Docs In Progress gives individuals the tools to tell stories through documentary film to educate, inspire, and transform the way people view their world.
While I love films with Hollywood magic and bold special effects, no story can affect me like an inspirational documentary narrative. Working in documentary films, I am blessed to be surrounded by talented filmmakers with a gift for storytelling. For me, the process of creating an independent film about real people in real time is as inspirational as a film itself.

I support Docs In Progress because it creates space for filmmakers to hone their craft with unique resources and support. We are a community where filmmakers – aspiring and seasoned alike – share the common love of doing justice to a good story.

Over the years we have witnessed the success of many projects that otherwise would have been orphaned and unfinished without our help. The technique classes, work-in-progress screenings, roundtables, and fellowship program are a few of the offerings at Docs In Progress to support filmmakers so an original inspirational story may be told and shared.

Our beloved “Doc House” has been at the center of this community for many years. While we are sad to have to move at the end of this year, we know that our community is stronger than bricks and mortar. The hominess of Docs In Progress will follow us to our new space (also in downtown Silver Spring), and we look forward to welcoming you there in 2017.

Laura Possessky
2016 Board President

As many of you know, Docs In Progress was not immune from the gentrification which has taken over Silver Spring and the broader Washington DC area. We’ve spent the past few weeks clearing out the Doc House as we get ready to move to a new space at 801 Wayne Avenue in Silver Spring.

Yes there is a degree of sadness in moving from a place which holds so many memories – of “aha moments” during Fellowship meetings and Roundtables, of seeing new connections being formed at networking events, of feeling the energy of a group of middle schoolers in our summer camps, of the early days when three founders embarked on a nonprofit experiment which is now going into its ninth year.

But this move also makes me think back to those early days and the sense of possibility in building something new and needed. While it is easy to get caught up in the day-to-day operations, the move has forced us to revisit what Docs In Progress means. It is more than a physical space. It is a community of filmmakers, of film fans, of people who believe that documentaries can challenge us, empower us, and connect us.

Just as we are grounded in supporting those with works-in-progress films, so too is Docs In Progress the ultimate work-in-progress. Memories of a place and time are lovely, but we will continue to serve, connect, and evolve in our new space. The Doc House is a state of mind.

Erica Ginsberg
Executive Director
Education
Training classes, workshops, and expert talks for those just starting out and those looking for more specialized professional development.

34 educational programs
442 adult participants
18 youth participants

New programs included:
• Visual Storytelling for Documentaries
• Filmmaking at Your Fingertips: the Smartphone Documentarian
Artist Services
Support services for documentary filmmakers, including fiscal sponsorship, fellowship, roundtables, residencies, networking opportunities, and more.

23 fiscally sponsored projects
9 fellows
14 peer pitch projects
Public Programs
Screenings of documentary works-in-progress, showcases of alumni films, Community Stories Festival, Documentary Inspiration Awards.

14 free or pay-what-you-can events
1,141 attendees
7 venues
44 films screened

Highlights included:
• *Doc Around the Clock* Timed Filmmaking Competition
• Community Stories Festival featuring short docs on local topics by students and professionals.
Technical Support

Programs to foster video communications skills of nonprofits and youth-serving organizations

9 nonprofits participated in subsidized production class
9 videos produced about local nonprofits
**Spotlight: 2016 Docs In Progress Fellows**
Emerging filmmakers selected for an eight-month program to develop their films and careers.

Rebecca Carroll
*Mason Dixon Meteorite* follows an amateur photographer as he devotes his life to trying to locate a meteorite he witnessed tearing through the sky.

Christa Forman
*And/Both* asks whether it is possible for bi-racial individuals to be both black and white in a polarized racial climate or must they choose a side?

Koroosh Farchadi
*Harvests of Hope* introduces us to farmers, communities, and leaders planting seeds of resilience for the future of food in the face of climate change.

Dan Manatt
*The United States of Food* looks at how food and farming have shaped American history, society, and culture from Columbus to today.

Karen Ruckman
*The Missing Men* is a long-term observational film about two Washington DC men adjusting to life after prison.

Kelley Slagle
*Eye of the Beholder* takes us inside the world of the fantasy role-playing game Dungeons and Dragons, from the perspective of the artists whose work helps bring it to life.

Natasha Spence
*Cecelia* examines the intersection of culture, religion, and gender dynamics of a Jamaican expatriate community.

Yisrael Welcher
*Kol Hanashim* uses the lens of Orthodox Jewish women to explore how cultural and religious minorities balance heritage and modern culture.

To be a fellow is to be family. The group became a place for support and honest guidance. Under this roof, your passion has a home. -- Alum of Fellowship Program
Spotlight: Community Stories Program

As we teach emerging documentary filmmakers the tools of video production and storytelling, we ask them to profile local stories, showcasing both their creative process and the amazing people, places, and happenings from our local community.
Spotlight: Alumni Films
Recent documentaries produced by alums of Docs In Progress Programs

**Breaking Through the Clouds**
Distributed on public television.
2014 Fellow

**Fate of a Salesman**
Nominated for National Emmy
Work-in-Progress Screening Alum

**Let the Fire Burn**
Broadcast on PBS Independent Lens
Peer Pitch Alum

**Indivisible**
On festival circuit after premiere at Cinequest Film Festival.
Will air in 2017 on Fuse TV.
Fiscal Sponsoree, 2013 Fellow

**Deej**
Awarded funding from ITVS.
Will air on PBS America Reframed in 2017.
Fiscal Sponsoree, Work-in-Progress Alum

**SlingShot**
Distributed theatrically and on Netflix
Peer Pitch Alum
Spotlight: Documentary Inspiration Awards

A new program which honors the work of documentary filmmakers whose work and words inspire the Docs In Progress community. Includes a screening showcase and master class. The inaugural awards in 2015 honored Academy-Award nominated director Marshall Curry and editor Matthew Hamachek. In 2016 we honored Ramona Diaz, the award-winning director of *Imelda, The Learning, Don’t Stop Believin’,* and the forthcoming *Motherland* which will premiere at the 2017 Sundance Film Festival.

We’re so lucky to be living in this day and age when technology - the tools to tell our stories - is so accessible. However, content still reigns supreme. So find your voice. Find it, define it, write it down on paper, hone it, and clarify it. Everything else is just technology which will help you tell your story.
Strategic Plan

A new strategic plan will help carry the organization and our community forward through 2018. The plan is a culmination of a year of community feedback, discussion, and a strategic planning retreat which brought board and staff together to develop three overarching goals:

(1) Better understand the needs of key audiences and refine programs and services that meet them where they are in their filmmaking journey.

(2) Increase the capacity of Docs In Progress so that it can continue to deliver high quality programs and services and can have long-term sustainability.

(3) Strengthen the board to improve governance, reflection of constituency, and effective collaboration with staff.
### Financial Reports for FY16 (January 1-December 31, 2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>FINANCIAL POSITION (BALANCE SHEET)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Earned Income</td>
<td>Current Assets $86,185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Income</td>
<td>Fixed Assets (Equipment and Media Library)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>after accumulated depreciation $17,535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>$189,568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Personnel Expenses</td>
<td>Other Assets $2,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff and Contractors</td>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong> $103,720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>Current Liabilities $75,119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unrestricted Net Assets at End of Year $28,601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in Net Assets</td>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</strong> $103,720</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notes Regarding Temporary Deficit

In October 2016, our landlord sold our building with no notice to us. So as not to disrupt planned programs and afford us time to find a new space, our board made the difficult decision to agree to several months' higher rent. This and moving costs were largely covered by an end-of-year donor campaign, but we had to adjust some programming in the final quarter, reducing our earned revenue and ultimately meaning that our expenses were slightly higher than our income. Thus, we had a slight loss in 2016.

We moved in to a new space in January 2017. Rent and other space-related expenses have returned to past levels, program revenue is back on track, and we have expanded the number of grant-makers supporting our programs and organization. We anticipate ending 2017 in the black.
Financial Reports for FY16 (January 1-December 31, 2016)

Revenue By Source
- Contributed
- Earned
- Investment

Expense Details
- Travel/Conferences/Meetings
- Royalties/Rights/Reproductions
- Productions and Events
- Printing/Postage/Shipping
- Personnel Expenses Operating*
- Other
- Office/Occupancy**
- Interest Expenses
- Insurance
- Grant Awards and Similar
- Dues and Subscriptions
- Collections/Exhibitions/Recording
- Advertising/Promotion

* Includes contract teaching artists, bookkeeping, and grounds maintenance

** Includes venue rental for programs
Financial Trends

Revenue by Source
- Earned: 38%
- Investment: 62%
- Contributed: 0%

Expenses by Functional Grouping
- Program: 92%
- General & Administrative: 2%
- Fundraising: 6%

Growth in Financial Activity

- Income: Blue line
- Expenses: Red line

Legend:
- Income
- Expenses

Graphs show trends from 2008 to 2017.

Sources of Support Income

Number of Supporters
A big thank you to all of our other volunteers!
Your time, efforts, and energies have helped move Docs In Progress forward. THANK YOU!
Docs In Progress is thankful to these major institutional funders in 2016:

- ART WORKS.
- National Endowment for the Arts
- John & Rachel King Foundation
- Maryland State Arts Council Part of the Maryland Department of Commerce
- Celebrating 50 Years of Service to the Arts
- THE MORRIS & GWENDOLYN CAFRITZ FOUNDATION
- The City of Takoma Park
- Takoma Foundation
- Montgomery County Executive's Ball
- The William & Karen Tell Foundation
- Jurg & Linda Siegenthaler Fund
Docs In Progress is thankful to these 2016 individual and corporate funders

**DOC CIRCLE: PLATINUM ($750 or more)**

Word Wizards inc.

**DOC CIRCLE: GOLD ($500-$749)**

Anonymous ◆ Jay Elvove ◆ Nicole Gray ◆ Chithra Jeyaram ◆ Anna Jhirad ◆ Laura Possessky ◆ Paige Smith ◆ Matthew and Anne Radcliff

**DOC CIRCLE: SILVER ($250-459)**


**DOC CIRCLE: BRONZE ($100-249)**


and many more contributors. Thank you!