participate in Getting Real, IDA's biennial conference in Los Angeles.
- The IDA Documentary Awards are the most prestigious documentary-focused awards in the industry, and 600 leaders attend the annual ceremony.

## Membership

The IDA serves filmmakers, industry professionals and the documentary-loving public through our membership program and global online community.

In 2017, IDA launched an organizational membership program with benefits and services tailored to post-secondary film programs, allied nonprofits and film industry corporations.

**FY 18-19 active members:**

**3,169**

**FY 17-18 active members:**

**2,597**

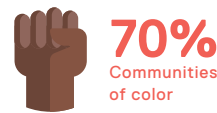
**FY 16-17 active members: 2,004**

# stories we fund

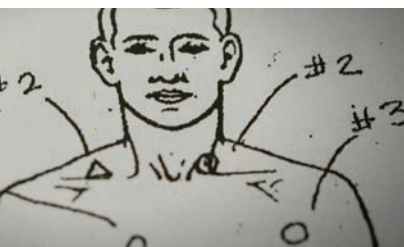
## IDA Enterprise Documentary Fund

With major support from The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the IDA established the IDA Enterprise Documentary Fund in 2017. The fund provides more than \$1 million in production and development support annually for documentary journalism. Grantees receive resources and expertise tailored to the needs of their projects from key partners, including the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, UCLA Documentary Legal Clinic, and Freelance Investigative Reporters and Editors. Inclusion and diversity, both in terms of the filmmaking team and subject matter, are a priority of the fund.

### grantees demographics



### 2017 Enterprise Production Grant Recipients



*16 Shots*  
RICHARD ROWLEY  
AND JACQUELINE SOOHN



*Charm City*  
MARILYN NESS, KATY  
CHEVIGNY AND JULIE GOLDMAN



*Enemies of the State*  
SONIA KENNEBECK  
AND INES HOFMANN KANNA



*Hazing*  
BYRON HURT, DENISE A.  
GREENE AND NATALIE BULLOCK



*Louisiana Justice*  
TOM CASCIATO  
AND RENIQUA ALLEN



*Netizens*  
CYNTHIA LOWEN



*One Child Nation*  
NANFU WANG, JULIE GOLDMAN,  
LYNN ZHANG AND CHRISTOPH JÖRG



*The Feeling of Being Watched*  
ASSIA BOUNDAOUI  
AND JESSICA DEVANEY



*Trafficked in America*  
DAFFODIL ALTAN  
AND ANDRÉS CEDIEL



## 2017 Enterprise Development Grant Recipients



*A Thousand Cuts*  
RAMONA S. DIAZ



*Ernie & Joe: Crisis Cops*  
JENIFER MCSHANE



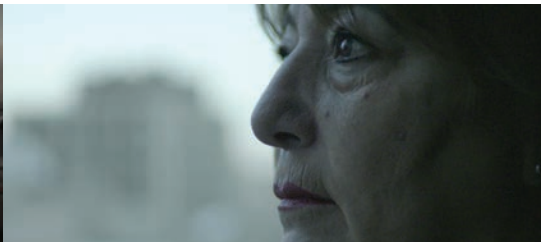
*Life Overtakes Me*  
JOHN HAPTAS  
AND KRISTINE SAMUELSON



*Lighting Africa*  
SHAYLA HARRIS



*Mayor*  
DAVID OSIT



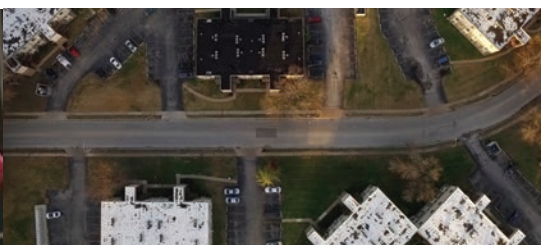
*Searching for Kikhia*  
JIHAN KIKHIA



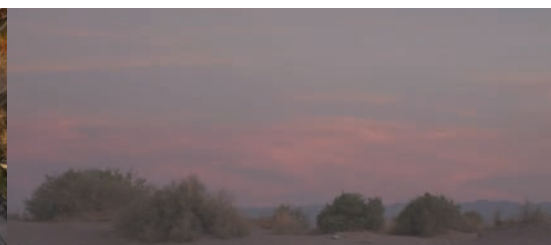
*Testament (Working Title)*  
MEENA NANJI  
AND ZIPPY KIMUNDU



*The Community Health Project*  
(Working Title)  
CHIEMI KARASAWA



*The Rashomon Effect*  
LYRIC R. CABRAL  
AND JESSICA DEVANEY



*Untitled Criminal Justice / HS Project*  
MAISIE CROW  
AND HEIDI REINBERG

IDA also collaborated with the Jonathan B. Murray Center for Documentary Journalism at the University of Missouri to create Mapping the Documentary Journalism Landscape—an online compendium of resources for documentary journalists.

Stacey Woelfel (left), director of Jonathan B. Murray Center for Documentary Journalism, and Dana Merwin (right), IDA's Program Officer  
Photo by Suzy Le Bell



## 2018 Enterprise Production Grant Recipients



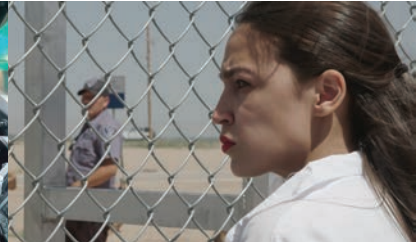
*And She Could Be Next*  
GRACE LEE, MARJAN SAFINIA  
AND JYOTI SARDA



*Bulletproof*  
TODD CHANDLER  
AND DANIELLE VARGA



*Ernie & Joe: Crisis Cops*  
JENIFER MCSHANE



*Knock Down the House*  
RACHEL LEARS, ROBIN  
BLOTNICK AND SARAH OLSON



*Mama Bears*  
DARESHE KYI  
AND LAURA TATHAM



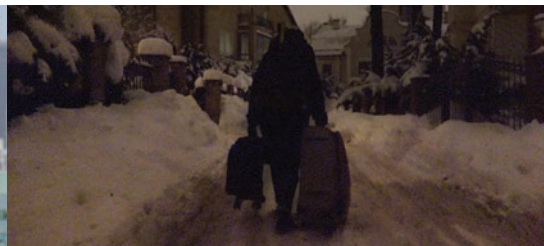
*Philly District Attorney*  
TED PASSON  
AND YONI BROOK



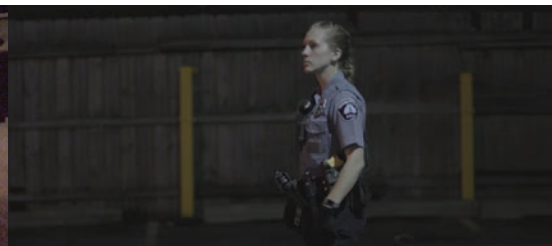
*Through the Night*  
LOIRA LIMBAL  
AND DUANA C. BUTLER



*Unsettled: Seeking Refuge in America*  
TOM SHEPARD AND JEN GILOMEN

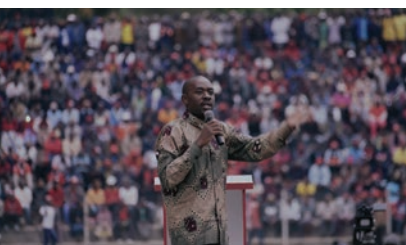


*Welcome to Chechnya*  
DAVID FRANCE, JOY TOMCHIN,  
AND ALICE HENTY



*Women in Blue*  
DEIRDRE FISHEL AND BETH LEVISON

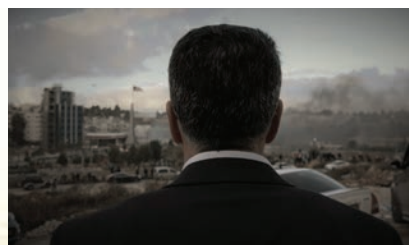
## 2019 Enterprise Production Grant Recipients



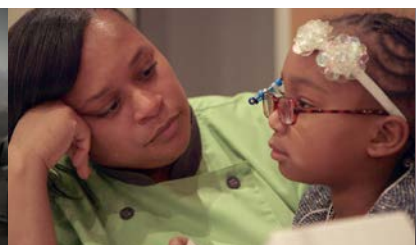
*Democrats II* | CAMILLA  
NIELSSON, JOSLYN BARNES AND  
SIGNE BYRGE SØRENSEN



*Going to Mars: The Nikki Giovanni  
Project* | MICHÈLE STEPHENSON  
AND JOE BREWSTER



*Mayor*  
DAVID OSIT



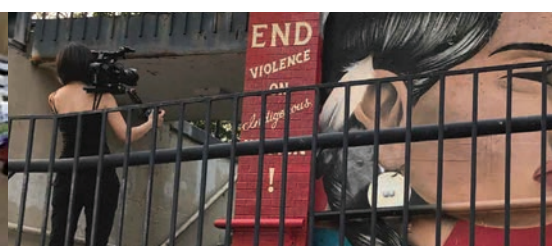
*APART*  
JENNIFER REDFEARN  
AND TIM METZGER



*Run With It*  
DEE HIBBERT-JONES, NOMI TALISMAN  
AND AMILCA PALMER



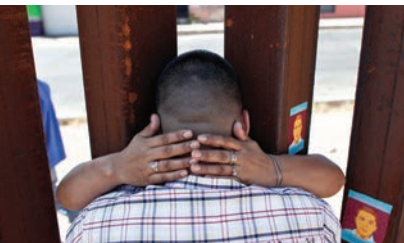
*The Untitled Jaime Boyle Project*  
JAMIE BOYLE, MARILYN NESS  
AND ELIZABETH WESTRATE



*Untitled Annie Mae Aquash Documentary*  
MICHELLE LATIMER, CAROLINE WATERLOW,  
AND AMY KAUFFMAN



## 2018 Enterprise Development Grant Recipients



*Borderlands*  
PAMELA YATES  
AND PACO DE ONÍS



*Cosricans*  
EDWIN MARTINEZ AND JAMIE  
GONÇALVES



*Democrats II* | CAMILLA  
NIELSSON, JOSLYN BARNES AND  
SIGNE BYRGE SØRENSEN



*Hollow Tree* | KIRA AKERMAN,  
CHACHI HAUSER, JOLENE  
PINDER AND MONIQUE WALTON



*Hossain* | TAIMI ARVIDSON,  
BRETTE RAGLAND AND NEAZ  
MAHMUD RONI



*Run With It*  
DEE HIBBERT-JONES, NOMI  
TALISMAN AND AMILCA PALMER



*Untitled Stasi Documentary*  
GABRIEL SILVERMAN  
AND JAMIE COUGHLIN



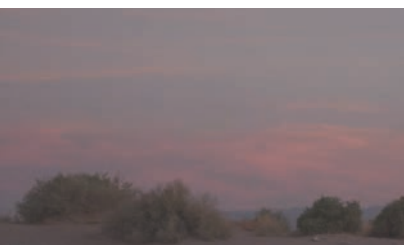
*Users (Working Title)*  
NATALIA ALMADA, ELIZABETH  
LODGE STEPP AND JOSH PENN

*Q*  
JUDE CHEHAB

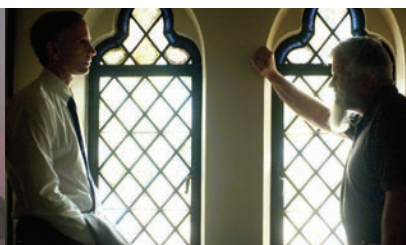
*Untitled Free Speech Documentary*  
JULIA BACHA, SUHAD BABAA  
AND DANIEL J. CHALFEN

*Untitled Michael Premo Documentary*  
MICHAEL PREMO

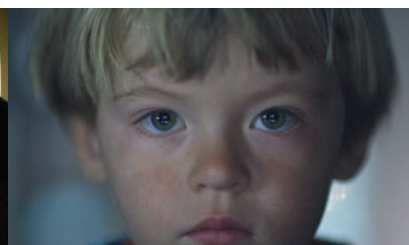
## 2019 Enterprise Production Grant Recipients Continued



*Untitled Criminal Justice High  
School Project* | MAISIE CROW  
AND HEIDI REINBERG



*The Other Boys (Working Title)*  
ROBERT GREENE, DOUGLAS  
TIROLA, SUSAN BEDUSA AND  
BENNETT ELLIOTT



*Users (Working Title)*  
NATALIA ALMADA, ELIZABETH  
LODGE STEPP AND JOSH PENN



*Untitled De-documented  
Salvadorans*  
NINA ALVAREZ

*Israel and the Evangelical Christians (Working Title)*  
MAYA ZINSSTEIN AND ABRAHAM TROEN SØRENSEN

## Logan Elevate Grant

With support from the Jonathan Logan Family Foundation, IDA launched the Logan Elevate Grant in 2018 as part of the IDA Enterprise Documentary Fund. Grants of \$25,000 are awarded to outstanding projects directed by emerging women filmmakers of color.

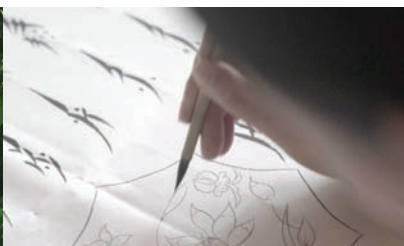
### 2018 Elevate Grant Recipients



*Always in Season*  
JACQUELINE OLIVE  
AND ANN BENNETT



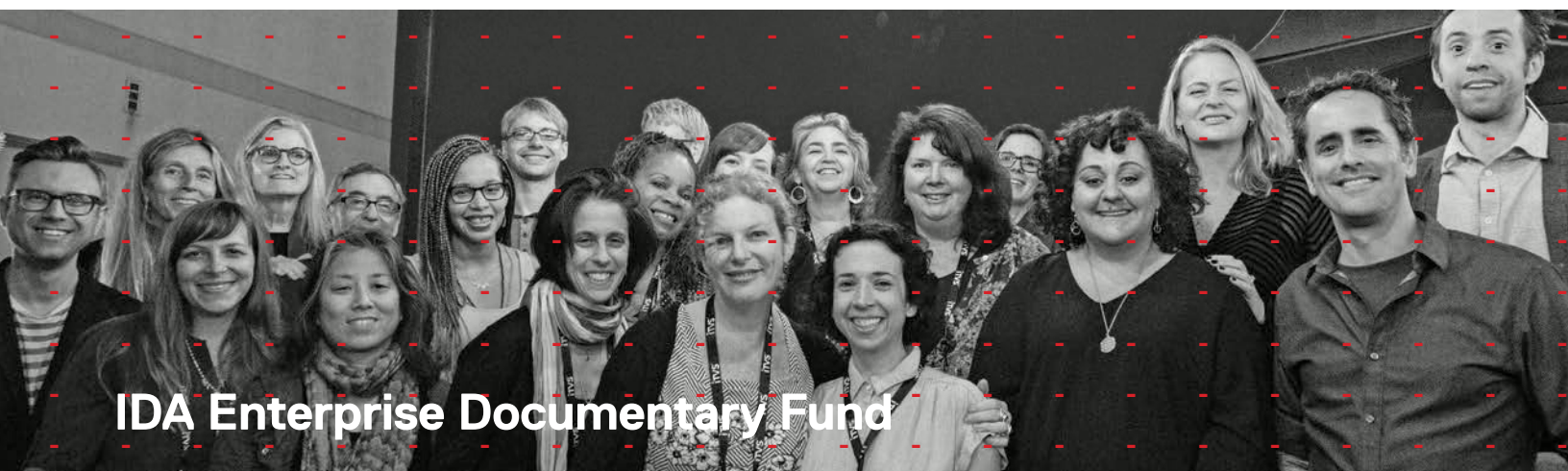
*Through the Night*  
LOIRA LIMBAL  
AND DUANA C. BUTLER



*Hidden Letters*  
VIOLET DU FENG  
AND ZHAO QING



*Untitled De-documented Salvadorans*  
NINA ALVAREZ



## IDA Enterprise Documentary Fund

## Grantee Accomplishments

- *Crime + Punishment* (2018 Sundance Film Festival) was acquired by Hulu, was short-listed for an Academy Award, and won a News and Documentary Emmy for Outstanding Social Issue Documentary.
- *Charm City* (2018 Tribeca Film Festival) was acquired by PBS' *Independent Lens* and short-listed for an Academy Award.
- *One Child Nation* won the Documentary Grand Jury Prize at the 2019 Sundance Film Festival and was acquired by Amazon Studios and PBS' *Independent Lens*.
- *Knock Down the House* won the Audience Award at the 2019 Sundance Film Festival and was acquired by Netflix.
- *The Feeling of Being Watched* (2019 Tribeca Film Festival) was broadcast on PBS' *POV*.
- *16 Shots* (2019 Hot Docs) was acquired by Showtime. *Trafficked in America* aired on PBS *Frontline* and was streamed 85,000 times in four weeks, reaching 1.7 million viewers.
- *Made in Boise* (2019 AFI Docs) was acquired by PBS' *Independent Lens*.
- *Ernie & Joe: Crisis Cops* won the 2019 SXSW Special Jury Recognition for Empathy in Craft and was acquired by HBO.
- *Life Overtakes Me* (2019 Sundance Film Festival) was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Documentary Short Subject and was acquired by Netflix.
- *Always in Season* won the Special Jury Award for Moral Urgency at the 2019 Sundance Film Festival and was acquired by PBS' *Independent Lens*.
- *Welcome to Chechnya* won the US Documentary Special Jury Award for Editing at the 2020 Sundance Film Festival and was acquired by HBO.



# Pare Lorentz Documentary Fund

The Pare Lorentz Documentary Fund creates awareness of its visionary namesake's pivotal role in the development of the documentary art form. With continued support from the New York Community Trust, IDA provides production and post-production grants for nonfiction films-in-progress that reflect Lorentz's key interests, including the natural environment, justice for all, and social issues.

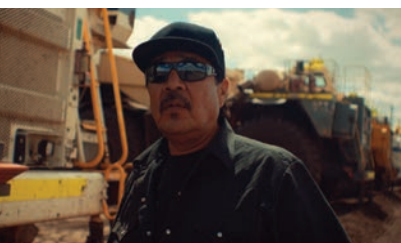
**grantees  
demographics**



## 2016 Pare Lorentz Grant Recipients



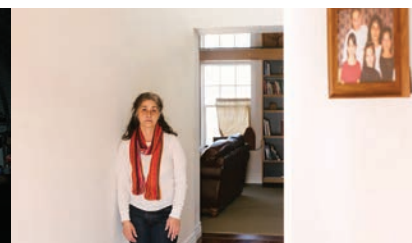
*93Queen*  
PAULA EISELT  
AND HEIDI REINBERG



*The Blessing*  
HUNTER ROBERT BAKER  
AND JORDAN FEIN



*The Fourth Kingdom*  
ADÁN ALIAGA, ÀLEX LORA, ISA  
FELIU AND CARMEN VIDA



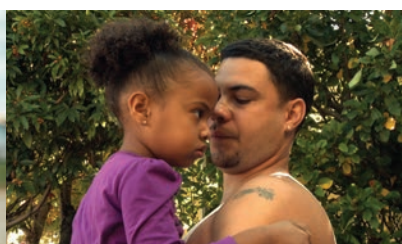
*Home Truth*  
APRIL HAYES  
AND KATIA MAGUIRE



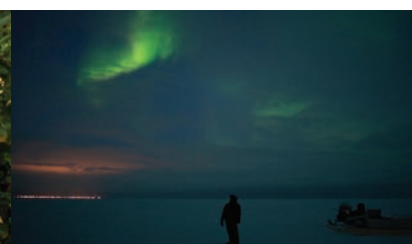
*Patrimonio*  
LISA F. JACKSON  
AND SARAH TEALE



*Quest*  
JONATHAN OLSHEFSKI AND  
SABRINA SCHMIDT GORDON



*The Surrender of Waymond Hall*  
JANE GREENBERG



*Those That Breathe*  
KITRA CAHANA, ED OU  
AND BECKY KORMAN

## 2017 Pare Lorentz Grant Recipients



*Crip Camp*  
JIM LEBRECHT, NICOLE NEWNHAM  
AND SARA BOLDER



*Going to Mars: The Nikki Giovanni Project*  
JOE BREWSTER  
AND MICHÈLE STEPHENSON



*When We Walk*  
JASON DASILVA, RICHARD O'CONNELL  
AND LEIGH DASILVA

## 2018 Pare Lorentz Grant Recipients



### *Alabamaland*

APRIL DOBBINS, MOIRA GRIFFIN  
AND TREVITE WILLIS



### *Conscience Point*

TREVA WURMFELD, JULIANNA BRANNUM  
AND ALLI JOSEPH



### *Landfall*

CECILIA ALDARONDO  
AND INES HOFMANN KANNA



### *Poetry of Cowboys*

MIKE DAY  
AND CHARLOTTE COOK



### *The Sacred & The Snake*

SARA LAFLEUR-VETTER, JONATHAN KLET  
AND ROMIN JOHNSON

## Pare Lorentz Documentary Fund Grantee Accomplishments

- *Crip Camp* was acquired by Netflix and Barack and Michelle Obama's Higher Ground Productions.
- *Conscience Point* broadcast on PBS' *Independent Lens*.
- *Patrimonio* premiered at the 2017 Berlin Film Festival.
- *Quest* premiered at 2017 Sundance Film Festival, broadcasted on PBS and was nominated for Best Documentary at the News and Documentary Emmy Awards.
- *93Queen* premiered on PBS' *POV* in 2018.

stories we fund FY 16-19 snapshot

2,546  
applicants

\$3,430,000  
in grants supporting 82 projects



# filmmaker support & services

## Fiscal Sponsorship

The IDA acts as a critical point of first contact for filmmakers navigating the nonfiction funding landscape. We provide feedback and guidance on all aspects of filmmaking, from fundraising to distribution and everything in between. Helpful and knowledgeable IDA staff are always available to offer the occasional pep talk, reminding filmmakers that they are not alone and that completing a documentary is a long road.

IDA is the  
largest doc-  
specific  
fiscal  
sponsor  
in the  
world.

FY 16-19 at a glance

**\$27,072,070**

distributed to projects

**450+**  
fundraising

**16**  
countries  
represented

Film still from fiscally-sponsored project *My Country, No More* by Rita Amal Baghdadi



“

I wanted an organization that knew the specific challenges of funding and making a documentary. The IDA Fiscal Sponsorship Program is everything that I was looking for. Its wonderful staff is always there to answer my loads of questions, and the online fund request forms could not be any easier.

”

- RITA BAGHDADI  
Co-Director, *My Country, No More*



*Who Is Arthur Chu?* (2017  
Slamdance Film Festival)  
was acquired by PBS'  
*America ReFramed*.



*Raise Hell: The Life & Times of Molly Ivins* (2018  
Sundance Film Festival) was distributed by  
Magnolia Pictures.



*The Raft* won the top honor of CPH: Award at the 2018  
CPH:DOX Film Festival and won the Prix Europa for  
Best European TV Documentary.



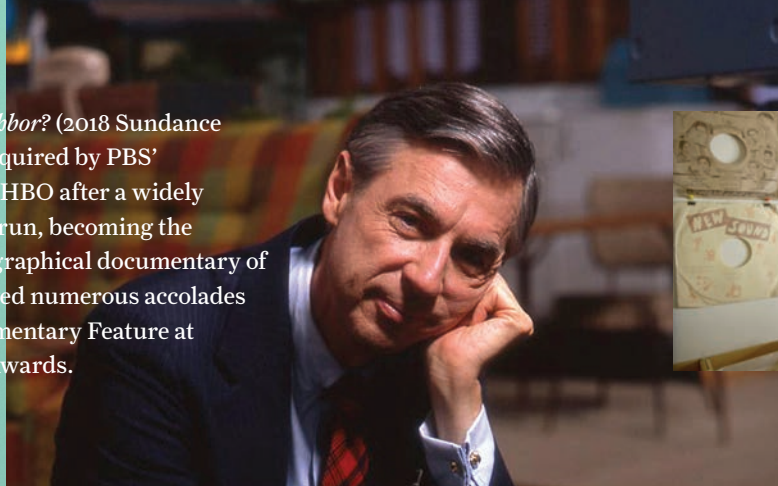
*FOSTER* (2018-AFI  
Docs) was acquired  
by HBO.



*Circus of Books* (2019  
Tribeca Film Festival)  
was acquired by  
Netflix.



*Won't You Be My Neighbor?* (2018 Sundance Film Festival) was acquired by PBS' *Independent Lens* and HBO after a widely successful theatrical run, becoming the highest-grossing biographical documentary of all time. It also received numerous accolades including Best Documentary Feature at Independent Spirit Awards.



*Bathtubs Over Broadway* (2018 Tribeca Film Festival) received the Writers Guild of America Award for Best Documentary Screenplay and was distributed by Focus Features.

“

As a fiscal sponsor, IDA was a wellspring of support for my film *Circus of Books*. I was able to have consultations throughout my film's production and through to its release. One of the really great aspects of their support was IDA's flexibility with my film's income. Many filmmakers need to have both investors and donors, and the fact that IDA allowed for that type of flexibility was critical to my film's successful funding. I am grateful to the organization also putting together amazing events throughout the city and hosting receptions where filmmakers could meet one another.

”

—RACHEL MASON  
Director, *Circus of Books*



*Last Men in Aleppo* (2017 Sundance Film Festival) was nominated for an Academy Award, and won a News and Documentary Emmy for Outstanding Current Affairs Documentary.



*Running with Beto* (2019 SXSW) was acquired by HBO.





*The Bad Kids* won the US Documentary Special Jury Award for Vérité Filmmaking at the 2016 Sundance Film Festival, the 2016 IDA Documentary Award for Best Music, the 2017 News and Documentary Emmy for Outstanding Business and Economic Documentary, and was acquired by PBS' *Independent Lens*.

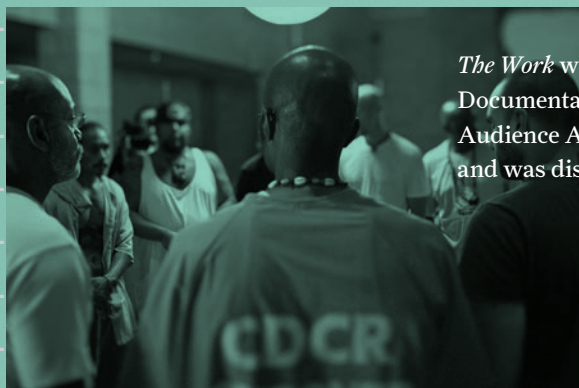


*The Price of Everything* (2018 Sundance Film Festival) received an Emmy Award nomination in Best Arts or Music Documentary, a Gierson Awards nomination for Outstanding Arts & Culture Documentary, and was acquired by HBO.

*The Rape of Recy Taylor* (2017 Venice Film Festival) was nominated for a Peabody Award, distributed by The Orchard and acquired by STARZ.



*Inventing Tomorrow* (2018 Sundance Film Festival) was acquired by PBS' *POV*.



*The Work* won the Grand Jury Prize for Best Documentary Feature at the 2017 SXSW, the Audience Award at 2017 Sheffield Doc/Fest, and was distributed by The Orchard.

*Hooligan Sparrow* (2017 Sundance Film Festival) won the Cinema Eye Honors Award for Outstanding Achievement in a Debut Feature Film, the Truer than Fiction Award at the Independent Spirit Awards, a Peabody, received two Emmy nominations, and was acquired by PBS' *POV*.





# professional development

IDA offers opportunities for documentarians at all experience levels to grow professionally by enhancing their knowledge of the craft and business of nonfiction filmmaking. Filmmakers from coast-to-coast learn from celebrated artists and renowned industry experts through year-round sessions.

## IDA Conversation Series

Our signature public conversations with the most prominent documentary figures feature lively interviews that inspire audiences of both filmmakers and the film-going public alike.

## Industry Panels

Panel discussions cover critical issues facing filmmakers working in the US and abroad.

## Master Classes

Intensive sessions give filmmakers hands-on opportunities for skill development.

## DocuClub

Community rough-cut screenings of works-in-progress in New York City and Los Angeles provide filmmakers with valuable feedback on their films.

## What's New

Information sessions provide the latest news and access to documentary funders, distributors, broadcasters, and other industry insiders.



**73**  
sessions

**5,537**  
attendees

**117**  
experts &  
session  
leaders

**8**  
cities

Participant at DocuClub NY: *Afterward*  
Photo by Dara Messinger, courtesy of DCTV





“

When I attend Master Classes at IDA, I know I can trust the source of information. The caliber of speakers is second to none and each speaker brings a wealth of expertise, ‘insider’ industry knowledge, and enthusiasm to training sessions.

”

- NICCOLE OSBORN  
IDA educational workshop participant



“

My DocuClub screening was so helpful, both in giving my team new insight and in confirming some of the feelings I had already about what wasn't working. [Audiences were] very engaged and also wanted to know how they could support Laila's organization to continue the work she's doing.



”

-ELIZABETH MIRZAEI AND GULISTAN MIRZAEI  
DocuClub: *Laila at the Bridge*





Presented in partnership with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, Getting Real is a biennial conference on documentary media and the only peer-to-peer gathering of its kind in North America. Conference themes have focused on a wide range of topics including creativity, diversity and sustainability.

# getting real

presented by

ida  
international  
documentary  
association



DOCS GET RE



# #docsgetreal

## 2018

- 1,015 participants
- 42,382 website views
- 33% of the 84 sessions in 2018 provided information specifically for groups underrepresented in the documentary filmmaking community, such as women, visible minorities and filmmakers with disabilities
- First-ever convening of documentary filmmakers with disabilities
- Enhanced participation of filmmakers of color through collaborations with Firelight Media, Brown Girls Doc Mafia, National Association of Latino Independent Producers and the Los Angeles Asian American Film Festival
- Programming collaborations with Women Make Movies, Outfest, The Collective of Documentary Women Cinematographers, True/False Film Festival and Sundance Institute

## 2016

- 700 participants
- 31,390 website views
- #docsgetreal reached 700,833 social accounts and generated 3,763,260 impressions
- First-ever convening of Asian American documentary filmmakers, leading to the formation of A-Doc, the Asian American Documentary Network

## 2014

397 participated in the inaugural conference—launching a unique, field-wide gathering in North America





Photos courtesy of AMPAS, Mark Hayes, and Susan Yin. Additional photography by Laura Ahmed for IDA.



“As a young first-time documentary filmmaker of color in the Midwest, attending Getting Real ‘16 was a way for me to feel connected to the larger collective in our field the world-over...I walked away with a humbling awareness of all the toil that shaped where documentary is today and the work yet to be done.”

- BING LIU -

Filmmaker, Kartemquin Films





“Getting Real gave me the very special opportunity to zoom out on my career, meet face-to-face with colleagues I’d never met in person and to develop and teach concrete skills. It’s a special, radically collaborative, caring and nurturing event for artists, producers, creators and distributors.” - ANI MERCEDES, Looky Looky Pictures





# field building & advocacy

In service of our mission, IDA advocates for and defends the rights and freedoms of documentary artists, activists and journalists. We support documentary makers in jeopardy, convene the field, build partnerships, aggregate and share knowledge and ideas, and facilitate transparency, innovation and collaboration among industry stakeholders to address critical issues in the field.

## *Areas of focus*

- Diversity and inclusion
- Filmmakers around the globe under legal jeopardy for doing their work
- Freedom of expression/First Amendment
- Copyright, fair use and DMCA
- Arts funding and public media
- Career sustainability and fair compensation
- Filmmaker mental health and self-care

To do this work, IDA issues statements, calls to action and op-eds, and coordinates with other organizations, networks and individuals depending on the issues being addressed. Recent examples include calls to stop the deportation of Claudio Rojas for participating in the film *The Infiltrators*, and an open letter calling for the Department of Homeland Security to cease the surveillance of journalists, activists and filmmakers working on the US/Mexico border.

We partner frequently with the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, supporting over 70 amicus briefs in the past three years where the rights of filmmakers were threatened. In partnership with the Knight First Amendment Institute, the Brennan Center for Justice, and Doc Society, we filed a lawsuit against the US Departments of State and Homeland Security to protect foreign filmmakers being forced to give up the social media information when applying for a US visa.

At the International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA) in 2017, IDA organized a convening of groups representing filmmakers from over 40 countries and regions. Many of them raised issues of censorship, threats to filmmakers' safety, restricted funding, and challenges to robust public media systems, as critical issues. We will be working with these groups moving forward to build stronger ties among groups in addressing global concerns.

## Creating a National Path for Sustainability

Every two years, IDA partners with the Center for Media and Social Impact to conduct a State of the Field Study. This is the first systematic longitudinal study of the documentary to identify trends and shifts in the economics of the field over time.

Building on conversations started at Getting Real '16, IDA launched an initiative to explore the issue of career sustainability in the documentary field. With support from the Ford Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts, IDA invited major nonfiction media stakeholders from across the nation to participate in a Documentary Sustainability Summit in Washington, DC, in February 2017. Following the summit, key findings, case studies, and an action plan were released in a national report. Many of the regions involved in the initial convening have since picked up the mantle to lead their own sustainability discussions specific to their geographical location.



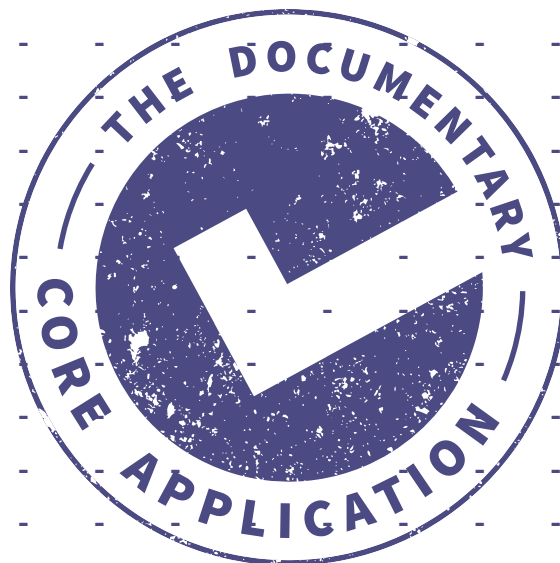
# Digital Millennium Copyright Act

Over the past eight years, IDA has been a leader in efforts to obtain exemptions to the Digital Millennium Copyright Act that preserve documentary filmmakers' abilities to make fair use in the digital age.

## The Documentary Core Application

The Documentary Core Application is a collaborative effort by grantors who regularly fund documentary projects to standardize application requirements, with the aim of fostering greater access and a more equitable and sustainable documentary field. Spearheaded by the IDA and the Sundance Institute, the project employs a core proposal checklist that filmmakers can use to create a single proposal that will satisfy the primary requirements of participating fiscal sponsors and grantors.

Twenty-five organizations have adopted the Documentary Core Application to date, including Bay Area Video Coalition, Catapult Film Fund, Chicken and Egg Pictures, DCTV, Film Independent, Frameline, IDA, ITVS, Latino Public Broadcasting, LEF Foundation, New Film Fund, Points North Institute, SFFILM, Sundance Institute, Doc Society, The Rogovy Foundation, Tribeca Film Institute, Utah Film Center, Vision Maker Media, and Women Make Movies.



The 2018 Heartlandia summit on sustainability discussing the "State of the Field" report. Photo by Steven Bogner





# documentary magazine

*Documentary* magazine is the only national magazine devoted exclusively to nonfiction. Through its editorial division, the IDA aims to serve the documentary community with engaging, pragmatic and provocative coverage of the documentary field in print and online, linking the local and international communities of nonfiction makers.

FY 16-19 snapshot

41,437

average monthly impressions on  
social media

26,289

average monthly visitors from

218 countries and regions  
read editorial content on  
documentary.org

5,500

households, organizations and  
libraries receive the magazine





# cultural programming & audience engagement

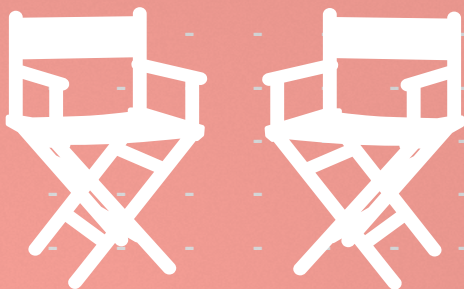
Building a broader audience for documentary stories is essential. To do that, IDA presents programs and activities that serve, educate and develop documentary audiences and promote the art of documentary.

8,000 film  
enthusiasts  
139 free  
documentary  
screenings



# DocuDay LA

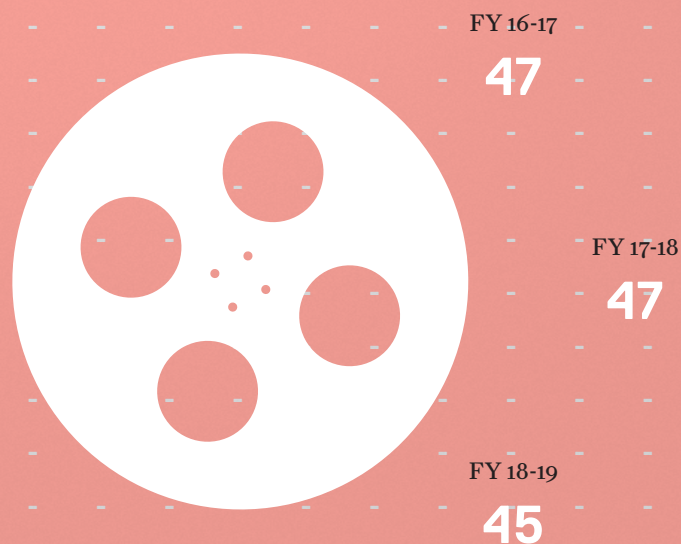
DocuDay, IDA's longest-running program, is a beloved annual celebration of the feature and short documentaries nominated for an Academy Award, with back-to-back screenings all day. Each year, over 600 nonfiction lovers gather at the Writers Guild Theater to hear from the filmmaker teams and project participants.



## Screenings

Our IDA Documentary Screening Series, Awards Spotlight and IDA Presents events drew 8,000 film enthusiasts who registered for 130 free documentary screenings.

### *Films screened*

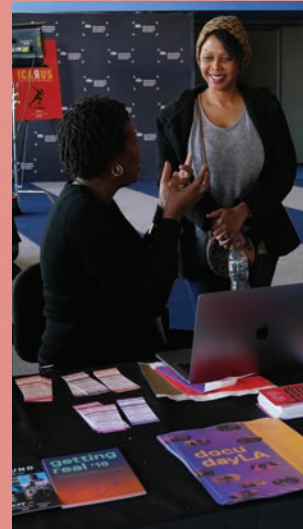


### *IDA Documentary Screening Series films nominated for an Academy Award*

2016: *I Am Not Your Negro*, *13th*, *O.J.: Made in America* (winner)  
2017: *Icarus* (winner), *Strong Island*, *Abacus: Small Enough to Jail*  
2018: *Minding the Gap*, *Free Solo* (winner), *RBG*









# ida documentary awards

Every year, nonfiction community-members gather to celebrate the very best of global documentary filmmaking at the IDA Documentary Awards.

## *Award Honorees*

### Career Achievement Award

2016 STANLEY NELSON

2017 LOURDES PORTILLO

2018 JULIA REICHERT

### Emerging Documentary Filmmaker Award

2016 NANFU WANG

2017 YANCE FORD

2018 BING LIU

### Amicus Award

2016 LYN AND NORMAN LEAR

2017 ABIGAIL DISNEY

2018 Chicken and Egg Pictures

### Courage Under Fire Award

2017 Cast and crew from *Cries from Syria, Hell on Earth: The Fall of Syria and the Rise of ISIS, Last Men in Aleppo* and *City of Ghosts*

2018 STEPHEN MAING & NYPD 12

### Pioneer Award

2016 ALLY DERKS



## 2016

**483 submissions**  
**500 ceremony attendees**

## 2017

**493 submissions**  
**550 ceremony attendees**

## 2018

**664 submissions**  
**600 ceremony attendees**



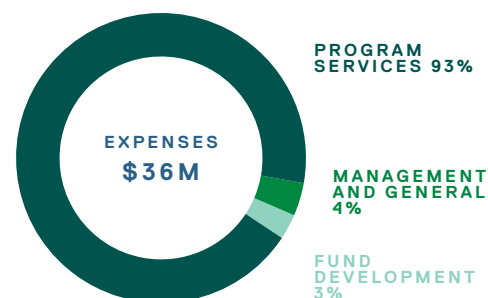
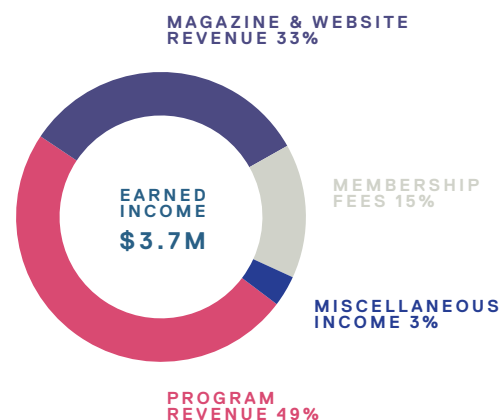
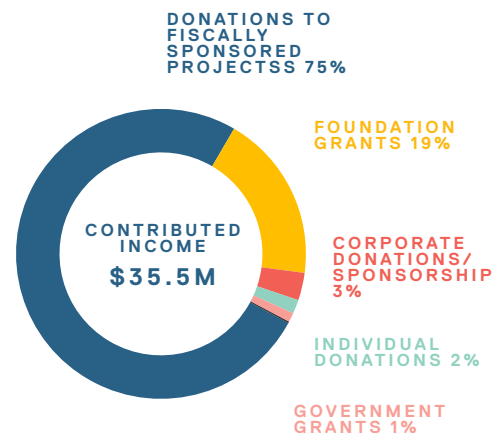




# financials

IDA's fiscal year begins July 1 and ends June 30. The foundation income for FY 16-17 includes a multi-year \$5 million grant to bespent over four years for the IDA Enterprise Documentary Fund. In accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles(GAAP), the entire grant is recorded in the year it was received and disbursed over the four-year grant period, resulting in a high surplus in FY16-17 and deficit in FY18-19.

	FY 16-17	FY 17-18	FY 18-19
<b>REVENUE</b>			
<b>Contributed Income</b>			
Donations to Fiscally Sponsored Projects	\$8,647,374	\$ 9,495,757	\$ 8,709,196
Foundation Grants	\$5,082,291	\$1,072,645	\$492,141
Corporate Donations/ Sponsorship	\$304,500	\$294,000	\$492,500
Individual Donations	\$179,106	\$212,925	\$157,040
Government Grants	\$51,900	\$158,720	\$162,350
In Kind Donations	\$28,501	\$19,700	\$4,600
Subtotal Contributed Income	\$14,293,671	\$11,253,747	\$10,017,827
<b>Earned Income</b>			
Program Revenue	\$540,035	\$523,220	\$766,959
Magazine & Website Revenue	\$293,075	\$402,874	\$513,842
Membership Fees	\$127,315	\$196,959	\$234,555
Miscellaneous Income	\$57,714	\$24,332	\$46,303
Subtotal Earned Income	\$1,018,139	\$1,147,385	\$1,561,659
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$15,311,810</b>	<b>\$12,401,132</b>	<b>\$11,579,486</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Program Services	\$10,498,842	\$11,525,425	\$11,609,566
Management and General	\$240,731	\$567,709	\$518,257
Fund Development	\$388,873	\$295,097	\$337,736
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$11,128,446</b>	<b>\$12,388,231</b>	<b>\$12,465,559</b>
<b>SURPLUS / DEFICIT</b>	<b>\$4,183,364</b>	<b>\$12,901</b>	<b>(\$886,073)</b>





# our partners & supporters

As this report covers a three-year period, what follows is a comprehensive list of our donors who have made our critical work at IDA possible. The giving levels reflect the highest annual contribution to IDA.

## SELECT PROGRAMMING PARTNERS

- A-Doc
- Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences
- American Film Institute
- American Film Showcase
- Association of Documentary Filmmakers in Turkey
- Austin Film Society
- California Humanities
- Bay Area Video Coalition
- Brown Girls Doc Mafia
- Doc Society
- Documentary Producers Alliance
- Center for Media
- Center for Asian American Media
- The D-Word
- *Deadline*
- Documentary Organization of Canada
- European Documentary Network
- Film Independent
- Firelight Media
- Field of Vision
- Freelance Investigative Reporters and Editors
- The Flaherty Institute
- Hot Docs
- IDFA
- Indie Caucus
- ITVS
- Jonathan B. Murray Center for Documentary Journalism
- Kartemquin Films
- KCRW
- Leipzig Documentary Film Festival
- National Network of Fiscal Sponsors
- New Film Fund

- New York Film Academy
- New York Women in Film and Television
- Picture Motion
- Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press
- Sheffield DocFest
- Sundance Institute
- UC Irvine School of Law
- University of Southern California
- *Variety*
- Women Make Movies

## FOUNDATION AND GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

- Annenberg Foundation
- Bertha Foundation
- Catapult Film Fund
- Consulate of Israel
- Corporation for Public Broadcasting
- Filmmaker Fund
- Ford Foundation/JustFilms
- Grant Me the Wisdom Foundation
- Hollywood Foreign Press Association
- Jonathan Logan Family Foundation
- LEF Foundation
- Lear Family Foundation
- City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs
- Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture
- John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
- National Endowment for the Arts
- New York Community Trust
- Rockefeller Brothers Fund
- Wyncote Foundation

## CORPORATE SUPPORT

- 16:9 Post
- A&E IndieFilms
- ABCNews Videosource
- ArcLight Cinemas
- American Masters
- Arena Cine Lounge
- After Bruce
- Al Jazeera English—*Witness*
- Amazon Studios
- Authentic Entertainment
- Black Magic Design
- Brkly
- CNN Films
- Canon
- Creative Artists Agency
- desJardins/Blachman Fund
- Discovery Communications
- Eastman Kodak
- EPIX
- Field of Vision
- Firstcom Music
- Fire Look Media
- Focus Features
- Genuine Article Pictures
- HBO
- Hulu
- *IndieWire*
- ITVS
- Kind
- Kleinberg Lange Cuddy & Carlo LLP
- MSNBC
- National Geographic Documentary Films
- Netflix
- *New York Times Op-Docs*
- Odyssey Fund
- Oovra Music
- Paramount Pictures Studios
- Participant Media
- PBS
- *POV*
- Reveal from the Center for Investigative Reporting

- RED Digital Cinema
- ro\*co films
- Scrap Labs
- Showtime Documentary Films
- Sony Creative Software
- *The Hollywood Reporter*
- The Standard
- Vulcan Productions
- WGBH/World Channel
- World of Wonder
- YouTube Originals

## INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORTERS & MEMBERS

- Academy of Art University
- Chapman University
- Mount St. Mary's University
- Wake Forest University
- Saybrook University
- School of Visual Arts
- Spelman College
- University of California Santa Cruz
- University of Missouri

## CORPORATE MEMBERS

- Concordia Studio
- EARTHxFilm
- FGW Productions
- Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz, P.C.
- Impact Partners
- Kanopy
- Kino Lorber, Inc.
- Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa
- OVID.tv
- Writers Guild of America West
- RYOT Media
- Submarine Entertainment
- The Film Collaborative
- Topic Studios
- Viacom, Inc.
- Vision Maker Media



## INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS

### \$25,000+

- James Costa/ Archibald Family Charitable Foundation
- Leslie-Anne Fareshire
- Lauren Lexton & Kevin MacCarthy

### \$10,000-\$24,999

- Berger Family Foundation
- Abigail E. Disney & Pierre
- N. Hauser
- Jesse V. Ewing
- Friedman Family Charitable Trust
- Simon Liebel

### \$5,000-\$9,999

- Anonymous
- James & Martha Ackerman
- Nancy Dickenson
- Shebbie Jacques
- Lynne Littman
- Maida Lynn
- Vinnie Malhotra
- Julie Morris
- Katharina Otto-Bernstein
- Marjan Safinia
- Aaron Saidman

### \$2,500-\$4,999

- Stephanie & Jon DeVaun
- Christopher M. Duerrmeier
- Brett Morgen
- Stephen Nemeth
- Laura Poitras
- Mark Sandelson
- Theodore A. Sarandos
- Julie Morris
- Greg Stikeleather

### \$1,000-\$2,499

- Anonymous
- Hallee Adelman
- Nicole Avant
- Stephen Bentley
- Fonda Berosini

- Edwina Brandon & Victor Kane
- Adam Chapnick
- Lisa Kirk Colburn
- Liesl Copland
- Benjamin Cotner
- Datagrasp, Inc.
- John DiMinico
- Sue Dibble
- Kevin Dill
- Michael Donaldson
- Tracy Droz Tragos
- Scott Glosserman
- Madeleine Grunwald
- Shana Hagan
- Gabriela and Mark Hayes
- Karen Hori
- Zach Horowitz
- Kevin Iwashina
- Colin Johnson
- Simon Kilmurry
- Christine La Monte/ La Monte Productions
- Caroline Libresco
- Billy Luther & Fenton Bailey
- Susan Margolin
- Diane Mellon
- Mellen Foundation, Inc.
- Anjay Nagpal
- Sheila Nevins
- Lisa Nishimura
- Odyssey Fund
- Chris Perez
- Arianne Rocchi
- Annie Roney
- Dan Sickles & Antonio Santini
- Suzanne & Matthew Sheppard
- Amir Shahkhalili
- Sundance Institute
- Carole Tomko
- Roger Weisberg & Karen Freedman
- Persephone Whiteside-McFadden
- Nancy Willen
- The Estate of David L. Wolper

### \$500-\$999

- Hallee Adelman

- Judd Apatow
- John Archibald
- Susan Atherton
- Joe Berlinger
- Mathilde Bittner
- Steven Bogner
- Corinne Bourdeau
- Nicole Boxer
- Lisa Califf
- Kenneth Carlson
- James T. & Elizabeth R. Chandler
- Perry Chasin
- Dean Cheley
- Jina Chung & Isaac Lim
- Cynthia Chyr
- Edward P. Collins
- Liesl Copland
- Elizabeth Covert
- Eric d'Arbeloff
- Joyce Deep
- Chris Eleftheriades
- Stephen Ellis
- Frank Evers
- Sally J. Fifer
- Laura Gabbert
- Christina Galioto
- Katie Galloway
- Susan Grella
- Bruce Hensel
- Lysa Heslov
- Nick Higgins
- Susan Hoenig
- John Hoffman
- Justine Jacob
- Dana Sheldon Jackson
- Eric Johnson
- Yukari Kaneko
- Pepi Kelman and Coles Brewer
- Katie Kim
- John Patrick King
- Tim Kittleson
- Sandra Lee
- Matthew Lemmenes
- Jack Lerner
- Stu Levy
- Dan Lindsay
- Carrie Lozano
- Brooke Lusk
- Juan Mandelbaum and Clara Sandler
- Patrick McGee
- Julia Meltzer

- Thomas G. Miller
- Shirley Moyers
- Ted Mundorff
- Jean Oppenheimer
- Christopher Paine
- Julia Parker Benello
- David Piperni
- David Pullman
- Keri Putman
- Claire Ragge
- Francisco Ricardo
- Brenda Robinson
- Tamara Rosenberg
- Barry Rubinow
- Scott Saunders
- Earl B. Scott
- Sharp Lippman Family Charitable Fund
- Trond Skramstad
- Darshan Sittampalam
- Carla Solomon
- Desiree Staples
- Rick Trank
- David Ulich
- Steven Ungerleider
- Carole Wilson
- Jamie Wolf

### \$250-\$499

- Albert Family Charitable Fund
- Kat Albert
- Danny Alpert
- Angel Annussek
- Anonymous
- Susan Anthony
- Christopher Baaden
- Bernadine Baines
- Trevor Baldwin
- Nels Bangerter
- Donald J. Barrett
- Sally Nellson Barrett
- William Beaton
- Steven Beer
- David Belino
- Thomas Benski
- John Bilas
- Samantha Bloom
- Paul Bonesteel
- Eamonn Bowles
- Nicholas Brandestini
- Doc Society
- Keely Brosnan
- Alice Bristow

- Scott Burgess
- Jennifer Campbell
- Patricia Ceasar
- Matt Checkowski
- Anthony Chene
- Lori Cheattle
- Joan Churchill
- Cynthia Childs
- Howard Cohen
- Chico Colvard
- Jesse Cool
- Chico Colvard
- Kahane Cooperman
- Heather E. Connell
- Marshall Curry
- Miriam Cutler
- Andrew Davis
- Ron Davis
- Chris Debiec
- Andre Dhont
- Kirby Dick
- Paola Di Florio
- Hilarion Dimayuga
- Shannon Dill
- Doc Society/ formerly BritDoc
- Beth Earl
- Sabine El Gemayel
- Ray Ellis
- Harrison Engle
- Michaelina Fabijanska
- David Feige
- Kirby Ferguson
- Jeff Forster
- Maxyne Franklin
- Paula Froehle
- Laura Gabbert
- Sarah George
- Ted Gerdes
- Annabeth Gish
- Bryan Glick
- Julie Goldman
- Paige Goldberg Tolmach
- Julie Goldman
- Astrid Golomb
- Alfonso Gomez-Rejon
- Annette Gottlieb
- Robin Greenspun
- Thomas B. Haines
- Melissa Haizlip
- Rebecca Halpern
- Kent Hamilton



- Dean Hamer
- Annie Hanlon
- Matthew Harmon
- Gabrielle Hayes
- Hudson Hickman
- Michael J. Hirschhorn & Jimena P. Martinez
- Helen Higbee
- Nick Higgins
- David Hoffman
- Nancy Hood
- Tim Horsburgh
- Lauren Hynnek
- Matt Ippolito
- Kelsey Irvine
- Adam Irving
- Attique Iqbal
- Justine Jacob
- Beverly Jacobson Schler
- Melissa Jacobson
- Peter Jaszi
- Ewa Jastrzebska
- Eric Johnson
- Brian Johnson
- Jonathan Josell
- Laurie Kaman
- Nicole Karsin
- Elizabeth Karr
- Nicole Karsin
- Harris and Eliza
- Kempner Fund
- Rory Kennedy
- Isaac Kerlow
- Peter Kerr
- Laura Kim
- John Patrick King
- Zofia Kowalewska
- Linda Goldstein Knowlton
- Meirah Korval
- Molly Kreuzman
- Matthew Sain Ladarris
- Sheila Laffey
- Christina Lee
- Lisa Leeman
- Paul LeGrand
- Amy Letourneau

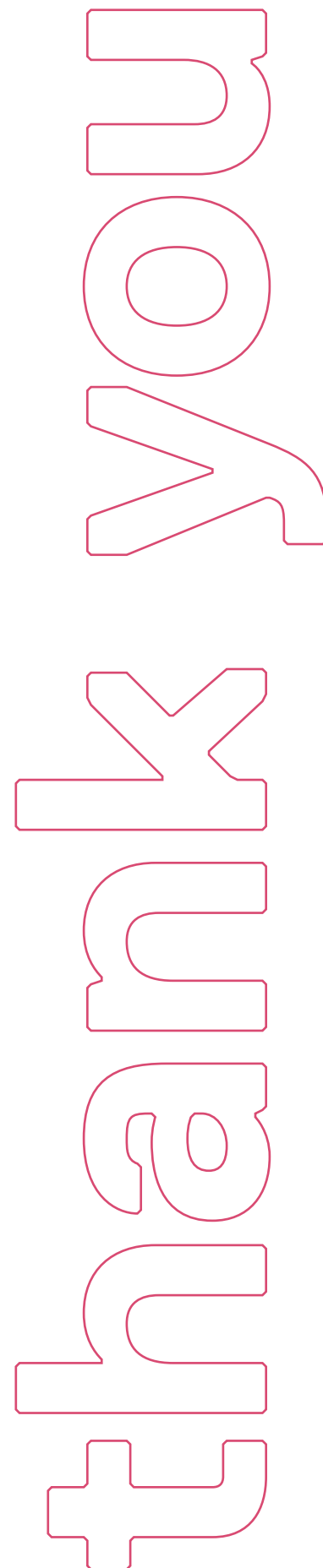
- Rachel Libert
- Brad Lichtenstein
- Scott Liggett
- Paula Lorenzi
- Tristan Loraine
- Bill MacDonald
- Kevin Mahoney
- Jon Manning
- Christie Marchese
- Claire Elise McCave
- Gretchen McCourt
- Emily McDonald
- Nion McEvoy
- Elizabeth McNamara
- Christina Mondy
- Thomas M. Morley
- Mary Morrisette
- Susan Morrison
- Rita Mullin
- Molly Murphy
- Jonathan Mussman
- Raphaella Neihausen
- Marilyn Ness
- Sally Nellson Barrett
- Network for Good
- Andrea Nevins
- Suzanne L. Niedland
- Robert Niemack & Anne Hassett
- Patrick O'Connor
- Christine O'Malley
- Tess Ornstein
- Jeff Ostenson
- Julia Overton
- Jeffrey Pechtler
- Fredell Pogodin
- Luciana Polney
- Grant Powell
- Star Price
- Marvin Putnam
- Gordon Quinn
- Orly Ravid

- Judith Rawie-Rook
- Stacey Reiss
- Alyson Richards
- Christopher Rolden
- Hannah Rosenweig
- Marcia Ross
- Sally Rubin
- Layla Rudd
- Oakie Russell
- Jake Sally
- Mark Sandelson
- Dorothea Sargent
- Laurie Ann Schag
- Helen Hood Scheer
- Beverly Jacob & David Schler
- Gregg Schwenk
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- Trond Skramstad
- Stephen Smith
- James Solomon
- Brian Speiser
- Lenny Steinberg
- Ricki Stern
- Frank Stiefel & BJ Dockweiler
- Dan Sturman
- Define Tabori
- Renee Tajima-Peña
- Brooke P. Thompson
- Peter Trow
- Alessandro Uzielli
- Rajeev Varma
- Kristen Vaurio
- Diane Estelle Vicari
- Samuel Vinal
- Kevin Vuong
- Alex Walton
- Andrew Walton
- Leah Warshawski
- Ashley Wean
- Stephanie Wein
- Sarah Weintraub
- Marc Weiss

- Ryan Werner
- Clay Westervelt
- Marla Williams
- Alex Winter
- Jeffrey Winter
- Gwendolyn Wynne
- Carolyn Yamazaki
- Justin Yungfleisch
- Amy Ziering
- Glen Zipper

#### 2016-2018 AWARDS CHAIRS

- Fonda Berosini
- Sonya Childress
- James Costa
- Harrison Engle
- Sean Farnel
- Ann Hassett
- Hilary Helstein
- Matthew Holzman
- Karen Hori
- Cynthia Kane
- Nathan Kensinger
- Senain Kheshgi
- Dan Krauss
- Lauren Lexton
- Carrie Lozano
- Betsy A. McLane
- Brett Morgen
- Stephen Nemeth
- Bob Niemack
- Sara Pellegrini
- Anthony Perrone
- Marjan Safinia
- Laurie Ann Schag
- Sky Sitney
- Amanda Spain
- Bhawin Suchak
- Basil Tsiokos
- Moises Velez
- Mark L. Wolper









# IDE



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Los Angeles, CA 90010  
(213) 232-1660

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  documentary.org

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documentary  
association