Diane Weyermann Fellowship
Diane Weyermann made an extraordinary impact on the world of documentary filmmaking. Mirroring her generosity and commitment to bold, visionary storytelling, the Diane Weyermann Fellowship empowers teams of documentary directors and producers, building a robust community of support that will help them create significant works of art that connect with audiences around the world.

Supporting global filmmaking teams to develop significant works of art that highlight stories of moral and ethical urgency.
Diane Weyermann Memorial Fund Advisors

Ally Derks  
Founder of International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA)

Laura Kim  
Executive Vice President, Campaigns & Engagement, Participant

Jonathan King  
Chief Executive Officer, Concordia Studio

Elise Pearlstein  
Executive Vice President, This Machine Filmworks

Courtney Sexton  
Executive Vice President of Documentary Film and Television, Participant

Andrea Weyermann, Ph.D.  
Georgia State University

The process

Following a 4-month global call for entries, three director / producer teams were selected from over 400 applications from 70 different countries by Points North staff and a distinguished jury with international reach.

WHAT FELLOWS RECEIVE

Over the course of 18 months, Diane Weyermann Fellows receive:

$100,000 IN TOTAL GRANT SUPPORT

to support both director/producer salaries and production costs

TWO CREATIVE RETREATS

in Maine coinciding with the annual Camden International Film Festival, including feedback screenings, mentor-led workshops, and industry networking opportunities

ONGOING MENTORSHIP

from directors, producers, editors, and industry leaders
Announcing our Inaugural Cohort for 2023-24

THE LAST NOMADS
Serbia, Montenegro, France

Directed by Biljana Tutorov and Petar Glomazić
Produced by Biljana Tutorov
co-produced by Quentin Laurent

In the pristine mountains of Montenegro, a mother and daughter defend their land from militarization. A gripping family and environmental drama unfolds, as the story of violence against women and nature echoes violence against nature.

BILJANA TUTOROV is a 2021 Chicken & Egg Pictures grantee, 2021 Catapult grantee, alumna of EAVE Producers Workshop and EURODOC, and the founder and Head of CIRCLE Women Doc Accelerator, a training initiative that has been supporting women filmmakers since 2018.

PETAR GLOMAZIĆ worked for 20 years in the aviation industry, before becoming an associate producer at Wake Up Films, Serbia. Petar is a member of the Documentary Association of Europe (DAE) and a co-founding member of the Save Sinjajevina Association.

QUENTIN LAURENT co-founded Les Films de l’Eil Sauvage, known for Kinshasa Makambo by Dieudo Hamadi; Overseas by Sung-A Yoon; Alyx Arumpac’s Aswang; Downstream to Kinshasa, directed by Dieudo Hamadi; Dreaming Walls by Amelie van Elmbt and Maya Duverdier; and Against The Tide, by Sarvnik Kaur.

UNTITLED PROJECT
India

Directed by Brett Story
Produced by Jeff Reichert

Produced and Directed by Shirley Abraham, Amit Madheshiya

The Production of the World is an all-archival documentary about the radical critic John Berger, the CIA’s infiltration of the arts during “cultural Cold War,” and the ways images operate as a battleground for politics.

BRETT STORY’s films (including The Prison In Twelve Landscapes, The Hottest August) have screened at CPH-DOX, SXSW, True/False, CIFF, and Sheffield. She holds a PhD in geography and is currently an assistant professor of Media Praxis at the University of Toronto.

JEFF REICHERT is an Academy Award-winning producer and director (Gerrymandering, Remote Area Medical, American Factory) who lives in Brooklyn. His work has been awarded the Film Independent Spirit Award, Gotham Award, and Cinema Eye Honor (all for Best Documentary).

SHIRLEY ABRAHAM and AMIT MADHESHIYA received the Special Jury Prize for at Cannes for their debut film The Cinema Travellers. They also directed Searching For Saraswati, The Hour Of Lynching, and The Great Abandonment.
The inaugural cohort of Diane Weyermann Fellows came together in September at the Camden International Film Festival for a magical, immersive, weeklong creative retreat on the coast of Maine, led by an all-star team of mentors: Tabitha Jackson, Andrea Meditch, Kirsten Johnson, and Jean Tsien.

During the Festival, we organized meetings between Fellows and dozens of major funders, distribution executives and other industry professionals, many of which have already led to concrete funding offers.

Testimonials

“It is hard, if not impossible, to put into words what it means to be part of a fellowship named after Diane Weyermann. The program, as conceived by Points North, fully captures Diane’s spirit of full-throated, open-hearted independence and restless creativity. The potential feels limitless.” JEFF REICHERT

“A heart-expanding, soul-filling space. That restores trust in yourself as an artist, as an independent voice—and the faith, that the persistence and resistance of art is here to say. All this in the spirit of true fellowship, for, in the beauteous words of Gwendolyn Brooks, “We are each other’s harvest.”” SHIRLEY ABRAHAM

“‘The Diane Weyermann Fellowship is a life-changing experience that empowered me to start working on my film in a totally new way, to rethink both story and production without any boundaries. It nourished my creative desires and opened new possibilities on so many levels and allowed us to practice documentary filmmaking as a form of art.’” BILJANA TUTOROV

The Diane Weyermann Fellowship at CIFF 2023
Points North is a vital component of the development pipeline and is responsible for launching some of the most significant new voices in documentary.

Points North Artist Programs provide transformative, career-building experiences for the next generation of nonfiction storytellers, currently supporting at least three dozen filmmaking teams annually with direct funding, focused mentorship, workshops, creative residencies, over 500 1:1 industry meetings, and pitch training.

Points North Fellowship
A "break-out" moment for 5-7 film teams, providing pitch training and culminating in a public pitch event during CIFF

North Star Fellowship
A creative residency serving diverse, emerging artists pushing the boundaries of nonfiction

LEF/CIFF Fellowship
An opportunity for 5 New England-based filmmaking teams that includes mentor-led project development workshops

4th World Media Lab
A year-long fellowship connecting Indigenous filmmakers to multiple festivals, hands-on training, mentorship, and masterclasses

Pretty Wild Fellowship
Providing financial and creative support for 4 cinematic, character-driven short documentary films, created in partnership with YETI
To date, the Diane Weyermann Memorial Fund has raised over $1 million.

We are deeply grateful for the generosity and support of this growing community.

MAJOR SEED FUNDING SUPPORT ($100,000+)
provided by the following:

Skoll Foundation
RandomGood Foundation
Ford Foundation
Anonymous
The annual budget of the program is $250,000, $150,000 of which goes directly to project teams.

We hope you will consider making a tax-deductible contribution to help advance these projects to completion.

Thank you for your support!