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

MDOCS
John B. Moore Documentary Studies Collaborative

www.skidmore.edu/mdocs/

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Award Winning Youth FX Program with Bhawin Suchak
Empower * Inspire * Create

See the SHORTS and meet the FILMMAKERS behind the films selected for over 40 film festivals around the world

Screening & Discussion
March 1, 6-8 pm, Davis Auditorium
ABOUT MDOCS

The John B. Moore Documentary Studies Collaborative is an interdisciplinary center presenting the stories of the human experience in documentary media and technologies: old and new; visual, oral and written; analog and digital. Providing resources for and fostering collaborations between Skidmore's academic programs and documentary practitioners, MDOCS invites students, faculty and staff to learn and use the documentary arts for critical inquiry, discovery, civic engagement, and exposition.

MDOCS, on its own and in partnership with individuals and programs, offers classes in the principles of documentary and instruction in documentary filmmaking, audio storytelling, and exhibition, among other documentary forms.

In addition, the Saratoga-Skidmore Memory Project, Storytellers’ Institute and internships support Skidmore students, faculty and staff as they develop documentary projects in partnership with the community.

MDOCS is generously supported with funding from several sources. The Collaborative continues a long partnership between Skidmore and the Moore family, dating to the College's second President Henry T. Moore (1925-1957), and has continued with Moore’s son John B. and wife Bettina and a third generation, Jim and Sue Towne. The Moores and Townes generously seeded the Storytellers’ Institute, the Skidmore-Saratoga Memory Project and academic year faculty and student development plans with an initial endowment to promote dialogue between documentarians and the Skidmore community and to showcase how a liberal arts education prepares students for professional success by supporting hands-on training to complement the existing curriculum with new summer collaboration opportunities.

Additional support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation will help launch the Collaborative and its participation as one of three initiatives supported by a three-year, $750 thousand grant for visual communication, "Project VIS."

MDOCS Upcoming Events

Mid-Semester Production Student Showcase
Wed March 2 @ 5-7pm, LI113
Check out what MDOCS students have been up to! LI113 is hosting a showcase of production student work from the spring semester. If you're sharing work, want to make connections for future projects, or are just interested in learning more about the program stop by! There will be pizza and drinks.

Screening: Oriented, a film by Jake Witzenfeld
Tue March 8 @ 7-9pm, Davis Auditorium
Oriented (2015) follows the lives of three gay Palestinian friends confronting their national and sexual identity in Tel Aviv. One of these friends and main subjects of the film, Khader Abu Seif, joins Skidmore for a special screening and discussion of the film. Sponsored by MDOCS, Int'l Student Union, Pride Alliance, Int'l Affairs, and World Languages & Lit.

Discussion with Filmmaker David DeSario
Thu March 24 @ 11:10-12:30, Zankel 214
Join Executive Producer Dave DeSario for a discussion about the creative process and research involved in bringing social documentary stories to life through filmmaking. A Day’s Work (2015) profiles the sister of Day Davis, a young man killed on his first day of work as a temporary employee, as she searches for answers. Join Dave in an open session of DS 201 Principles of Documentary.

Screening: Marwencol, a film by Jeff Malmberg
Wed April 6 @ 6:30pm, Davis Auditorium
After being beaten into a brain-damaging coma by five men outside a bar, Mark builds a 1/6th scale World War II-era town in his backyard. Mark populates the town he dubs “Marwencol” with dolls representing his friends and family and creates life-like photos detailing the town’s many relationships and dramas. Join Director Jeff Malmberg for a screening and discussion.
Spring 2016 (Starts after Spring Break!)
March 21 – May 3, 2016

DS 251B (2cr)  Podcast Storytelling  Eileen McAdam
- Write for radio and craft a story using ambient sound, music and narration
- Use professional equipment and software
- Get the basics of story for sound, recording and editing

Summer 2016 (Registration open!)
Session 1: May 31 – July 1, 2016

DS 251C (3cr)  The Essay Film  Jonna McKone
An Essay Film looks for answers, truths or moments of reflection in all sorts of places: memory, personal experience, travel and more. This course will consist of small projects leading up to a final project of an essay film.

DS 251D (4cr)  Intro to Audio Doc  Eileen McAdam
This class will focus on the art of storytelling through sound. With an emphasis on the production process, you’ll learn how to turn an idea into a compelling audio story suitable for broadcasting and podcasting.

TO REGISTER (for any of the above), e-mail: mdocs@skidmore.edu
PROGRAM – Tues March 1, 2016

6:00 - 6:15  INTRO

6:15 - 7:30  FILM PROGRAM

**Inside The Ring** (7.5 min) - documentary
This short doc tells the story of Albany’s city youth boxing program through the sights and sounds of the gym and the words of longtime coach Jerick Jones and the aspiring young boxers.

**Stacks on Deck** (13 min) - narrative
STACKS ON DECK tells the story of two friends who are faced with a moral dilemma after making a huge discovery in a park. Tensions build as they debate the consequences of their decision and realize they have been followed.

**Life is Grand** (7 min) - documentary
This short documentary reveals the hopes and dreams of Abdul Nur, the "Mayor of Grand Street" as he talks about the importance of community and his sidewalk general store.

**Food Fight** (10 min) - documentary
Food Fight explores the challenges of eating healthy amidst inner city food deserts. By telling the stories of people who are growing their own food and engaging in the battle for food justice, this short documentary shows us that another way is possible.

**Project One** (12 min) - narrative
An aspiring film student decides to make a short film at a cabin in the woods with unexpected and dire consequences.

**It's Natural** (6 min) - documentary
This documentary explores the many styles of hair that Black women have to choose from, and spreads a positive message about being yourself and being empowered.

**Falling** (10 min) - narrative
As two girls discover their feelings for each other, one of them is forced to choose between her new relationship and her father’s disapproval.

**2K14: A Look Back** (10 min)
A look behind the scenes of a Youth FX Summer Program.

7:30 - 8:00  Q&A

ABOUT YOUTH FX

Founded by Bhawin Suchak in 2008, Youth FX is an intensive hands-on program designed to introduce young people aged 14-19 to the technical and creative aspects of digital film making by offering a thorough overview of the production process from script to screen. They are located in the South End of Albany, NY and are fiscally sponsored by Grand Street Community Arts. For some the program is a fun way to be creative with their peers, and for others it is an introduction and immersion into a potential career path. Films produced their students have won awards and screened at major film festivals including: Sundance Film Festival, Los Angeles Film Festival, San Francisco Film Festival, Harlem International Film Festival, Woodstock Film Festival and Chicago International Film Festival.

**Bhawin Suchak – Program Director**
Bhawin is an educator and filmmaker who works with digital media as a tool to further expression and connection. Bhawin has directed two award-winning feature docs: The Throwaways (2014) and Free to Learn (2004) along with several short documentaries that have aired on PBS. For 15 years he has taught media arts at the Albany Free School and was the co-director of the school from 2007-2015. He has worked with youth teaching film and digital media at locations across the capital region including: The Sanctuary for Independent Media, Albany High School and The Arts Center of the Capital Region.

**Darian Henry – Program Assistant**
Darian is a talented cinematographer and director and one of the youth founders of the Youth FX program. She has been involved in several award-winning Youth FX film projects including Inside The Ring, Mama’s Boy, Tyler, Third Rail and It’s Natural. Darian’s goals as a filmmaker is to create content: documentary, narrative or experimental films that offer perspective into a world, a mind, a way of life, that has yet been represented by mass media. As an artist, she aims to provoke thought, encourage community dialogue and bring forth ideas of other possibilities while also challenging the status quo.

**Visiting Youth FX Members:**
Imani Peterkin
Ejaniia Clayton
David Salmon
Majestic Tillman
Justyn Werts