

THE

DOCUMENTARY FILM PROGRAM

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY



Summer of Richter

It was a Richter kind of Summer for several students in the Documentary Film Program. Three students were awarded the grant and traveled the world to work on new projects and on their thesis films. **Katelyn Lacor** (MFA) traveled to Scotland (above) for her thesis project, *Witch Wound*, which looks at the history and generational trauma of the Witch Trials. While there, she traveled to Dundee and spoke with the head of Witches of Scotland, a group trying to earn pardons for women who had been convicted. **Pun Pun Pattrakulchai** (MA) traveled to Singapore to profile an up-and-coming sports media company trying to compete in this incredibly complex sports media environment. Pun followed the founder and met some of the athletes she is working with who had incredible stories of their own. **Cole Kennedy** (MFA) is spending these last weeks of August on Cebu Island, Philippines gathering material for his thesis film on the critical role Cebu played in World War II. Cole's story is a personal one as it was his great grandfather who accepted Japan's surrender on the island in the closing days of the War. All three students will be back in Brookstown this Fall working on these exciting projects.

Inside:
Fall 2026

- New "4+1" Program
- Prof. Gilbert's Summer on the Road





BROOKSTOWN BEAT

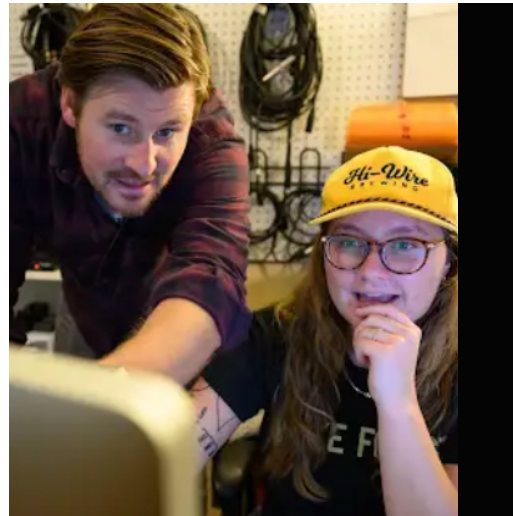
The DFP Welcomes New Class.

The DFP is excited to welcome our incoming class. A cohort of nine students started classes this week, with five MA students and four MFA students. The students come to Winston from schools such as TCU, Elon, UNC-Wilmington, Winston-Salem State, Fordham, Catholic, and University of Montana.

BROOKSTOWN BEAT

New 4+1 Program Kicks-Off

The DFP is also excited to welcome the very first class in the new 4+1 Masters in Content Creation and Strategic Storytelling. The three are entering their Senior year in the undergraduate college and will be taking two graduate level courses this year before transitioning to the Grad School next Summer. Recruiting is already underway for next year's class.



FACULTY NOTES

Professor of Practice Peter Gilbert spent the summer touring with his film *The Easy Kind*. Pictured here at the Telluride Film Festival with director Katy Chevigny and film participants, Peter served as a producer on the project. The genre-bending feature offers a captivating look at Nashville singer-songwriter Elizabeth Cook as she embarks on a journey to break free from country music constraints, embracing her authentic artistic self-expression.



MOVERS & SHAKERS

Alumni News & Notes

- **Taylor White (MA '21)** named Director of Marketing for the Greensboro Swarm - affiliate team of the Charlotte Hornets.
- **Dustin Foote (MFA '20)** is the new Multimedia Producer for the Knight First Amendment Institute at Columbia University.
- **Tania Kharchenko (MFA '14)**, produced and directed the recently released BBC Eye Investigation, Russia's Secret Torture Prisons. .

WHAT'S PLAYING

- **Ryan Simmons (MFA '24)** film *Reel Conversations* screens at the Royal Starr Film Festival in Michigan in September.
- **Ryan Broussard (MA '27) & Andrew Meriwether (MFA '27)** film *An Eternal Sound* is in festivals this Fall including Charlotte and Full Bloom
- **Isaac Weinberg's (MA '26)** film *La Fundacion: Baseball's Island* was honored by the Dominican Film Festival of NY
- **Meg Daniel's (MFA '19)** film *I'm Still Here, Love* will screen on campus in October after its Summer festival run



**STAY
CONNECTED**

So, this is the first edition of our newsletter. It's our way of helping to build and reinforce the community YOU helped create while in the program.

We want to hear from you! Let us know what you're up to, what projects you are working on, or any job updates.

We also kindly ask to share the love. Help us continue to grow the community and the DFP experience!