

Round 1 - 16 applicants, 5 grant awardees

Emend the Mass Media Group was awarded both a \$5000 production grant in the Under \$100k category and a \$2500 post-production grant. This is a docuseries titled *Reparations Now! The Docuseries*. Reparations for Black American Descendants of U.S Chattel Slavery is the largest debt this nation has ever accumulated. It is beyond time to render repair to this underrepresented, underserved, underrecognized community of citizens. The systemic subjection repeatedly placed on Black American populations through discriminatory policy and practices is not only immoral it's unsustainable. EMEND THE MASS MEDIA GROUP implicitly understands the urgency needed in providing rapid repair solutions to the most pressing socioeconomic injustice facing America today. Producer Kim Mim is a local Sacramento filmmaker who has been an active supporter and volunteer for the Sacramento International Film Festival and as a short film producer for Sacramento Fashion Week's Fashion on Film Festival. This film is currently in production.

Digital Curanderas Productions LLC was awarded a \$5000 production grant in the Under \$100k category. The short film titled *Do Digital Curanderas Use Eggs in Their Limpias?* is being produced by the Sundance Institute's Indigenous Film Fellowship. Writer/Director Roberto Fatal, who is also a professor at Sacramento City College [Roberto Chacon-Gutierrez], conceived the film as an homage to their Indigenous, Chicano, queer and transgender communities in their hometown of Sacramento and also their adopted home in Oakland, California. This film will offer 15 internships to students and begins filming 3/25/22.

On Native Ground was awarded a \$5000 production grant in the Above \$100k category. The feature film titled *Gift of Fear* was inspired by a documentary film project that On Native Ground has been producing since 2018. While interviewing relatives of the victims of the Missing & Murdered Indigenous Relatives in California, culminating at a march at Sutter's Fort in April 2021, the stories hit a chord with Jack Kohler and his daughter Carly Kohler, who are both actively involved in the documentary. Both have native ancestry from the Hupa, Yurok and Karuk tribes and were motivated to write a script, based on the real life stories that have affected so many people during this Missing & Murdered Indigenous Relatives crisis. This film is currently in production.

Round 2 - 9 applicants, 5 grant awardees

Juan Berumen was awarded a \$5000 production grant in the Below \$100k category. The documentary is titled *Harvesting Dreams: Fifty Years of Carnalismo, Chicanismo, and Serving Sacramento*. Relatively little has been documented about Sacramento's and the region's role in the Civil Rights Era of the mid-Twentieth Century. This documentary will answer that call and capture a prolific part of US history, including the Sacramento region's role in the Civil Rights Era. This documentary will follow the efforts of a few Chicano men who decided to form an organization in 1973 while students at UC Davis. The Machetes immediately took on a prominent role, becoming heavily involved on campus and in the Sacramento community. For almost fifty years since then, Machete members have quietly risen to high profile positions throughout Sacramento and California, while continuing their involvement at UC Davis and local communities. Their stories need to be told as it pays homage to the resiliency and values of Sacramento and the surrounding region. This documentary begins production 5/2/22.

Orchard Fort, LLC was awarded a \$5000 production grant in the Below \$100k category. The TV Series titled *Staffed* is a situational comedy about the immigrant-owner of a staffing agency who is trying to save his small American town from blowing away in the gig economy. 100% of production and post-production will be done in Sacramento. Our main characters include a Punjabi-American man, a transgender junior executive woman, a single expectant mother, and a number of other persons of color, all looking to make their way through the new American normal. This TV Series is about who we are now in America -- taking a humorous, yet heart-felt look at marginalization, and the threat of automation in this the new post-Industrialized economy. Above all, *Staffed* is about the resiliency of the human spirit! Sacramento filmmaker Raul Gonzo is known for his quirky, imaginative and colorful work as a director, photographer and stand-up comedian. With 17 years of industry experience, Raul is an award-winning cinematographer for music video and film. This TV series is currently in production.

Continental Drift Media Productions was awarded a \$5000 production grant in the Above \$100k category. The documentary is titled *Hangtown*. Through the battle over the Placerville noose and an investigation into land theft to establish the Marshall Gold Discovery Park, this documentary investigates California's little known legacy of lynching and land theft, revealing how false narratives of the past continue to haunt communities of color today. Director Stuart Harmon has long been drawn to exploring issues around justice in his filmmaking career. From covering the women of the FARC guerrillas in Colombia for VICE News, to highlighting the plight of the incarcerated during the COVID pandemic for The Intercept, to delving into the stories of two impoverished Ghanaian boys for "The Money Stone," giving voice to those living on the margins is a driving force behind his passion. The documentary is currently in production.

BCM Films was awarded a \$5000 production grant in the Above \$100k category. This feature film titled *Death at Sunrise* is set in the old west and follows Thomas who is tied up and beaten, his family murdered before his eyes. The perpetrators are men he once called comrades. Thomas will track them down and kill them all, or, die trying. One way or another, there will be *Death at Sunrise*. This western will take you on a rollercoaster ride of emotion and adventure. Writer, producer, director Bryan Martin is a Sacramento filmmaker with over 28 years in the business. This film is currently in pre-production.

MadPix Films, Inc. was awarded a \$2500 post-production grant. *No Home Here* is a full-length documentary about the homelessness crisis, centered in Sacramento, using the capital city as a microcosm to tell a larger story that unfolds across the state and the country. Offering a new perspective in portraying the stories of some of Sacramento's unsheltered individuals, *No Home Here* raises their voices as conduits to examine the deficiencies in our political and social systems. Ultimately, the film will provide innovative solutions to this ongoing crisis, and will humanize the unsheltered by giving us an intimate glimpse into their daily struggles and triumphs. MadPix, Inc., is a Los Angeles-based production company founded by dedicated, passionate filmmakers. This documentary is concurrently in production and post-production.