



## **WORLD Channel's America ReFramed signs-on to present AFI DOCS opening film PERSONAL STATEMENT**

**Co-producers WORLD Channel and American Documentary announce  
the U.S. broadcast premiere will be on WORLD and PBS  
Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at 8 p.m.**

"Inspirational and moving, heartwarming and heartbreaking,  
PERSONAL STATEMENT is a testament to the power of knowledge and the  
ability to lead with a dream." – American Film Institute (AFI)

### **MEDIA RELATIONS**

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June 8, 2018 – (New York, NY) – American Documentary, Inc. and WORLD Channel have announced that AFI DOCS' opening film **PERSONAL STATEMENT**, will broadcast on PBS as a co-presentation of the award-winning documentary series **America ReFramed** and **Latino Public Broadcasting**. The feature documentary directed by Juliane Dressner with co-director Edwin Martinez will be the opening film of AFI DOCS on June 13th with a screening and panel discussion.

**PERSONAL STATEMENT** follows three low-income teens in Brooklyn who take it upon themselves to make a difference by becoming peer college counselors in their schools. They are high school seniors who are fighting to defy the odds not only for themselves but for every single one of their classmates, becoming the very resource they don't have themselves.





Following the festival, **PERSONAL STATEMENT** will make its U.S. broadcast premiere on Tuesday, October 23, 2018 on WORLD Channel and PBS ([check local listings](#)) as a co-presentation of **AMERICA REFRAMED**, public media's youngest award-winning documentary series and Latino Public Broadcasting. Free online streaming will begin on October 24<sup>th</sup> on [worldchannel.org](#) and all station-branded PBS platforms including [PBS.org](#), and on PBS apps for iOS, Android, Roku, Apple TV, Amazon Fire TV and Chromecast.

**PERSONAL STATEMENT** is a co-production of Reify Films, Hazel Pictures, WGBH/WORLD Channel and American Documentary Inc./America ReFramed in association with Latino Public Broadcasting (LPB) with major funding provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Additional support has been provided by ***Chasing the Dream: Poverty and Opportunity in America***, a public media initiative from WNET in New York.

"In our first co-production, WORLD Channel and America ReFramed offer a story that connects to all Americans — on-air, online and in their communities — and reflects the complexity of our nation's challenges to education," said Chris Hastings, WORLD Channel, Executive Producer.

"**PERSONAL STATEMENT** is an important film that honors the contributions and dreams young people have for themselves and for the country," adds Carmen L. Vicencio, America ReFramed's Series Producer.

In the heart of Brooklyn, New York, Karoline Jimenez, Christine Rodriguez and Enoch Jemmott aspire to become the first generation in their families to attend and graduate college. But, like so many public school students throughout the country, their under-resourced schools don't have enough college guidance support. An observational film, **PERSONAL STATEMENT's** narrative weaves their personal struggles, family life and their respective college application and admission processes.





"In the film we see that the very people who are affected by a problem are in fact the ones who are best situated to solve it. This lesson could not be more timely as communities throughout the country, many of which Karoline, Christine and Enoch represent, including immigrants, members of the LGBT community, and low income people of color, are struggling to fight for their rights. When systems fail us, we must work collectively to resolve our own problems, and Karoline, Christine and Enoch show us how it's done," said Juliane Dressner in an interview with AFI.

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#### **Media Contacts**

For interviews and special requests, journalists and reviewers may contact Neyda Martinez at **917-656-7846** or via email at [neyda@amdoc.org](mailto:neyda@amdoc.org).

#### **Film Credits**

Directed by Juliane Dressner

Co-Directed by Edwin Martinez

Produced by Juliane Dressner & Beth Levison

Executive Producer for Latino Public Broadcasting, Sandie Viquez Pedlow

#### **About AMERICA REFRAMED**

AMERICA REFRAMED is a co-production of the WORLD Channel and American Documentary, Inc.

AMERICA REFRAMED curates a diverse selection of films highlighting innovative and artistic approaches to storytelling from emerging and veteran filmmakers alike. Viewers will be immersed in personal stories from the streets of towns big and small to the exurbs and country roads that span the spectrum of American life. The documentaries invite audiences to reflect on topics as varied as culture, health care,





politics, gun violence, religion and more.

An award-winning documentary series, AMERICA REFRAMED is the recipient of the Peabody Award and Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Award for broadcast journalism. The series has earned several Christopher, GRACIE, Telly and Cine Golden Eagle Awards, as well as multiple nominations for an EMMY, Independent Documentary Association, and Imagen Award.

**AMERICA REFRAMED Series Credits**

Executive Producers: Justine Nagan, Chris Hastings, Chris White

Series Producer: Carmen L. Vicencio

AMERICA REFRAMED can be accessed online via  
<http://worldchannel.org/programs/america-reframed/>  
and,  
<https://www.facebook.com/WorldChannel>  
<https://www.facebook.com/AmericaReFramed>

@worldchannel  
@americareframed

**AMERICA REFRAMED Co-Producers**

**American Documentary, Inc.** (AmDoc) is a multimedia arts organization dedicated to creating, identifying and presenting contemporary stories that express opinions and perspectives rarely featured in mainstream media outlets. AmDoc is a catalyst for public culture, developing collaborative strategic engagement activities around socially relevant content on television, online and in community settings. These activities are designed to trigger action, from dialogue and feedback to educational opportunities and community participation. AmDoc is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. For more information, visit: [www.amdoc.org](http://www.amdoc.org)

The **WORLD Channel** delivers the best of public television's nonfiction, news and





documentary programming. The channel features original content by and about diverse communities to U.S. audiences through local public television stations and streaming online at [worldchannel.org](http://worldchannel.org). WORLD reached 33.3 million unique viewers 18+ last year (52% adults 18-49) and over-indexes in key diversity demographics. Online, the WORLD Channel expands on broadcast topics and fuels dialogue across social media, providing opportunities for broad and diverse audience interaction. WORLD has won numerous national honors including an Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Award, Tellys, a Media for a Just Society Award, two Lesbian & Gay Journalist Awards, a Gracie, an Asian American Journalists Award and many others. WORLD Channel also won the Radio Television Digital News Association's 2017 Kaleidoscope Award for its critically-acclaimed series, AMERICA REFRAMED and has received four National News & Documentary Emmy Nominations.

WORLD is programmed by WGBH/Boston, in partnership with American Public Television and WNET/New York, and in association with PBS and National Educational Telecommunications Association. Funding for the WORLD Channel is provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the Wyncote Foundation and The Kendeda Fund. For more information about The WORLD Channel, visit [www.worldchannel.org](http://www.worldchannel.org)

#### About Latino Public Broadcasting

Latino Public Broadcasting (LPB) is the leader in the development, production, acquisition and distribution of non-commercial educational and cultural media that is representative of Latino people, or addresses issues of particular interest to Latino Americans. These programs are produced for dissemination to public broadcasting stations and other public telecommunication entities. Latino Public Broadcasting provides a voice to the diverse Latino community throughout the United States and is funded by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Latino Public Broadcasting produces the series VOCES, PBS's signature Latino arts and culture documentary showcase and the only ongoing national television series devoted to exploring and celebrating the rich diversity of the Latino cultural experience. Between 2009 and 2016, LPB programs won over 85 awards, including the prestigious George Foster





Peabody Award as well as two Emmys, two Imagen Awards and the Sundance Film Festival Award for Best Director, Documentary. In addition, LPB has been the recipient of the Norman Lear Legacy Award and the NCLR Alma Award for Special Achievement – Year in Documentaries. For more information, visit [www.lpbp.org](http://www.lpbp.org).

#### About the Corporation for Public Broadcasting

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB), a private, nonprofit corporation created by Congress in 1967, is the steward of the federal government's investment in public broadcasting. It helps support the operations of nearly 1,500 locally owned and operated public television and radio stations nationwide. CPB is also the largest single source of funding for research, technology, and program development for public radio, television, and related online services. For more information, visit [www.cpb.org](http://www.cpb.org) and follow us on Twitter [@CPBmedia](https://twitter.com/CPBmedia), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/CPBmedia), and [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/cpb), and [subscribe](#) for email updates.

