

2022
**NEXT
DOC**

**A COLLECTIVE VOICE OF THE NEXT GENERATION OF
NON-FICTION STORYTELLERS OF COLOR**

SEPT 29 - OCT 5



www.nextdoc.org

OVERVIEW

NeXt Doc is a year-long fellowship that brings together emerging documentary storytellers from diverse backgrounds across the county with award-winning documentary filmmakers to learn, share, and build their skills. Throughout the year, we provide each cohort of fellows the opportunity to build their networks and amplify their voices, while forming deep relationships and fostering community.

NeXt Doc includes film screenings, masterclasses, and workshops that explore project development, narrative structure, treatment writing, budgeting, doc history, and critical explorations of power and representation in non-fiction storytelling. NeXt Doc has become an incubator for incredible talent, supporting the continued growth of emerging voices in the documentary field.

YEAR-ROUND PROGRAMMING

Throughout the year, fellows will be presented with numerous opportunities to expand their networks and amplify their voices, while forming deep relationships and fostering community amongst their cohort. Year-round programming will include peer-to-peer screenings, masterclasses, skill-sharing workshops, mentorship, and opportunities to explore project development, narrative structure, treatment writing, and budgeting.

This year's cohort will be the first to go through a new curriculum developed by NeXt Doc co-directors which will explore critical explorations of core values for ethical and accountable non-fiction filmmaking in collaboration with the Documentary Accountability Working Group, which Bhawin is a member of and Darian is a collaborator with as well. The Documentary Accountability Working Group (DAWG) considers values, guiding principles and ethics that inform the practices of filmmakers, and shape their relationship to the story, the participants, the audience, funders and other stakeholders.

DAWG is a collective of filmmakers, scholars, and impact producers who aspire to build a future of documentary that is healing-centered and liberatory for the communities and individuals who share their stories.



2022 NEXT DOC PRESENTING FILMMAKERS



cai thomas (she/her) is a documentary filmmaker and cinematographer, telling verite stories at the intersection of location, self-determination and identity about Black youth and elders. She grew up in Miami's Liberty City neighborhood and is deeply interested in stories rooted in place. Her most recent film *Change The Name* premiered at the 2021 Tribeca Film Festival and her short *Queenie* premiered at NewFest in 2020 winning the Grand Jury award. cai is a member of the NeXt Doc collective and is a Sisters in Cinema fellow.



DR. KAMEELAH MU'MIN RASHAD (she/her) Dr. Rashad is the founder of the Muslim Wellness Foundation and established the Omar ibn Said Institute for Black Muslim Studies & Research. She is a Visiting Assistant Professor of Psychology and Muslim Studies at Chicago Theological Seminary (CTS) and CTS' Director for the ASPIRE Project: Engaging Diverse Faith Communities in Anti-Racist Work. She is an Executive Producer for the film *Subject* and leading expert in trauma-informed considerations and practices in documentary filmmaking.



ZAC MANUEL (he/him) is an award-winning, New Orleans bred-and-based filmmaker. His work in documentary and music video explores intimacy, Black masculinity, class, identity and inheritance. His cinematography and directing credits include *Alone* (NYT Op-Doc; Sundance 2017 Jury Award Winner), *Buckjumping* (New Orleans Film Festival 2018, Winner Best Cinematography), *The Earth Is Humming* (Field of Vision; SXSW 2018), *America* (Sundance 2019 Jury Award Winner), *Time* (Sundance 2020, Oscar 2021 Shortlisted), *The Cut* (New Orleans Film Festival, True/False 2021), and *This Body* (PBS broadcast 2021). *Bloodthicker* will be Zac's debut feature.

2022 NEXT DOC FELLOWS

Our ten **2022 NeXt Doc Fellows** represent a wide range of ethnic, racial, gender and regional diversity. NeXt Doc has become an incubator for incredible talent and we look forward to welcoming the 2022 cohort and supporting their continued growth as artists, filmmakers, storytellers, and emerging voices in the documentary field.



**DENA
IGUSTI**



**IVY
NICOLE-JONÉT**



**JASMYNE
HARRIS**



**KIAN
KELLEY-CHUNG**



**MELANIE
HO**



**NASH
CONSING**



NZZY



**PAULA
KILEY**



**SONIA
DESAI RAYKA**



**VICTORIA
CHEYENNE**

2022 NEXT DOC FELLOWS



DENA IGUSTI | QUEENS, NY

Dena Igusti (they/them) is a Queens born and raised queer Indonesian Muslim writer, director, and producer that uses the history of Indonesian migration to showcase Indonesian diasporic experiences and how they intersect with queerness, grief, and anticipatory loss. They specialize in queer Southeast Asian storytelling, socio economic issues in New York City, and the use of art as a form of archive. Writing & directing credits include: SHARUM (Players Theatre, 2019), Cut Woman (Prelude Festival, 2020), First Sight (Rogue Theater Festival, The Tank, 2021), Kept in the Dark (New Ohio Theater, 2022), and A Thousand Years Apart (Hook Arts Media, 2022). Their poetry collection, Cut Woman (Game Over Books, 2020) is a 2020 Harvard Bookstore Staff Pick and Entropy Magazine Best of 2020-2021.



IVY NICOLE-JONÉT | DURHAM, NC

Ivy Nicole-Jonét (she/her) was born and raised in Southeast Washington, DC. Ivy has first-hand experience in the ways gentrification profoundly disrupts, disregards, and dishevels Black communities. This experience inspired her to delve into documentary filming and animation as a medium for expression, preservation, and documentation. Using augmented and virtual reality, animation, and mining archival footage from Black media, Ivy's current works create an Afrofuturistic world centered on an immersive, documentary experience that celebrates Black Womxn and explores Black Womxnhood. Black Womxn have been creating and molding with the Afrofuture in mind, consciously or subconsciously. Creatively, Ivy seeks to honor the history of Black Womxn while challenging societal assumptions and presumptions.





JASMYNE HARRIS | RANDALLSTOWN, MD

Jasmyne Harris (she/her) is a filmmaker, editor and recent BFA graduate from Virginia Commonwealth University. Her work focuses on Black joy and celebrates the nuances and magic of Blackness. With the use of historical context and present day imagery and voices, Jasmyne narrates Black experiences, perspectives and stories while celebrating both the extraordinary and the mundane. Her process combines archived imagery and video with the stories and experiences told from multiple generations. With this style, her goal is to create a sense of nostalgia, familiarity and "oneness" amongst those of the African Diaspora as well as express dignity, subjectivity, agency, inclusion and most importantly beauty.



KIAN KELLEY-CHUNG | SILVER SPRING, MD

Kian Kelley-Chung (he/they) is an activist at heart and artist by trade, bringing together storytelling with social justice and technology. As the founder and leader of RXNIN LIFE, an independent production house, Kian's work spans music, film, comics, AR/VR and more. His standout photography of the 2020 Black Lives Matter movement in Washington, DC, was featured in the Washington Post and auctioned off for the NABJ VTF scholarship fund. He has spoken on several panels addressing diversity, social justice, storytelling and technology, including at 2020's CES in Las Vegas. Currently he freelances as an educator and photographer while finishing production on his docutrilogy "Free The People."



MELANIE HO | OXFORD, MS

Melanie Ho (she/her) is a Vietnamese American filmmaker and writer. Her work focuses on trauma, familial relationships, gender, displacement, and intimacy. She recently completed an experimental documentary, *sống ở đây* | to live here, that explores the Vietnamese community in New Orleans and the relationship between land and labor, seen through their foodways. Mel is currently a director/producer at the University of Mississippi's SouthDocs, creating intentional storytelling in the South. She is finishing two short documentaries *mẹ con*, which portrays the relationship between a vietnamese woman, the plants she grows, and memories of her mother, and what we don't talk about, unpacking gendered familial tensions in the moments leading up to a wedding.



NASH CONSING | BROOKLYN, NY

Nash Consing (he/him) is a Filipino American documentary filmmaker from Hickory, North Carolina. His work is often found at the intersection of his Southern and Asian American identities. Consing was the 2021 White House News Photographers Association’s Student Video Photographer of the Year. He was also part of the inaugural The Sauce Fellowship by the Center for Asian American Media (CAAM) and the New Orleans Video Access Center (NOVAC) in 2021. In addition, Consing was a 2021 Asian American Journalists Association (AAJA) Voices fellow and recently worked for ABC FiveThirtyEight as a video producer assistant. Currently, Nash lives in Brooklyn, New York.



NZZY | DOUGLASVILLE, GA

Ninel Nekay (preferably known as NZZY) (she/her) is a second-generation Jamaican-American Southerner & interdisciplinary cultural worker whose art demonstrates the stifled desires and salvation of Black Americans. As a writer, performer, creative director, documentarian, lecturer, theorist, and practitioner of the philosophies she depicts within her work, Nzy seeks to entice fellow worldbuilders to reimagine their agency and pursue their own utopias. Her creative work has been featured at The Alliance Theater, The Fox Theater, The Center For Civil And Human Rights, The War Memorial Opera House, The Kennedy Center For Performing Arts, We Day, Georgia Public Broadcasting, and more.



PAULA KILEY | FONTANA, CA

Paula Kiley (she/her) is a multimedia journalist and documentary filmmaker who strives to tell stories that connect and empower people with information, the truth, and most importantly – one another. She most recently worked on a feature documentary titled *Body Parts*, a Sundance-selected film that explores the evolution of desire and “sex” on-screen from a female perspective – allowing women to reclaim the parts of themselves that have been objectified and exploited for decades. Paula received her BA in journalism and a minor in film at Cal State Long Beach and is currently an editorial assistant at KCET where she covers arts and culture in the Greater Los Angeles area.



SONIA DESAI RAYKA

| BROOKLYN, NY

Sonia Desai Rayka (she/her) is a writer and filmmaker based in Brooklyn, NY with Midwestern and Southern roots. She has worked as an impact producer and production coordinator for several critically acclaimed documentaries, and recently she was a virtual teaching facilitator for No Evil Eye Cinema's alternative film school Film Futura. Sonia is a proud member of Brown Girls Doc Mafia and A-Doc. Her current projects are a deep dive on surveillance, interrogations on daughterhood, and how to keep the heartbeat of ancestral textiles alive. Her practice as a filmmaker prioritizes the balance of heavy, calculated research and detailed, intentional world building — she believes that knowledge sharing and investigation does not have to just be informative, it can also be beautiful.



VICTORIA CHEYENNE

| BROOKLYN, NY

Victoria Cheyenne (she/her) is an indigenous Bolivian-American documentary filmmaker based in Brooklyn, NY. She is from the Northern Cheyenne and Aymara tribes and is fascinated by stories of identity, family dynamics, and cultural heritage. She feels strongly about telling diverse stories of personal experience and supporting stories of female identity. Her activism focuses on sovereign issues such as #LandBack and Missing And Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP/MMIW). Victoria also works in the world of post-production as a film and television editor, and is a Kendeda Fund grant recipient for her upcoming documentary examining the effects of generational educational trauma by following indigenous students in Montana as they navigate leaving home for college off of the reservation.



SCHEDULE

**SUBJECT TO CHANGE*

THURSDAY (9/29)

- ⦿ ALL DAY: Arrivals of all fellows
- ⦿ 1 PM – 2 PM: LUNCH (self serve)
- ⦿ 6 PM – 7 PM: DINNER
- ⦿ 7:30 PM: **Welcome to NeXt Doc**
 - Introductions
 - Housekeeping
 - Room Assignments
- ⦿ 9 PM: KICKBACK

FRIDAY (9/30)

- ⦿ 9 AM – 10 AM: BREAKFAST
- ⦿ 10 AM – 1 PM: **Introductions Part 2 – Live Documentary**
 - Intro to Youth FX & NeXt Doc
 - Intro to Frameworks of Fellowship
- ⦿ 1 PM – 2 PM: LUNCH
- ⦿ 2 PM – 2:15 PM: Awaken Senses, Resist-the-itis Activity
- ⦿ 2:30 PM – 4 PM: **Decolonizing Documentary, Decolonizing Ourselves**
- ⦿ 4 PM – 5:15 PM: **DESIRED FUTURE DISCUSSION #1**
- ⦿ 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM: DINNER
- ⦿ 7 PM: **Peer-to-Peer Screening**
- ⦿ 9 PM: KICKBACK

SATURDAY (10/1)

- ⦿ 9 AM – 10 AM: BREAKFAST
- ⦿ 10 AM – 12 PM: Walk / Hike: To the Lake
- ⦿ 12 PM – 1 PM: LUNCH
- ⦿ 1 PM – 3 PM: **MASTERCLASS: Dr. Kameelah Mu'Min Rashad**
- ⦿ 3 PM – 4 PM: *Break*
- ⦿ 4 PM – 5:30 PM: **DESIRED FUTURE DISCUSSION #2**
- ⦿ 6 PM – 7 PM: DINNER
- ⦿ 7 PM – 9PM: **OUTTA THE MUCK Screening + Q&A**
- ⦿ 9 PM: KICKBACK

SUNDAY (10/2)

- ⦿ 9 AM – 10 AM: BREAKFAST
- ⦿ 10 AM – 12 PM: **MASTERCLASS# 1: Zac Manuel & Cai Thomas**
- ⦿ 12 PM – 1 PM: *Break*
- ⦿ 1 PM – 2 PM: LUNCH
- ⦿ 2 PM – 4 PM: **MASTERCLASS# 2: Zac Manuel & Cai Thomas**
- ⦿ 4 PM – 6 PM: *Open Block*
- ⦿ 6 PM – 8 PM: DINNER
- ⦿ 8 PM: KICKBACK

MONDAY (10/3)

- ⦿ 9 AM – 10 AM: BREAKFAST
- ⦿ 10AM – 12 PM: **MASTERCLASS: Bhawin Suchak & Darian Henry**
- ⦿ 12 PM – 1 PM: *Break*
- ⦿ 1 PM – 2 PM: LUNCH
- ⦿ 2 PM – 4 PM: **DESIRED FUTURE DISCUSSION #3**
- ⦿ 4 PM – 5 PM: *Break*
- ⦿ 5 PM – 6 PM: DINNER
- ⦿ 6 PM – 8 PM: **CAI & ZAC SHORT DOCS: Screening + Q&A**
- ⦿ 8 PM: KICKBACK

TUESDAY (10/4)

- ⦿ 9 AM – 10AM: BREAKFAST
- ⦿ 10 AM – 1 PM: **NeXt Steps Sessions – one-on-one with Bhawin & Darian**
- ⦿ 1 PM – 2 PM: LUNCH
- ⦿ 2 PM – 6 PM: **NeXt Steps Sessions – one-on-one with Bhawin & Darian**
- ⦿ 6 PM – 7 PM: DINNER
- ⦿ 7 PM – 9 PM: KICKBACK
- ⦿ 9 PM: BONFIRE

WEDNESDAY 10/5

- ⦿ **9 AM – 10 AM:** BREAKFAST
- ⦿ Departure for All Fellows

Galusha Hill Farm



NEXT DOC

CORE PRINCIPLES



PROFESSIONAL SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Through a series of masterclasses with professional filmmakers and Youth FX filmmakers/educators, fellows engage in topics ranging from project development, narrative structure, treatment writing, budgeting, documentary history and critical explorations for ethical and accountable non-fiction filmmaking.



CREATIVE EXPLORATION

The week-long NeXt Doc opening retreat includes outdoor excursions to boost creativity and time for self-reflection in an inspiring environment. This process enhances masterclass discussions and informal exchanges, encouraging fellows to be fully present while forming deep relationships and community-building.



BUILDING NETWORKS

Equitable access to resources is a barrier to diversity in documentary filmmaking. Networking with others in the field and supporters of documentary film is critical to securing resources. NeXt Doc connects young filmmakers to mentors and advisors already established in the field. These connections form professional networks, providing a foundation to build upon after NeXt Doc ends.



PEER-TO-PEER KNOWLEDGE SHARING

Through scheduled screening sessions of their work and informal exchanges, NeXt Doc challenges young filmmakers to talk about their work, give and receive critical feedback, learn from each other's experiences and brainstorm new ideas. These opportunities not only help to build skills and strengthen storytelling techniques, but also create community, and provide a foundation for future collaborations.

NEXT DOC PROGRAM TEAM

NEXT DOC CO-DIRECTOR



BHAWIN SUCHAK (he/him) is an educator, filmmaker, and founding member/co-executive director of Youth FX, a media arts organization focused on empowering young people of color through filmmaking and digital media. Bhawin is the co-director, producer, cinematographer and editor of *Outta The Muck* (2022), a feature length documentary supported by ITVS, JustFilms, Sundance, and Southern Documentary Fund. He previously co-directed, *The Throwaways* (2014) with Ira Mckinley, and *Free To Learn* (2004).

NEXT DOC CO-DIRECTOR



DARIAN HENRY (no pronouns) is a filmmaker, digital-media educator, founding member, and co-executive director of the nationally known film and digital media organization Youth FX. She has shot, directed, and produced over 50 short documentary, narrative, and experimental films. As an educator, Darian uses film and digital media as a means to empower and inspire black and brown youth in a wide range of Youth FX programs that arm them with the skills, techniques and access needed to create films based on their own realities and imagination. Darian was born in Hanover, Jamaica. She currently lives in New York.

NEXT DOC COORDINATOR



JEANETTE LAM 林筠珮 (she/her) is a filmmaker, art educator, and community organizer passionate about storytelling as a tool to grow deeper with ourselves and each other. Jeanette previously worked as the Program Manager of BLD PWR, an abolitionist nonprofit advocating for racial justice and mental wellness in Hollywood and beyond, and the Creative Producer/Lead Educator of Youth FX, a media arts organization designed to teach young people of color technical and creative filmmaking skills. Jeanette's work has been featured in USA Today, PBS Short Film Festival, Richmond International Film Festival, Docs Without Borders Film Festival, Social Political Film Festival, and Decarceration Film Festival. She is a proud member of NeXt Doc, Asian American Documentary Network, Brown Girls Doc Mafia, and the Video Consortium.

NEXT DOC SUPPORT TEAM



**MAYA
SUCHAK**

CHEF



**JAYANA
LAFOTOS**

PHOTOGRAPHER



**COURTNEY
STATON**

VIDEOGRAPHER





NeXt Doc is a program of Youth FX and is supported by our generous community of filmmakers along with the following funders & industry partners:

JustFilms
FORD FOUNDATION



PERSPECTIVE
FUND



NEW YORK
State Council on
the Arts

DAWG



ACADEMY
OF MOTION PICTURE
ARTS AND SCIENCES

COLOR
CONGRESS

MacArthur
Foundation



NoVo Foundation
create. change.

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