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Windsor Park: The Sinking Streets

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CREATIVE COLLABORATIONS // INTERDISCIPLINARY WORK INCORPORATING THE ARTS
HOW ART, DESIGN, MEDIA & PERFORMING ARTS DISCIPLINES ENHANCE THE CREATION OF KNOWLEDGE

WINDSOR PARK: THE SINKING STREETS

A short documentary film

► **BRETT CAROLINE LEVNER, MFA** // FILM, LAW



*This is a street
from the Windsor
Park community
in the Historic
Westside of Las
Vegas.*

► ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Brett Levner is an award winning filmmaker and an Associate Professor of Film at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Brett received her BFA with honors in Film & TV Production from New York University and her MFA with honors in Directing from Columbia University.

Brett was the first woman to win the Coca-Cola Refreshing Filmmaker Award for her short film, Being Reel. The film went on to be screened on 21,000 movie screens across the country and was honored at the 2005 Association of Independent Commercial Producers show for "Excellence in Filmmaking." It is currently included in the permanent collection at the Museum of Modern Art.

Brett directed the feature film, The Track, about underage sex trafficking in Las Vegas, starring Sam Trammell (True Blood). The film had its world premiere at the Dances with Films Festival in Hollywood. It was also awarded "Best Local Feature" and "Best First Time Feature Film Director" at the Las Vegas Film Festival. In addition, Brett received the Charles Vanda Award for Excellence in the Arts for her work on The Track.

► PROJECT DESCRIPTION

At the encouragement of Nevada State Senator Dina Neal and law professors Ngai Pindell and Frank Fritz, undergraduate and graduate UNLV film students under the tutelage of film professor Brett Levner donned their masks and returned to the field to interview documentary subjects and bring awareness to a local community in the shadows searching for hope.

Windsor Park: The Sinking Streets, is a short documentary about one of the first all-Black housing communities in North Las Vegas – off Clayton Street and Cartier Avenue – seeking justice after withdrawal of groundwater and geological faults caused their homes and streets to sink and crack. Although the government offered financial help to relocate, it was not enough to buy comparable homes, and many residents were financially unable to take advantage of it. They feel ignored and neglected by their government. The film questions whether this is an issue of systemic racism.

The film has gone on to play eight film festivals across the world and win four awards including the Best Nevada Filmmaker Award 2022, the Pacific Southwest Regional Student Emmy Awards for Long Form Producing and Editing 2022 and the NWFFest Spirit of Activism Award 2022.

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