

CHICKEN & EGG PICTURES' PROJECT: HATCHED 2022 AWARDS \$210,000 IN COMPLETION AND IMPACT FUNDING TO EIGHT FILMS

NEW YORK, NY (MAY 12, 2022)—Chicken & Egg Pictures announced today the newest grantees of Project: Hatched, a program designed to guide directors as they develop strategic impact campaigns. Six films will receive **\$30,000** each toward their **completion funding and impact campaigns** and will participate in a seven month program with tailored mentorship for impact strategy and professional development. Additionally, two runner-up films will each receive a **\$15,000 finalist grant**.

Since 2019, Project: Hatched has supported 19 short and feature-length films. Through the program, filmmakers learn from Chicken & Egg Pictures' creative team, peers, and experts about distribution, outreach, and how to maximize their films as educational and advocacy tools. Filmmakers in this program have used their films to help push for legislative reforms, host community gatherings, and hold crucial conversations with targeted influencers.

This year, Chicken & Egg Pictures invited previously supported filmmakers in their alumni community, AlumNest, to participate in the Project: Hatched selection process. *"These processes are always complex and we receive more applications worthy of consideration than we can support. Sharing the power and responsibility that comes with making these selections with our AlumNest filmmakers was a very special and illuminating experience."* said Program Director Lucila Moctezuma.

Several Project: Hatched 2022 films tell profound personal stories that reflect larger systemic societal issues: in *Any Given Day*, filmmaker Margaret Byrne reckons with her own mental health history while following three formerly incarcerated Chicagoans also navigating the complexities of mental illness. In *BEBA*, director Rebeca Huntt revisits her childhood in NYC as the daughter of immigrant parents. Emma Francis-Snyder uses archival footage, reenactments, and modern-day interviews in *Takeover* to chronicle the Young Lords Party's 1970 historical takeover of the Lincoln Hospital in the Bronx to demand accessible and quality healthcare.

The directors of the Project: Hatched 2022 films represent a range of backgrounds and expertises: *Mama Has a Mustache* director Sally Rubin is a nonbinary, Emmy-nominated documentary filmmaker uses mixed media and candid interviews to show children experiencing the world outside of the gender binary. Deann Borshay Liem (*Crossings*) is a Korean American filmmaker and former director of the Center for Asian American Media (CAAM) whose film documents the risky journey of a group of women peacemakers crossing the demilitarized zone between North and South Korea. Directors Lisa Riordan Seville and Zara Katz (*A Woman on the Outside*) collaborated with protagonist Kristal Bush to chronicle the impact of incarceration and reentry on her family, and are the co-creators of the Instagram account Everyday Incarceration.

These films have premiered at prestigious film festivals around the world including: 2021 Tribeca Film Festival (*Takeover*), Hot Docs Film Festival (*Any Given Day*), 2022 SXSW Film Festival (*A Woman on the Outside*), 2021 Toronto International Film Festival (*BEBA*), Outfest 2021 (*Mama Has a Mustache*), 2022 Sundance Film Festival (*The Janes*), and 2022 Sedona International Film Festival (*Powerlands*). In June, *Any Given Day* will broadcast on America Reframed, *The Janes* will be available for streaming on HBO Max, and *BEBA* will have a theatrical release with NEON.

Recent Project: Hatched grantees include: Peabody nominee *Storm Lake*, directed by Beth Levison and Jerry Risius; *Fruits of Labor*, directed by Emily Cohen Ibañez; *On the Divide*, directed by Maya Cueva and Leah Galant; *Landfall*, directed by Cecilia Aldarondo; *Coded Bias*, directed by Shalini Kantayya; and *Belly of the Beast*, directed by Erika Cohn.

This program is generously supported by The New York Community Trust.

The Project: Hatched 2022 grantees are:

Any Given Day

Director: Margaret Byrne Producer: Margaret Byrne Producer/Impact Producer: Latesha Dickerson A filmmaker and three Chicagoans navigate the complexities of living with mental illness.

A Woman on the Outside

Directors: Lisa Riordan Seville, Zara Katz Producers: Kiara C. Jones, Lisa Riordan Seville, Zara Katz Kristal is a young ambitious Philadelphian driven to keep families connected to their incarcerated loved ones. But when her father and brother return from prison, she confronts the ultimate question: can she reunite her own family?

BEBA

Director: Rebeca Huntt Producers: Rebeca Huntt, Sofia Geld Impact Producer: Mia Bruno A stunning self-portrait, tough, raw, stubborn, and powerful "Beba" stares down the curses of her ancestry, probing the psychic wounds she has inherited, while simultaneously embracing the vastness of her multitudes.

Crossings

Director: Deann Borshay Liem Producers: Deann Borshay Liem, Ramsay Liem, Sarah Kim, Gay Dillingham Thirty women peacemakers, including Gloria Steinem, undertake a risky crossing of the demilitarized zone (DMZ), from North to South Korea, to end America's longest-running war.

Mama Has a Mustache

Director: Sally Rubin Producer: Sally Rubin Impact Producer: Nick Kelso *Mama Has a Mustache* is a short animated documentary about identity and family outside of the traditional gender binary, as seen through children's eyes.

Takeover

Director: Emma Francis-Snyder Producer: Tony Gerber In 1970, the Young Lords, a group of activists, took over a decrepit hospital in the South Bronx, launching a battle for their lives, their community, and healthcare for all.

The Project: Hatched 2022 finalists are:

Powerlands

Director: Ivey Camille Manybeads Tso Producers: Jordan Flaherty, Emily Faye Ratner, Ewa Jasiewicz A Navajo filmmaker investigates the global displacement of Indigenous people and the devastation of the environment by corporations that have exploited the land where she was born.

The Janes

Directors: Tia Lessin, Emma Pildes Producers: Emma Pildes, Daniel Arcana, Jessica Levin *The Janes* is the story of an underground network of women in Chicago in the '60s and early '70s who provided safe, affordable, illegal abortions.

ABOUT CHICKEN & EGG PICTURES

Chicken & Egg Pictures supports women and gender nonconforming nonfiction filmmakers whose artful and innovative storytelling catalyzes social change. We envision an inclusive media industry in which women filmmakers, representing a range of experiences and backgrounds, are fully supported to realize their artistic goals, and to build sustainable and fulfilling careers.

Since its inception, Chicken & Egg Pictures has awarded over \$9 million in grants and thousands of hours of creative mentorship to over 400 filmmakers. For additional information please visit: <u>http://chickeneggpics.org/</u>.

PRESS CONTACT

Matisse Bustos | <u>press@chickenneggpics.org</u> | 718.619.4155 Lucila Moctezuma | <u>lucila@chickenneggpics.org</u> | 718.514.6827