## **SKIDMORE**

# MDOCS

JOHN B. MOORE DOCUMENTARY STUDIES COLLABORATIVE



#### MDOCS-affiliated films premiere at the Adirondack Film Festival

<u>How to Tell a True Immigrant Story</u>, an innovative, poetic, hard-hitting 360 VR documentary film co-created by Saratoga artists and activists, the county's Economic Opportunity Council, MDOCS students & faculty, and Director Aggie Ebrahimi Bazaz (a 2016 MDOCS Storytellers' Institute Fellow) enjoyed a packed house for its North American premiere at the <u>Adirondack Film Festival</u>. Lured by the red carpet, press took note, calling the film a "giant leap forward in the cinematic canon." The film returns home

for its local premiere with a screening at <u>Caffe Lena on Oct 29</u>, in partnership with the Saratoga Immigration Coalition, followed by an audience dialogue facilitated by students from Skidmore's Intergroup Relations program.



#### Sarah Friedland Premieres at DocNYC

Storytellers' Institute Director Sarah
Friedland has two films premiering at the upcoming DocNYC Film festival – *Like*the Back of Her Hand, a short film she directed about how noted artist Wendy
Richmond contends with loss through her art; and *Brooklyn Inshallah*, a feature film on which Sarah was Associate
Producer, about Khader El-Yateem, a
Palestinian American running to be the first Arab American on the New York City
Council. (Festival dates: Nov 6-15)



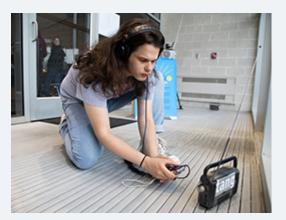
### Mentorship forged during Storytellers' Institute bears fruit in new exhibition

As the application deadline for the 2020 Storytellers' Institute draws near, we are reminded of the invaluable connections Storytellers' students make with professional practitioners each June. Read about the role Amanda Peckler '20 played in Daesha Devón Harris' installation in the 2019 Karene Faul Alumni Show at the Esther Massry Gallery.



<u>Storytellers' & Forum – Applications</u> <u>open!</u>

Applications close soon for the 2020

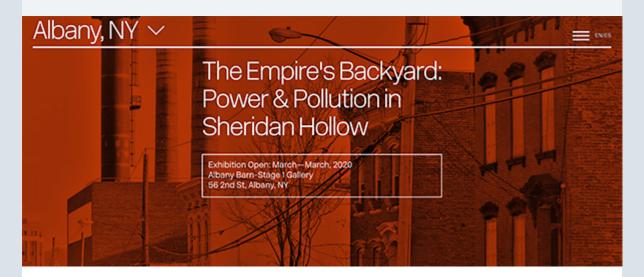


#### **MDOCS Spring 2020 Courses**

New this semester – a crew-based documentary filmmaking experience

Storytellers' Institute & Forum! The Skidmore student deadline passed 10/24, but there is still time for outside students and practitioners to apply to be a Fellow or to present at Forum. This year's theme is Co-Creation and its Discontents. Deadline for Visiting Fellows and Forum presenters is 12/4: Apply in collaborative pairs that span disciplines or with projects in collaboration with communities or institutions.

exploring local civic issues with an Emmy-award winning nonprofit, as well as new 1-credit offerings in 16mm analog film, viewing documentary in virtual reality, and a Spring Break intensive which will launch production on a new 360° VR film around Environmental Justice with community collaborators in Albany.



#### Climates of Inequality - Exhibit Opening March 2020

In Spring 2019, Prof. AJ Schneller and his students researched and developed a local contribution to a nationally touring exhibition about Environmental Justice. Over the summer, Brad Sachs '19 worked with MDOCS to turn the material the class collected into a short documentary film that advocates for changes to NY state energy policy, working in collaboration with the Sheridan Hollow Alliance for Renewable Energy, which advocates for victims of environmental degradation in Albany. And some of this advocacy – the blocking of planned construction on a fracked gas power plant -- have succeeded! Stay tuned for the opening of our exhibition (Climates of Inequality: Stories of Environmental Justice, co-produced with the Humanities Action Lab) at the Albany Barn, March 6, 2020.

**Skidmore College** 

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