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Four Documentary Projects Receive First-Ever AFI DOCS/NBCUniversal Impact Grants

Description

AFI announced the four documentary projects that will receive funding from the first-ever AFI DOCS/NBCUniversal Impact Grants. The grants will support the outreach and social action campaigns for the projects, which screened at AFI DOCS 2015 and participated in the inaugural AFI DOCS Impact Lab, a two-day filmmaker workshop that engaged participants with policymakers pursuing social change across a range of issues.

The documentary projects receiving a total of $75,000 in support from the 2015 AFI DOCS/NBCUniversal Impact Grants are:

THE CONVERSATION
Blair Foster (Director/Producer), **Geeta Gandbhir** (Director/Producer), **Jessica Jones** (Impact Producer)

THE CONVERSATION, a series of short films, uses powerful personal narratives to elevate shared experiences about race and equality that are often only discussed in the confines of like-minded communities. The series aims to foster a deep dialogue around racial tension and polarization in the United States as well as serve as an outlet for more personal and intimate discussions about race relations in America. Each film will be a conversation from a different personal perspective, experience and racial lens within our society.

MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED
Greg Whiteley (Director/Writer/Producer), **Ted Dintersmith** (Executive Producer), **Daria Lombroso** (Director of Campaign Strategy)

The American education system was developed during the Industrial Revolution to help prepare young people to take on standard jobs of the era, which no longer exist. So why has that system remained virtually unchanged for more than 100 years when our culture and economy have dramatically shifted to an age of information and technology? Filmmaker Greg Whiteley explores this paradox and examines the future of education through experimental schools such as San Diegoâ??s High Tech High, where

students, teachers and parents embark on a new path that aims to spark an education revolution.

PEACE OFFICER
Scott Christopherson (Director/Producer/Cinematographer), **Brad Barber** (Director/Producer/Cinematographer), **Corinne Bourdeau** (Engagement Campaign Strategist)

As a sheriff in the 1970s, William â??Dubâ?• Lawrence founded Utahâ??s SWAT team. Thirty years later, when a police standoff ends with that SWAT team killing his son-in-law, Dub launches a personal investigation into the case. As the scope of his investigation grows to include several chilling cases of excessive force and questionable techniques used by law enforcement, he finds himself confronting a startling nationwide trend of increasing militarization of police forces.

SALAM NEIGHBOR
Chris Temple (Director/Producer/Campaign Director), **Zach Ingrasci** (Director/Producer/Campaign Director), **Salam Darwaza** (Producer/Campaign Director)

Across the Jordanian border from Syria lies the worldâ??s second largest refugee camp. In an effort to understand the growing crisis, a film team spends one month living in Zaâ??tari. The Syrian families they meet arenâ??t just displaced, they have no promise of a future with sufficient food, security, education or peace. SALAM NEIGHBOR offers personal insights into the complexities of refugee life and challenges audiences to express neighborly love for people in crisis.

Pictured above: SALAM NEIGHBOR

(Source: http://www.blog.afi.com)

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