



For: Immediate Release
Contact: Erin Callanan
worldmedia@wgbh.org
617-300-3270

WORLD Channel Film *Doc World: Facing the Dragon* Wins 2020 Gracie Award

**Best Director Winner Sedika Mojadidi examines
the choice between Motherhood and Fighting for Reform in Afghanistan**

BOSTON (May 13, 2020) – WORLD Channel, the award-winning, 24/7 public media platform devoted to the best in diverse non-fiction programming, is proud to announce that Sedika Mojadidi, director of its presentation *Doc World: Facing the Dragon*, has been recognized with a 2020 Gracie Award. The award honors the best in programming created by women, for women, and about women.

Doc World: Facing The Dragon is a WORLD Channel presentation of a co-production of Mojo Mama Films and The Independent Television Service, with funding from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. WORLD Channel is an affiliate of public media producer WGBH Boston.

The film examines the double impact when American forces and foreign aid leave Afghanistan. Women like Nilofar, a member of the Afghan Parliament, and Shakila, a television journalist, are trapped in uncertainty as they are forced to choose between motherhood and their commitment to reform in Afghanistan. With special insider access, and acting as a camera operator/producer, Mojadid shows audiences the day-to-day realities of Afghan women on the front lines, struggling to maintain hard-won rights in a place where lawlessness, political instability, suicide bombs, and civil war are a way of life.

“Sedika Mojadidi and the entire team worked in precarious conditions to capture the sacrifices and courage of Afghan women in order to bring their stories to international platforms,” said WORLD Channel Executive Producer Chris Hastings. “To be recognized with a Gracie award affirms the importance of their work at a time when they are being devalued as citizens; their example spurs us on in our mission to support and amplify the voices of diverse filmmakers.”

The Alliance for Women in Media recognizes exemplary programming created by women, for women and about women in all facets of media and entertainment with the annual Gracie Awards. They also acknowledge the individuals who have made inspirational contributions to

the industry. Named after the late Gracie Allen, the Gracie Awards acknowledge outstanding team leadership and individual achievement. The Gracies focus on women who are making positive change and who further the discussion of what a fulfilling career in media looks like.

WORLD Channel's DOC WORLD weekly series provides U.S. audiences with the best documentaries from around the globe. Presented on WORLD Channel and told with authentic voices, these stories provide a unique and often intimate window into the realities of people and societies from many nations. DOC WORLD explores social concerns, cultural touchstones, political hot spots, and environmental issues, revealing the commonalities and differences that peoples and cultures experience around the globe. Hosted by [Andia Winslow](#).

WORLD Channel content can be streamed on WORLDChannel.org as well as via its social media channels on YouTube, Facebook Watch, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, reaching diverse audiences both nationally and internationally.

Follow WORLD Channel on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for updates on all upcoming series/films. For a complete list of original WORLD Channel programming, visit worldchannel.org.

About WORLD Channel

WORLD shares the best of public media in news, documentaries, and fact-based informational programming that helps us understand conflicts, movements and cultures that may be distinct from our own. WORLD's original content examines issues too often ignored by mainstream media by telling stories for and with a diversity of voices. WORLD has won a Peabody Award, an Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Award, a National News and Documentary Emmy Award and numerous other national honors—including 1st and 2nd place Native Media Awards, an RTNDA Kaleidoscope Award, a Media for a Just Society Award, two Lesbian & Gay Journalist Awards, two Gracies, and an Asian American Journalists Award. WORLD is a growing platform carried by 174 partner stations in markets representing more than 72% of US TV households. It is also available on WORLDChannel.org and social media platforms. Funding for World Channel is provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the MacArthur Foundation, the Wyncote Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. WORLD Channel is produced by WGBH with the support of WNET and is distributed by American Public Television (APT).

###