Vision Maker Media E-News - March 2018

Did You Know?

We have Viewer Discussion Guides for 56 of our films. Check it out.

March Film Specials
Films Focused on the Importance of Water, Land
Our March Specials help viewers to gain a uniquely Native American perspective that sheds light on a portrait of resilience and survival in the face of catastrophic change. Learn about the importance of preserving and protecting land and water through the determined efforts of Native People:
- a tireless Lakota grandmother,
- the Seneca Tribe,
- three Swinomish boys who become advocates for their community, and
- a young Navajo woman who returns to her tribe after serving her country and becomes an advocate, lobbyist and a vocal proponent for environmental justice.

Join Us Opening Night for RUMBLE: The Indians Who Rocked the World

7th Biennial Vision Maker Film Festival April 20-26

Vision Maker Media is bringing Native storytelling and film to life at the seventh biennial Vision Maker Film Festival. More than 30 new films by diverse filmmakers will showcase at the Mary Riepma Ross Media Arts Center in Lincoln, Nebraska, April 20-26.

Opening night features the film *RUMBLE: The Indians Who Rocked the World*, which explores how the Native American influence is an integral part of music history, despite attempts to ban, censor and erase Indian culture in the United States.
Festival Films

*Dawnland*  *Family Ingredients*

*Growing Native*  *Ohiyesa: The Soul of an Indian*

*INAATE/SE/ [it shines a certain way, to a certain place./it flies. falls.]*  *The Mayors of Shiprock*

*Metal Road*  *When they Awake*

*In the Beginning Was Water & Sky*  *On a Knife Edge*

*Through the Repellent Fence*  *New Muslim Cool*

*RUMBLE: The Indians Who Rocked the World*  *SKINDIGENOUS: Indigenous Body Art from Around the World*

Many artists and musical forms played a role in the creation of rock, but arguably no single piece of music was more influential than the 1958 instrumental *Rumble* by American Indian rock guitarist and singer/songwriter Link Wray. *Rumble* was the first song to use distortion and feedback. It introduced the rock power chord--and was one of the very few instrumental singles to be banned from the radio for fear it would incite violence.

The stories of these iconic Native musicians are told by some of America's greatest music legends who knew them, played music with them and were inspired by them: everyone from Buddy Guy, Quincy Jones, and Tony Bennett to Iggy Pop, Steven Tyler and Stevie Van Zandt. *RUMBLE* shows how Indigenous music was part of the very fabric of American popular music from the beginning, but that the Native American contribution was left out of the story--until now.

Working with filmmakers of color on all levels is a key focus of this week-long film festival, from inspiring future filmmakers to polishing fine skills and providing knowledge of professional resources. Our partners in the National Minority Consortia (NMC) will each share their feature documentary films and bring filmmakers of color to Lincoln to work with emerging filmmakers. Local Native youth will learn from professional documentary producers during workshops open to the public, April 22-24.

Teachers, students and the public are encouraged to attend and learn about a variety of cultures. We are screening stories of social justice, hope and overcoming adversity throughout this powerful event.

[visionmakermedia.org/festival](http://visionmakermedia.org/festival)  
[Sponsors list](#)

Public Media Opportunity

**Apply for Internship Before March 30 Deadline**

Increasing opportunities for American Indian and Alaska Native youth in public broadcasting is the goal of Vision Maker Media providing the Public Media Internship to undergraduate or graduate students.

Interns can be located at Vision Maker Media’s offices at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in Lincoln, Nebraska, or at a Public Television station in the United States. Vision Maker Media will contact Public Television stations in the states requested by interns in order to determine placement options. Deadline to submit your application is **March 30, 2018**. For assistance: 402-472-3522 or visionmaker@unl.edu
European Film Market and Big Sky Film Festival

Highlights from Our Travels

Leave No Stone Unturned

Chasing Voices at the European Film Market

By Daniel Golding
Producer/Director
Chasing Voices- John P Harrington and Native Language Revival

I got the call that I was going to Berlin as part of the Vision Maker entourage to attend the European Film Market, a part of the Berlin International Film Festival. I thought, "Awesome!" Then I thought, "What's a film market?"

So as any filmmaker does, I did my research. Turns out the European Film Market is one of the top three film markets in the world where representatives of the international film industry- producers, buyers, sales agents, exhibitors, and financiers, all come together. Over 540 exhibitors from all over the world would be there, buying, selling, and schmoozing. This would be my world for the next 7 days in Berlin.

Why was I going? I was going to network, promote, and seek out co-production funds for my current Vision Maker funded project, Chasing Voices, which is currently in post-production. The idea of international distribution never really occurred to me. As I get older, I start to realize that in order to survive as an independent producer, I need to start looking for other funding streams and the European Film Market seemed like the place to start.

My goal while there was simple; to spread the gospel of Chasing Voices and see if anything comes of it.

I went to Berlin not really knowing how the Film Market worked; I just knew that there would be a lot of buyers and sellers, potentially with the funds to finish my documentary.

The market was spread between two buildings: the Martin Gropius Bau and the Marriott Hotel about a half-mile away. It was all a bit overwhelming and I didn't have any real direction on how to approach the market, so I just jumped right in. The first couple of days I spent trying to figure out how everything worked and the jetlag didn't make things any easier.

I just attacked the vendor area of the market, passing out Chasing Voices postcards to whomever would grab them. Some had confused looks in their eyes. Turns out many exhibitors were there to sell and not buy or co-produce. After the first couple of days, I was feeling a bit discouraged.
So the challenge was, out of the 540 exhibitors how do you know who's buying, selling, co-producing, financing, or all-the-above? Turns out, there's no real way of knowing because the market isn't divided into separate sections, it's all intermixed. You can go to the website which lists all the exhibitors and go through the list, but this would be too daunting, especially during the market. Well it turns out there was a book listing all the exhibitors as well and I was lucky enough to come across one, which became my "Market Bible". I was able to sift through the different participants and narrow down the ones appropriate for me. This made the task at hand a little easier, but still a challenge. I just made my rounds going from the Martin Gropius Bau Building to the Marriott Hotel, back and forth with my postcards in hand ready to approach those I've preselected from my Market Bible.

The Native booth at the market was also helpful. This provided a central location to sit, rest, and regroup. Plus people strolling through the market could stop by and grab materials about Native Films.

Ultimately, attending the European Film Market at the Berlin International Film Festival was a huge benefit. I met lots of different people from all over the world and made some potentially fruitful connections. I even met with this little old lady that had a spot reserved on a couch in the lobby at the Marriott. She had her sign on the coffee table, House of Films. It was a short meeting squeezed in between two other meetings, but it was an opportunity to talk about my project and to give her a postcard. Turns out she is a major buyer of films and is based in Hollywood. Well now she knows about *Chasing Voices*.

It's a big world out there and the whole experience was extremely educational. As an independent producer it broadened my horizons to the world of international distribution. Something we should all be thinking about.

**Big Sky Film Festival**
Vision Maker’s Rebekka Herrera and Charles "Boots" Kennedly attended the Big Sky Film Festival in Missoula, MT in February. Keep Talking, Moroni for President and We Breathe Again were the Vision Maker Media films featured at the Festival. Rebekka and Boots talked about innovation and technology in Native cinema while serving on panels during DocShop and Native Filmmaker Fellows workshops. They also caught up with producers Jasper Rischen and Saila Huusko and star Moroni Benally after the screening of Moroni for President.

Moroni for President is a documentary about a young Navajo who runs for the presidency of his tribe, the Navajo Nation. The gay and Mormon professor of public policy mounts a family-run campaign to challenge the status quo. Driven by genuine fury over the pressing social problems facing the tribe, Benally is determined to focus on substantial issues and intellectual debate about the role of the Navajo Nation government in the lives of its people. Yet, he soon discovers that the real world of politics has shockingly little to do with substance and much more to do with candy, balloons, and platitudes. It’s a homecoming that challenges what Benally imagined home to be.

Filmmaker Opportunities

**JOBS**
Director of Engineering
Network Operation & Distribution
Nebraska - Open Until Filled

Director of Engineering - Transmissions
Nebraska - Open Until Filled

Radio Network Director
Nebraska - Open Until Filled

President & CEO
Vermont - Open Until Filled

Satellite Maintenance Engineer
Nebraska - Open Until Filled

**FUNDING**
Docs in Action
Deadline: March 19

Hot Docs Distribution Rendezvous
Deadline: March 20

Enterprise Documentary Fund
Deadline: April 1

Just Films Inquiry
Deadline: Ongoing

**FELLOWSHIP/INTERNSHIP**
Vision Maker Media
Public Media Internship
Deadline: March 30

**FILM FESTIVALS**
New York Television Festival
Deadline: March 12

New York Radio Festival
Deadline: March 16

Montreal First Peoples Festival
Deadline: March 19

Calgary International Film Festival
Deadline: June 1

Facing Race Micro-Film Festival
Deadline: March 31

**TRAINING**
LA Skins Native American TV Writers Lab
Deadline: March 2

**OTHER**
Golden Eagle Awards for Independent & Emerging Media
Deadline: March 30

Upcoming Film Screenings
Don’t miss a chance to see one of our films when it comes to your area.
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<td>Drake Well Museum &amp; Park</td>
<td>March 11</td>
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<td><strong>Lake of Betrayal</strong></td>
<td>Titusville, Pennsylvania</td>
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<td><strong>MANKILLER</strong></td>
<td>Abbe Museum</td>
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<td>Bar Harbor, Maine</td>
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<td>Universidad Michoacana</td>
<td>March 12-18</td>
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<td><strong>Canada Now</strong></td>
<td>Instituto Sonorense de Cultura</td>
<td>March 12-20</td>
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<td><strong>What Was Ours</strong></td>
<td>Huntington Museum of Art</td>
<td>June 26</td>
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