

Filmmakers Collaborative SF

MOVING HEARTS AND MINDS THROUGH FILM

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LETTER FROM KEVIN



Dear Friends,

Filmmakers Collaborative SF was founded in 1988 with the intention to support our own projects through a nonprofit. Over time, we started offering more services to filmmakers, including fiscal sponsorship and sliding-scale consulting. We have served as fiscal sponsors for 60+ films to date, with 38 current projects. We have always taken a boutique approach to our work with filmmakers, seeing it as a partnership to help them finish their films!

During the pandemic, FCSF evolved into a membership based organization and started offering additional services focused on expanding professional development, sliding-scale consulting, workshops, newsletters, and other resources. We also plan to host more screenings and inperson gatherings at 9th Street Independent Film Center in San Francisco in the coming year.

Over the last few years, we have been collaborating with Jennifer Crystal Chien and **Re-Present Media** to launch new programming. Re-Present Media is dedicated to promoting personal storytelling from underrepresented communities in nonfiction media. Our work together has helped us reach more filmmakers from diverse communities, uplifting their unique perspectives and supporting them with the specific challenges they face on their filmmaking journeys.

For our members, we continue to strive to be a source of support for the filmmaking process from idea to distribution. For funders, we help facilitate the curation of compelling films to ensure the benefit of funding investments. By carrying out these programs, we seek to foster a healthier ecosystem for the Bay Area film community and beyond.

We invite you to learn more about our work and consider joining our community as a member or supporter. The need for thoughtful, diverse, and independent filmmaking has never been greater!

Warm regards,

Kevin White

Co-Founder, Filmmaker, and Executive Director

MISSION & VISION



Filmmakers Collaborative SF is a nonprofit media organization with a mission to catalyze positive change through the power of filmmaking.

We believe visual storytelling can move hearts and minds as we address the social, environmental, and cultural issues of our time. We aspire to bring diverse perspectives through film with the goal of enhancing public awareness and informed decision-making towards a more equitable, sustainable, and just world.



FILMMAKER SERVICES

We support independent filmmakers and their projects through fiscal sponsorship, education, low-cost customized consulting, and other services to help them get their films made.



COMMUNITY BUILDING

Once filmmakers become members of our collaborative, they join a supportive peer community that fosters empowerment and encouragement on their filmmaking journeys.



FILM PRODUCTION

We produce our own original films as well as projects for nonprofits, government agencies, and others as part of our commitment to mission-driven filmmaking.



IMPACT CAMPAIGNS

We build partnerships with affinity organizations and other stakeholders to optimize outreach and distribution to create impact with our films.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS



MEMBERSHIP

We launched a **membership program** to help build community for filmmakers, with a focus on education and professional development.

WORKSHOPS

We completed our **first series of three workshops** in collaboration with Re-Present Media:

- Filmmaker/Participant Ethics resources Jennifer Crystal Chien
- Developing a Distribution Plan Kevin White with Arlin Golden
- Getting Unstuck Jennifer Crystal Chien & Kevin White

The workshops equipped filmmakers with practical advice and strategies to move their films forward.

FILMMAKER SUPPORT

We continued our **support for 150+ independent filmmakers** through our fiscal sponsorship program, educational programs, and sliding-scale consulting services. Five films we fiscally sponsored were completed and found distribution.

NEA GRANT

Partnering with Re-Present Media, we received a \$25,000 matching grant from NEA for our For Us, By Us program.





Increase our organizational profile and activities to support the filmmaker community.

- Increase collaboration with media organizations for events and partnerships.
- Increase communication with filmmakers through strategic email and social media content, our newsletter, and expanded filmmaker Resources information on our website.

Expand our filmmaker support programs

- Launch For Us, By Us and leverage the program to:
 - Build relationships with local funders
 - Reach new people for our workshops and membership
 - Expand incubation to future programs
- Continue holding workshops and other events on a regular basis
 - o June 2023: Member gathering/networking event
 - Sep/Oct/Nov 2023: 3 workshops

Additional Programmatic activities

- Continue to grow our fiscal sponsorship program.
- Continue distribution for FCSF titles via Vimeo and other platforms.
- Create a vetted list of consultants and vendors for filmmakers.

DELIVERING IMPACT



150+

independent filmmakers served 18

original films in distribution

30

fiscally sponsored films in distribution

2000+

PBS telecasts since 2020

(Saving Species Together and Wilder than Wild: Fire, Forests, and the Future) 450

community screenings since 2018

(Wilder than Wild: Fire, Forests, and the Future)

38

fiscally sponsored films in progress

The most important measure of our work is impact.

While audience size and honors help, we measure impact in real-world changes to awareness, behaviors, or policies.

IMPACT CASE STUDY



is an award-winning independent documentary directed by Kevin White revealing how fire suppression and climate change have exposed Western forests and wildland-urban landscapes to large, high-severity wildfires, while also exploring strategies to mitigate the impact of these fires.

The film had a direct impact mobilizing conversation and collaboration in fire prone areas through hundreds of community screenings that brought viewers together to rethink how communities can live with wildfires more sustainably.

Starting with a shared viewing of the film, followed by a panel discussion with local stakeholders including scientists, tribal representatives, firefighters, and political leadership, we saw dozens of community members join their local fire safe councils, volunteer for regional defensible space clearing, or sign up for emergency certification training as a result of these screenings!

The film continues to be relevant years after its 2018 release. In the first quarter of 2022, we completed our Firelighting screening series, funded by California Humanities, collaborating with Indigenous communities with a tradition of Cultural Fire to have community screenings in Humboldt, Siskiyou, and Trinity Counties.

450 community screenings since 2018

"Moved many people to take action."

-Sheila Cameron Nevada County, CA, Media Consultant

IMPACT CASE STUDY



Stewart Udall and the Politics of Beauty

is an award-winning documentary written and directed by John De Graaf profiling the legacy of Stewart Udall, one of the United States' most effective bipartisan environmentalists in his role as Secretary of the Interior in the Kennedy and Johnson administrations.

The film was fiscally sponsored by FCSF, with Kevin White in an Executive Producer role providing strategy for fundraising, distribution, and other production details. The film was released in late 2022 and has already received dozens of festival invites and screenings.

Multiple state, local, and federal agencies are screening the film to highlight the example of a dedicated public servant who pushed through critical legislation for his country while making difficult choices during a tumultuous time in U.S. history. The film has already screened at the Department of Interior in Washington DC, California Natural Resources Agency, Wild & Scenic Film Festival, the National Archives, and the DC Environmental Film Festival to name a few.

10 festival invites

40+ screenings since release

"It beckons us all to public service, informs us on how we came to benefit from the conservation we so enjoy, and, perhaps above all, teaches us the power of persistence and a smile.

Don't miss this masterpiece."

-Gus Speth, Director, United Nations Development Program

IMPACT CASE STUDY



2022 Workshops

As part of our effort to provide filmmakers with the professional development opportunities they need to advance their projects, we completed our first series of three workshops in collaboration with Re-Present Media:

- Filmmaker/Participant Ethics resources Jennifer Crystal Chien
- Developing a Distribution Plan Kevin White with Arlin Golden (from Video Project)
- Getting Unstuck Jennifer Crystal Chien & Kevin White

The workshops were attended by 50 filmmakers, equipping them with practical advice and strategies to move their films forward.

Feedback from surveys was very positive with an average 4.8/5 rating.

"IT FELT LIKE REAL PRACTICAL GUIDANCE. VERY SUPPORTIVE AND MOTIVATING."

"THE ONE-ON-ONE WAS AMAZING"

FINANCIALS

Revenue Contributed Income FCSF	69 66 6
Expenditures	
Office/General Administrative	32
Program Service Expense	
Total Expenditures	50
NET REVENUE \$44,437.2	24
Assets	
Current Assets	
Cash	44
Fixed Assets	54
TOTAL ASSETS \$179,69	98
Liabilities (Assessment Percent)	0.0
Current Liabilities/Accounts Payable	
Total Liabilities	90
Net Assets	
Without Donor Restrictions	95
With Donor Restrictions	



TOTAL NET ASSETS \$179,698

CONTACT INFO

Kevin White, Executive Director kevin@filmmakerscollaborative.org

Find us online:

www.filmmakerscollaborative.org



@FilmmakersCollaborativeSF



@FilmCollabSF

BOARD MEMBERS

Jennifer Crystal Chien - President Filmmaker & Nonprofit Administrator

Kevin White - Co-Founder and Executive Director Filmmaker, Producer/Director/Writer

Eva Santelli - Secretary & Treasurer Nonprofit Consultant & Bookkeeper

Michal Aviad - Co-Founder & Director Filmmaker & Professor

Steve Ladd - Director Distribution & Media Consultant

Michael Mitrani - Director Nonprofit Consultant

Jason Wolos - Director Creative Director, Producer & Filmmaker

