



# CREATIVE CULTURE

## Connecting Makers to Creative Careers

### What is the Creative Culture Fellowship Program?

Creative Culture provides 10-month long fellowship experiences for emerging filmmakers looking to produce two short film projects in a collaborative community.

Creative Culture fellowships support emerging filmmakers by providing:

- production space
- equipment
- mentorship
- networking opportunities
- a community of peers

Learn more at [burnsfilmcenter.org/artist-services-creative-culture](http://burnsfilmcenter.org/artist-services-creative-culture)

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# JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER



**Sahar al-Sawaf** (MFA, CalArts) is an Iraqi filmmaker and visual artist who was born in Saudi Arabia, grew up in Lebanon and Iraq, and escaped to California as a child, days before the Gulf War. She has traveled extensively in the Middle East with her sketchbook and camera in hand, chronicling the plight of refugees who have fled. Sahar is thrilled to be supported by the JBFC and Creative Culture to develop an animated short film.



**Lydia Cornett** is the Fall 2018 Valentine & Clark Emerging Artist Fellow at the Jacob Burns Film Center. Originally from Baltimore, she now freelances as a documentary filmmaker and video producer in Brooklyn. Lydia was a 2018 CoLab Fellow at UnionDocs and is a graduate of Princeton University. As a member of The Video Consortium, she has produced non-fiction video content for *The New Yorker*, *Slate Magazine*, *The Washington Post*, and Penguin Random House.



**Maya Cueva** is a Fall 2018 Valentine & Clark Emerging Artist Fellow at the Jacob Burns Film Center. Originally from Berkeley, CA, she is a multimedia producer specializing in directing, producing, and audio recording. Maya was awarded an Emmy from the College Television Awards and her films have screened internationally and across the U.S. At the Jacob Burns Film Center, Maya will produce a documentary about undocumented activist Alejandra Pablos who is fighting for political asylum.



**Moira Fett** is a New York filmmaker inspired by how challenging and unnatural environments push human nature to its boundaries. At Kenyon College, Moira directed a short documentary which asked death row inmates in Texas how they combat the psychological pressures of imminent execution. As a recipient of the Sally Burns Shenkman Woman Filmmaker Fellowship, Moira directed *Two Birds*, a short film which newly considers themes of isolation and identity through the lens of a surreal domestic prison.



**César Martínez** is a Brooklyn based documentary filmmaker and the 2018 Fall Social Justice Filmmaker Fellow. He is a graduate of Occidental College, with an Honors B.A. in Media Arts and Culture. César is a member of the Brooklyn Filmmakers Collective and was selected as a 2018 NeXt Doc Fellow. While at the Jacob Burns Film Center, César will be producing a short documentary about call centers in Mexico.



**Brit Fryer** is a Chicago-born and Brooklyn-based filmmaker. He is a graduate of Carleton College's Cinema and Media Studies program, where he focused on experimental nonfiction and installation art. His past films, which focus on the intersection of Blackness, gender, and sexuality, include *I-57*, *Botanical Black*, and *trans:ience*. Brit is an ADCOLOR Future, a Sundance Ignite Fellow, and a grant recipient of the CURA Artist Neighborhood Partnership Initiative. He is the Fall 2018 Northwell Health & Wellness Fellow.



**Matthew Puccini** is a Brooklyn-based filmmaker and graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. His film *The Mess He Made* premiered at SXSW, was selected as "Short of the Week," and was a finalist for the Iris Prize. His short documentary *Marquise* was distributed by Topic. He is a 2018 Sundance Ignite Fellow, a member of the 2017 New York Film Festival Artist Academy, and a recipient of the 2017 Richie Jackson Artist Fellowship.



**Jalena Keane-Lee** is a social justice filmmaker and the spring 2018 Sally Burns Shenkman Woman Filmmaker Fellow. Her work has addressed issues such as indigenous land rights, destigmatizing menstruation, the importance of campus activism, and the meaning of consent. Jalena co-founded Breaktide Productions, a production company run by women of color, which has produced national advocacy campaigns and original narrative and documentary films.

“ Storytelling is central to human existence. What excites me most about Creative Culture is how the JBFC is cultivating the storytellers of tomorrow—filmmakers, animators, and VR artists—through collaborative and innovative professional learning experiences. ”

—RON HOWARD,  
filmmaker and JBFC board member