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Digi60 Filmmakers' Festival Focuses on Professional Development for 2020

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Digi60 Filmmakers' Festival is now in its 17th year and will be presenting a rich program of professional development workshops, presentations, and panels to educate and empower grassroots filmmakers despite the limitations of the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Highlighted programming includes information sessions with City of Ottawa and Ontario Arts Council to demystify the process of accessing public funding, a pitching masterclass with esteemed screenwriter, Lynn Tarzwell, a panel on the topic of video as activism, co-presented by Digital Arts Resource Centre (formerly SAW Video), as well as a panel discussing BIPOC representation in the film and television industry and a workshop with Chanda Chevannes on Documentary Production in the Era of COVID-19, co-presented by the DOC Institute and the Documentary Organization of Canada.

The 2020 Digi60 Filmmakers' Festival will take place from December 11-13, 2020 and will be presented entirely virtually, making use of live streaming and video conferencing software.

For more information about the full professional development series, see <http://www.digi60.org/2020-program>.

ABOUT DIGI60

Created in 2004 as a grassroots independent filmmakers' festival in Ottawa, Digi60 has two distinct focuses:

Screening films as part of a festival theme. Filmmakers are provided a “catch” to base their film on, and are given 60 days to complete the challenge. Those who complete the challenge and submit a film with the catch theme then have their short film screened, including with juried evaluations. To participate in the challenge portion of the festival, filmmakers must register and follow the criteria laid out. Top films and filmmakers receive awards and prizes for their work, including mentorship, industry opportunities and workshops.

Professional Development for new and emerging filmmakers. Digi60 facilitates a series of film and TV industry focused workshops, panels and information sessions throughout the year, focusing on essential elements of filmmaking. This allows filmmakers to network and interact with professionals in the film and TV industry including: producers, directors, distributors, actors, agents, sponsors and writers. We aim to support the Ottawa film and television industry by providing mentorship and skills building opportunities for those who wish to pursue this industry as a profession. All our professional development opportunities are pay-what-you-can or by donation.