

2020 SALLY MENKE MEMORIAL EDITING FELLOWSHIP

INTRODUCTION

Over many years, Sally Menke was an inspired mentor to Sundance Institute filmmakers and editors. As a Directors Lab creative advisor, she was dynamic, focused, generous, and passionate about the creative process. She loved the editing room and spent hours with the fellows who sought her out. She used her own experiences and skills to help filmmakers bring their visions to life, and offered her advice with generosity and kindness. Her many editing credits include *Reservoir Dogs*, *Pulp Fiction*, *Jackie Brown*, *All the Pretty Horses*, *Kill Bill*, and *Inglourious Basterds*. In memory of Sally's artistry and love of mentoring, Sundance Institute created the Sally Menke Memorial Editing Fellowship to support an emerging fiction editor in furthering their understanding of craft, expanding their artistic community, and providing momentum to their editing career.

Past fellows include Monica Salazar (*Honey Boy*), Kate Hackett (*Waikiki*), Kathryn Schubert (*Marjorie Prime*, *The Transfiguration*), Erica Freed Marker (*The Detour*, Netflix's *Marco Polo*), Alex O'Flinn (*The Rider*, *A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night*), Julia Bloch (*Green Room*, *The Wall*), Debbie Berman (co-editor *Black Panther* and *Spider-Man: Homecoming*), Joseph Krings (*Captain Fantastic*, *Rebel in the Rye*), and Abbi Jutkowitz (*Lizzie*, *As You Are*), while past mentors have included the accomplished editors Maryann Brandon (*Venom*, *Star Wars: Episode VII - The Force Awakens*), Tatiana S. Riegel (*The Girl and the Spider's Web*, *I, Tonya*), Wyatt Smith (*Harriet*, *Into the Woods*), Susan Morse (*Manhattan*, *Music and Lyrics*), Pamela Martin (*The Fighter*, *Little Miss Sunshine*), Dylan Tichenor (*Zero Dark Thirty*, *There Will be Blood*), Jeffrey Ford (*The Avengers*, *Crazy Heart*), Meg Reticker (*30 Rock*, *True Detective*, *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt*), Joe Hutshing (*Almost Famous*, *Jerry Maguire*), Barbara Tulliver (*Signs*, *Hard Eight*), Jay Rabinowitz (*The Tree of Life*, *Requiem for a Dream*), Suzy Elmiger (*Master of None*, *Short Cuts*), Tim Squyres (*Life of Pi*, *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*), Christopher Tellefsen (*Moneyball*, *Capote*), Affonso Gonçalves (*Winter's Bone*, *Beasts of the Southern Wild*), and Deborah Moran (*The Wire*, *Bloodline*).

DESCRIPTION

The Sally Menke Memorial Editing Fellow will work as an editor at the 2020 Sundance Institute Directors Lab, and will focus on editing the workshop scenes of two directors selected for the lab. During their time off, the fellow will have access to all experiences of the lab, including screenings, readings, and observing sets.

The fellow will also be assigned two editing mentors from August 2020 through May 2021, and will have the opportunity to meet with one of the editors at least once a month to discuss films and editing, as well as have the opportunity to observe them at work when appropriate. Additionally, the fellow will be invited to rough-cut screenings of lab films during the year in LA or NYC, depending on where they're based.

All Sally Menke Fellows will be invited to become associate members of American Cinema Editors. They will be included in the ACE mailing list and receive the magazine, invitations to events, and screeners, with the opportunity to vote for the Feature Film Best Editing categories as part of the ACE Awards. They will also receive a free invitation to EditFest Los Angeles, held at Disney Studios in Burbank in August 2020.

Finally, the 2020 Sally Menke Fellow will be acknowledged at the 2021 Sundance Film Festival at the Art of Editing lunch, and will receive a travel stipend to attend.

ELIGIBILITY

The Sally Menke Editing Fellowship will support an emerging fiction editor who has served as lead editor for at least one but no more than four fiction features, and any number of shorts, documentary films, industrial films, or webisodes. Additionally, the ideal candidate is committed to continuing a career in editing, passionate about the creative process, and open to exploration and experimentation in the editing room. We hope to find an editor based in either LA or NYC, but the fellowship is open to all editors based in the U.S. If awarded the fellowship, the editor will be required to join the Directors Lab at the Sundance Resort in Utah from May 24–June 17, 2020, and will receive a travel stipend to attend.

As an editor at the lab, the fellow must have working knowledge of editing equipment, including AVID, Adobe Premiere and post-production workflow.

APPLICATIONS

Applications for the Sally Menke Editing Fellowship will be accepted starting Wednesday, February 19, 2020; the deadline for submissions is **Friday, March 13, 2020**. Please apply online at <https://apply.sundance.org>. Please carefully read the instructions below:

1. **Fill out the online form (<https://apply.sundance.org>), including:**
 - Applicant contact information
 - Applicant bio (150 words max)
 - Applicant demographic information
 - A link to one feature film you feel best demonstrates your editing ability
2. **Upload one letter of recommendation from an editor or director with whom you have previously collaborated, addressed to the Sally Menke Memorial Editing Fellowship Selection Committee. Include as a .pdf document with the file name in the format: LASTNAME_FIRSTNAME_Letter**
3. **Upload your response to the following questions as a .pdf document with the file name in the format: LASTNAME_FIRSTNAME_Application**
 - Why are you interested in applying to the Sally Menke Memorial Editing Fellowship? What would be most helpful to you in a mentoring relationship, and why might it be specifically helpful to you at this time?
 - Choose a film you admire for its exceptional editing and explain why.
 - Tell us about a specific experience you've had working as an editor that taught you something key about the process.

*****NOTE: Once you hit submit, you will not be able to go back and edit your application. Make sure to carefully review all your materials.*****

Final decisions on awarding the fellowship will be made by **April 30, 2020**. All applicants will be notified by this time. Please contact Ritvik Dhavale at ritvik_dhavale@sundance.org with any questions.