
Next year, we celebrate the 40th anniversary of our incorporation. To honor the legacy of our founders, we want to expand our services to meet the changing needs of Indigenous digital storytellers. The media is a powerful tool that can help solve some of the toughest issues Tribes face. Stories of hope and overcoming adversity can shine light in dark places.

Four new directions will help meet the needs of Indigenous storytellers:

1. **Care for the Legacy of Indigenous Media.** Preserving and re-purposing media in Indian Country helps us honor our elders by hearing and sharing their stories so that they will be available for future generations.

2. **Invest In Our Future.** Utilize media to inspire a positive generational shift in Native youth, to encourage them to make wise choices and inspire them to learn, honor and celebrate their Tribal identity.

3. **Build Opportunities for Filmmakers.** There are few opportunities for Indigenous filmmakers to network, learn from each other and develop skills. Bringing Indigenous storytellers together on-line or in-person will build a supportive community and build new partnerships.

4. **Create an Indigenous Media Fund.** With nearly 40 years of experience in supporting the production of high quality programming for Public Broadcasting, we are poised to expand our scope of support to attract investment in a wide variety of projects.

Pilamaye,

Shirley K. Sneve  
(Rosebud Sioux)  
Executive Director
Documentaries explore our environment

**Watchers of the North**
Released Oct. 17, 2014  
Produced by David Finch (Cree)  
Picture This Productions  
Distributed by NETA

An action-packed six-part documentary adventure series following the training, patrols and search and rescue missions of Canadian Rangers in two Nunavut communities.

**Our Fires Still Burn**
Released Oct. 24, 2014  
Produced by Audrey Geyer  
Distributed by NETA

This exciting and compelling one-hour documentary invites viewers into the lives of contemporary Native American role models living in the Midwest. It dispels the myth that American Indians have disappeared from the American horizon, and reveals how they continue to persist, heal from the past, confront the challenges of today, keep their culture alive and make great contributions to society.

**Spirit in Glass**
Released Oct. 24, 2014  
Produced by Penny Phillips  
Mimbres Fever Productions  
Distributed by WORLD

Celebrates the spectacular beadwork of the Northwest Plateau People, providing a rare opportunity to experience Plateau culture through the eyes and hearts of artists who share their history, motivation and the beadwork that plays an important role in binding their culture together.

**Across the Creek**
Released Oct. 31, 2014  
Produced by Jonny Cournoyer (Rosebud Sioux)  
Ten Rounds Pictures  
Distributed by PBS Plus

The story of the Lakota tribe in South Dakota and their struggle to reclaim their culture through language, dance, working with the land and participating in cultural activities.

**Horse Tribe**
Released Oct. 24, 2014  
Produced by Janet Kern  
Pupcake Film  
Distributed by NETA

Legendary as one of America’s greatest horse tribes, the 21st century Nez Perce decided to bring horses back to their land and lives with the unlikely help of a charismatic Navajo horseman, Rudy Shebala.

**LaDonna Harris: Indian 101**
Released Oct. 31, 2014  
Produced by Julianna Brannum (Comanche)  
Naru Mui Films  
Distributed by PBS Plus

LaDonna Harris: Indian 101 chronicles the life of Comanche activist and national civil rights leader LaDonna Harris and the role that she has played in Native and mainstream American history since the 1960s.
Honor our past, celebrate today

Standing on Sacred Ground
Released March 30, 2015
Produced by Christopher (Toby) McLeod
Sacred Land Film Project
Distributed by NETA

Indigenous communities around the world and in the United States resist threats to their sacred places—the original protected lands—in a growing movement to defend human rights and restore the environment. In this four-part series, Native people share ecological wisdom and spiritual reverence while battling a utilitarian view of land.

Yellow Fever
Released March 31, 2015
Produced by Sophie Rousmaniere
Issue Television
Distributed by WORLD

A young Navajo woman, Tina Garnanez, begins a personal investigation into the history of the Navajo Uranium Boom, its lasting impacts and the potential for new mining. Tina’s examination of the cost of cheap energy and the industry’s future prompts her to become an advocate, lobbyist and vocal proponent for environmental justice.

Crying Earth Rise Up
Released April 4, 2015
Produced by Suree Towfighnia
Prairie Dust Films
Distributed by NETA

Through those who oppose and support the expansion of uranium mining over the High Plains/Ogallala and the Arikara aquifers in western South Dakota and Nebraska, audiences learn about the importance of protecting land and water.

My Louisiana Love
Released April 5, 2015
Produced by Sharon Linezo Hong
Within A Sense, LLC
Distributed by APT

Traces a young woman’s quest to find a place in her Native American community as it suffers from decades of environmental degradation. Monique Verdin returns to Southeast Louisiana to reunite with her Houma Indian family. But soon she discovers that her people’s traditional way of life is threatened by a cycle of man-made environmental crises.

The Medicine Game
Released April 28, 2015
Produced by Lukas Korver
Distributed by APT

Two brothers from the Onondaga Nation pursue their dreams of playing lacrosse for Syracuse University. Their dream nearly in reach, the boys are caught in a constant struggle to define their Native identity, live up to their family’s expectations and balance challenges on and off the Reservation.

Native Media Archives Project

It’s a crossroad for many of us in the media industry. Remember Reel-to-Reel audio and VHS tapes?

Well, they may not play anymore, and those memories may be lost! With funding from the National Endowment for the Arts and San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, we have created a Native Media Archives Guide to assist individuals and Tribes to keep these memories safe.

Included are instructions and examples of best practices for saving your archives for future generations. Also included are suggestions on how to inventory and organize a variety of media materials and available resources. Native Media Archives:

http://www.visionmakermedia.org/films/archives
During the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 2015, Vision Maker Media expended production grants totaling $556,900 and spent an additional $49,056.69 on producer development, workshops and national programming costs.

The following is a summary of financial information for the fiscal year ended Sept. 30, 2015, based on the audited financial statements.

### Revenue and Support

- CPB Grant Revenue: $1,358,591
- Other Grants & Contributions: $189,314
- Earned Income: $143,002

**Total Revenue & Support:** $1,690,907

### Expenses

- Programming: $1,199,731
- Management & General: $339,517
- Fundraising: $113,048

**Total Expenses:** $1,652,296

### Net Assets

- Beginning of Fiscal Year: $1,446,368
- Change in Net Assets: $38,611
- End of Fiscal Year: $1,484,979

### Breakdown of Net Assets, End of Fiscal Year

- Unrestricted: $1,015,570
- Temporarily Restricted: $469,409

**Total Net Assets:** $1,484,979

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**Creative Services**

Vision Maker Media is proud to work with like-minded nonprofits in the creation of professional media. Clients like the Lincoln Indian Center, Creighton University and the Center for Great Plains Studies contracted with us to develop Public Service Announcements, promotional videos and event coverage. Charles “Boots” Kennedye (Kiowa), an award-winning documentary producer, leads this division.

Our goal is to diversify our income and provide valuable services to our partners. Other staff can be available for keynote speeches and workshops. Shirley Sneve has presented at the National Education Association and the University of Massachusetts-Amherst.

Contact us: 402-472-3522 or visionmaker@unl.edu for more information.