

CHICKEN & EGG PICTURES ANNOUNCES THE RECEIPT OF A MULTI-YEAR GRANT OF \$600,000 FROM THE JOHN D. AND CATHERINE T. MACARTHUR FOUNDATION

NEW YORK, NY (February 7, 2017) <u>Chicken & Egg Pictures</u> proudly announces a generous multi-year grant of \$600,000 from the <u>John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur</u> <u>Foundation</u> in support of three programs: The <u>Accelerator Lab</u>, <u>Diversity Fellows</u> <u>Initiative</u>, and the <u>Impact and Innovation Initiative</u>.

The MacArthur grant will go towards fulfilling Chicken & Egg Pictures' mission to support women nonfiction filmmakers whose artful and innovative storytelling catalyzes social change. As Jenni Wolfson, Executive Director of Chicken & Egg Pictures, said, "On the heels of the historic Women's March, our partnership with the MacArthur Foundation couldn't have come at a more crucial time for amplifying diverse women's voices, building communities for women, and supporting gender justice."

Since 2005, Chicken & Egg Pictures has envisioned a world in which women filmmakers, representing a range of experiences and backgrounds, are fully supported to realize their artistic goals, build sustainable careers, and achieve parity in all areas of the film industry. By providing women filmmakers with funding, creative support and mentorship, and industry opportunities, the organization equips grantees with a vast range of tools necessary to realize the full potential of their projects, both as works of art and as catalysts for change.

"Chicken & Egg Pictures' programs support women filmmakers at pivotal stages in their careers," said Kathy Im, Director, Journalism and Media program at the MacArthur Foundation. "Through partners like Chicken & Egg Pictures, MacArthur aims to provide timely and tailored supports that enable filmmakers and media artists to do their best work." The Accelerator Lab and Diversity Fellows Initiative mentors women nonfiction directors who are first and second-time filmmakers. The Impact & Innovation Initiative supports visionary short-form and immersive content as tools for broadening social engagement.

Through their partnership, the MacArthur Foundation and Chicken & Egg Pictures approaches the coming years with determination to strengthen the power of diverse

women storytellers so that in turn they can change how we see, respond to, and shape the world around us.

ABOUT CHICKEN & EGG PICTURES

Chicken & Egg Pictures supports women non-fiction filmmakers whose artful and innovative storytelling catalyzes social change. Chicken & Egg Pictures envisions a world in which women non-fiction filmmakers, representing a range of diverse experiences and backgrounds, are fully supported to realize their artistic goals and vision, build sustainable careers, and achieve parity in all areas of the film industry.

Chicken & Egg Pictures was founded in 2005 by Julie Parker Benello, Wendy Ettinger, and Judith Helfand. Since inception, Chicken & Egg Pictures has awarded over \$4 million in grants and more than 5,200 hours of mentorship to over 200 films. Films supported by Chicken & Egg Pictures have won numerous awards, including Oscars and Emmys; they have shifted deeply entrenched attitudes; and they have changed policy on a variety of critical human rights and social justice issues. For additional information please visit: <u>http://chickeneggpics.org/</u>.

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