

The John B. Moore Documentary Studies Collaborative (MDOCS) is an interdisciplinary undergraduate program in the documentary arts at Skidmore College that supports **evidence-based, research-driven creative practice.**

**Creative Thought Matters**



**SKIDMORE**  
C O L L E G E

"The purpose of a storyteller is not to tell you how to think, but to give you questions to think upon."

—Brandon Sanderson,  
*The Way of Kings*

#### **Institute Fellows**

practice any documentary art—audio, video, still photography, multimedia, spoken or written word.

We seek creative, collaborative souls who will invest time and energy into bringing their own visions to fruition in a lively summer context, and are committed to sharing their passions in documentary with the next generation of practitioners.

*Institute Fellows* will

- have an opportunity to present finished work or works in progress as part of the Institute.
  - receive an honorarium, transportation stipend, room & board on campus. Office space and access to Skidmore College resources will be provided.
  - participate in Institute activities (i.e. master classes, presentations, critiques, etc)
- DETAILS:

#### **MDOCS**

[www.skidmore.edu/mdocs](http://www.skidmore.edu/mdocs)

815 N. Broadway  
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866



**MDOCS**

JOHN B. MOORE DOCUMENTARY STUDIES COLLABORATIVE

## **SUMMER 2016 STORYTELLERS' INSTITUTE**

## **Fact & Fiction**

May 31 – July 1, 2016

Skidmore College  
Saratoga Springs NY

*Institute Fellows*

a five-week summer institute

Application Due: Jan. 25

# Documentarians Wanted

MDOCS welcomes storytellers from different documentary traditions.

We invite documentarians with projects (preferably recent or in process) that touch on the theme of "family" to apply to the Institute.

Whether the story you have to tell is a portrait of a solitary journey or the study of a generation or a tradition, a personal experience or the result of archival research, and whether you seek to make us laugh, shudder, weep or move to change the world, we welcome your application.

- [Applications](#) due January 25, 2016.
- Invitations to up to eight student documentarians will be issued by March 1, 2016



In a sense all documentary is 'a work of the imagination'.  
---John Hughes, 2003

## THE RESIDENCY

The Storytellers' Institute is a **five-week residency at Skidmore College** at which 10 Skidmore College students and faculty (Skidmore Scholars) workshop & develop documentary projects alongside up to four competitively selected documentarians (Institute Fellows).

Institute Fellows will receive an honorarium, 5-weeks' room and board in apartment-style housing at Skidmore College, and working space. The Director of MDOCS will discuss equipment and facilities needs with accepted Fellows.

All institute participants enjoy an intense, focused period of documentary study and production at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York -- a vibrant upstate community 3 hours from Boston, New York & Montreal, and home many cultural events including Yaddo, SPAC, & New York State Summer Writer's Institute.

## THE 2016 THEME

The theme for **Summer 2016 is "fact and fiction."** Documentary films, podcasts, exhibitions and other works are evidence-based stories working with facts to render, reveal, and represent truth(s) to inform and, at times, inspire action. Despite relying on real people and events documentarians engage because by interpreting and representing reality. For John Grierson (1926) (considered the father of the term "documentary"), a documentary film is a "creative treatment of actuality." Increasingly hybrid works draw on reenactment, sound & visual effects or "base work" on a true story. Where, then, is a boundary?

All documentary works are, in the end, stories shaped by their authors to sway an audience. The Summer 2016 Storytellers' Institute invites submissions from documentarians working in the borderlands of fact and fiction, grappling with the question of truth in storytelling, to join us for five weeks of creative work and interrogation.

