



## **CHICKEN & EGG PICTURES PROUDLY ANNOUNCES RECEIPT OF THE ACADEMY OF MOTION PICTURE ARTS AND SCIENCES FILMCRAFT GRANT**

### **The Grant Will Go Towards the Accelerator Lab Supporting Ten Nonfiction Projects Helmed by Women Filmmakers**

**NEW YORK, NY (April 28, 2017)**–Chicken & Egg Pictures proudly announces receipt of the prestigious FilmCraft grant from the Academy Foundation of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in support of the Accelerator Lab for first- and second-time filmmakers.

Grants from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences are designed to “provide unique opportunities for enrichment and engagement with the cinematic community and its artists,” according to Buffy Shutt, chair of the Academy's grants committee. Chicken & Egg Pictures’ FilmCraft grant will go towards fulfilling the organization’s mission to support women nonfiction filmmakers whose artful and innovative storytelling catalyzes social change.

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.

“The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences’ generous support of our Accelerator Lab for first- and second-time filmmakers is an important step towards gender parity in documentary filmmaking,” said Jenni Wolfson, Executive Director of Chicken & Egg Pictures, “Our organization is deeply honored by the gravity and prestige that comes with the Academy’s seal of approval.”

The Accelerator Lab, with a special focus on underrepresented voices and timely, urgent stories, identifies and supports emerging women filmmakers in the completion of their first

or second feature-length nonfiction film. Through their partnership, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and Chicken & Egg Pictures seek 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 nonfiction filmmakers whose artful and innovative storytelling catalyzes social change. We envision 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.

Chicken & Egg Pictures was founded in 2005 by Julie Parker Benello, Wendy Ettinger, and Judith Helfand. Since inception, the organization has awarded over \$5.2 million in grants and thousands of hours of creative mentorship to over 220 films. For additional information please visit: <http://chickeneggpics.org/>.

### **PRESS CONTACT**

FRANK PR | 646.861.0843

Stephanie Davidson | [Stephanie@frankpublicity.com](mailto:Stephanie@frankpublicity.com)

Clare Anne Darragh | [Clareanne@frankpublicity.com](mailto:Clareanne@frankpublicity.com)