The John B. Moore
Documentary Studies
Collaborative (MDOCS)
is an interdisciplinary
undergraduate program
in the documentary arts at
Skidmore College that
supports evidence-based,
research-driven creative
practice.

## **Creative Thought Matters**





"The purpose of a storyteller is not to tell you how to think, but to give you questions to think upon."

—Brandon Sanderson, The Way of Kings

### SKIDMORE IN SUMMER

Skidmore College is located in Saratoga Springs, NY, a vibrant upstate community 3 hours from Boston, New York & Montreal. It is home to many cultural venues and events, including Yaddo, SPAC, the New York State Summer Writer's Institute, and Saratoga Arts Fest.



#### **MDOCS**

www.skidmore.edu/mdocs

815 N. Broadway Saratoga Springs, NY 12866





# SUMMER 2015 STORYTELLERS INSTITUTE

June 1- July 2, 2015 Skidmore College Saratoga Springs NY

a hybrid academic-artistic institute for the documentary arts

### **Skidmore Sholars**

APPLICATIONS DUE: February 6, 2015

### DOCUMENTARIANS WANTED

MDOCS welcomes storytellers from any and all documentary traditions— audio, video, photography, multimedia, spoken or written word.

We invite documentarians with projects (preferably recent or in process) that touch on the **theme of FAMILY** to apply to the Institute.

Whether the story you have to tell is a **portrait** of a solitary journey or the study of a generation or a **tradition**, a **personal** experience or the result of **archival** research—whether you seek to make us laugh, shudder, weep or move to **change the world—**we welcome your application.

- <u>Applications</u> are due December 15, 2014.
- Invitations to up to four documentarians will be issued by February 15, 2015

We seek creative,
collaborative souls who will
invest time & energy into
into bringing their own
visions to fruition in
a lively summer context,
and who are committed to
sharing their passions in
documentary with the
NEXT GENERATION of
practitioners.

### **SUMMER 2015 MDOCS STORYTELLERS INSTITUTE**



All happy families are alike; each unhappy family is unhappy in its own way. – L. Tolstoy

fairytales.

### THE RESIDENCY

The Storytellers' Institute is a **5-week** residency (June 1-July 2, 2015) for 8 Skidmore Scholars (8 students and 2 faculty/staff) to workshop and develop documentary projects alongside up to 4 competitively-selected Institute Fellows and invited visitors. All participants enjoy an intense, focused period of study and production at Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY.

#### Skidmore Scholars will receive

- a \$2500 honorarium
- 5-weeks' room/board in apartment-style housing at Skidmore College
- working space at Skidmore College (equipment and facilities needs discussed with accepted Fellows)

#### Skidmore Scholars will

- participate in an intellectually stimulating, hybrid academic-artistic experience
- divide time between Institute activities (i.e. master classes, critiques, public

### THE 2015 THEME - FAMILY

The theme for **2015's inaugural MDOCS Storytellers institute is "family."** Being part of a family is integral to the human experience, and complicated, as observers from Tolstoy to Jerry Seinfeld have shown.

Whether the family is one we are born into, chose or were chosen for; large or small; gathers for weekly dinners, annual holidays or less often; is a source of comedy or drama, love or loss...family shapes who we are in past, present and future tenses.

Individual stories of family life offer storytellers of both fact and fiction a lens to interrogate unique cases or to demonstrate the workings of a society. Fractious or faithful siblings, adulterous and devoted couples, disappointed or supportive parents, abandoned, adopted and stepchildren, and self-made families draw us into stories of the Old Testament, Greek and Maya myth and African and Brothers Grimm