

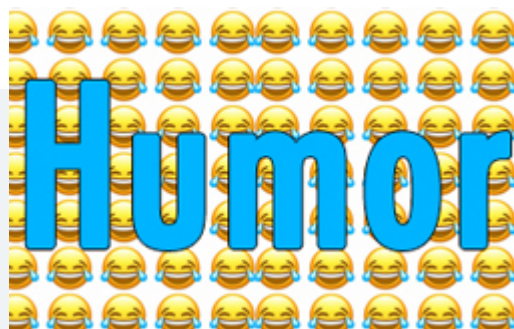
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MDOCS Newsletter



Fall 2018 has been a season of changes for the 5-year-old John B. Moore Documentary Studies Collaborative. With gratitude for her tireless, visionary leadership over the program's first four years, we wished Prof. Jordana Dym bon voyage as she concluded her inaugural Directorship and headed to Paris to return to her scholarly research on maps and travel. Having taught courses in MDOCS since 2015 and participated in each summer of the [Storytellers' Institute](#) to date, I am honored to be taking the reins of the program for the 2018-19 academic year, and am excited to share what's on the horizon.

Storytellers' 2018, organized around the theme "Surveil/Surveilled," was a resounding success, convening a group of students, scholars and documentarians, representing a wide array of backgrounds and approaches. Driving the Institute's growing national profile, Director Sarah Friedland curated an impressive weekend of public events, which increasingly attracts audiences from across the region and beyond to consider documentary through a focused, thematic lens. Meanwhile, the [2019 call for applications is live](#)—come think, dialogue, make and challenge documentary's reputation for dourness, through the 2019 theme [Humor: Laughing with Reality](#).



[Check out the 2018 Storytellers' Institute Highlights](#)

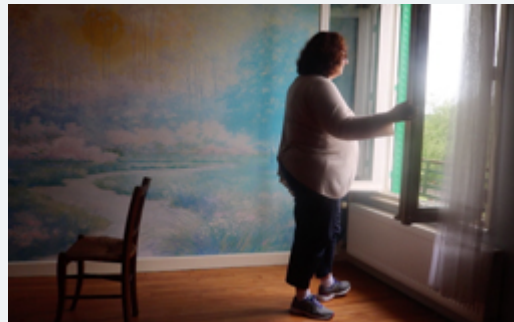
[2019 Storytellers' Institute Call for Applications](#)

In other news -- we have two exciting programmatic themes for the Fall and Spring. [This fall, the theme is From the Horse's Mouth: Building a Culture of Storytelling](#). Thanks to a generous gift from Eric and Lisa Green P '20, MDOCS is proud to be hosting an immersive residency by [The Moth](#), the famed presenter of both live storytelling events and NPR's widely syndicated [The Moth Radio Hour](#). After spending the weekend offering workshops for students, faculty, and staff on the craft of oral storytelling, The Moth will present 10 students telling stories about personal transformations, in a [College StorySLAM at Ladd Hall, Zankel Music Center, Sunday, September 30, 7 p.m.](#) (Tickets are sold out, but there will be a live waitlist starting in the Zankel lobby at 6 p.m., and overflow seating available on a first-come-first-served basis.)

With The Moth's visit as our spark, we spend the rest of the semester consolidating and celebrating our culture of storytelling, presenting a [Storytellers' Institute Fellows Showcase \(Oct. 3\)](#), an [MDOCS Faculty Showcase \(Nov. 12\)](#), and inviting our entire community to voice their own stories in two more live storytelling events. On October 30, artist Tim Davis (subject of the Tang solo exhibition *When We Are Dancing – I Get Ideas*) will host [You are a Collector](#), an evening of storytelling about (and featuring) the objects precious to us. And on November 28, Skidmore Psychology faculty member Erica Wojick (who, in a previous life, co-founded a storytelling series in Madison, WI) will MC the inaugural evening in our new series "From the Horse's Mouth"—with this first installment themed, for post-Thanksgiving digestion, around food and family. Please reach back if you think you might like to tell a story!



[Fall 2018 Calendar of Events](#)



[Student News](#)

We look forward to sharing details, later this semester, of Spring's programming theme **Cosmic Tones: Mapping the Musical Multiverse in Documentary**. In the meanwhile, I'll leave you with heartening news of how MDOCS projects reach off campus -- "beyond the ring road." This summer saw two MDOCS student projects honored with wide broadcasts on TV and radio. Maddie King's *Solnin* (a senior film project advised by Ron Taylor, of MDOCS and Media Services) was selected for airing by WMHT on the [July 30 episode of its indie film anthology TvFILM](#), while her [creative process was highlighted on WMHT's Facebook](#). Clara-Sophia Daly '20 speedily turned around the audio documentary she began as a 2018 Storytellers' Fellow,

revising for broadcast on Berkeley's legendary KPFA 94.1FM a journalistic deep-dive on how **"Marijuana Legalization is Weeding Out Small Weed Farmers."**

I couldn't be more proud of these students, and hope you'll agree that, by fostering a culture of storytelling, MDOCS has endless potential to render our students' liberal arts education more permeable, public-facing, and socially impactful.

Forward,
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