



NEWS RELEASE
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Lucky 13! North Carolina filmmakers receive funding from Cucalorus

Nov. 2, 2022, Wilmington, NC – Cucalorus is excited to announce the thirteen filmmakers that have been awarded financial support from the Filmed in NC fund. The Filmed in NC Fund is made possible through a partnership with the NC Film Office, and by a gift from Artless Media in conjunction with The Magnifying Glass. This year's initiative supports narrative, documentary and experimental film projects at all stages of production with a focus on growing support for female and non-binary identifying, African American and Latinx filmmakers. The program was launched in 2015 to increase independent production activity and to support the work of emerging and independent artists who may be working outside of the major studio system.

The 2022 grant recipients are:

- ***May the Lord Watch***, a documentary feature by Shirlette Ammons, that recounts the rise, breakup and reunion of rap group, Little Brother
- ***Quiet as It's Kept***, a documentary feature by Sarah Sloan, follows choreographer Kevin Lee-Y Green as he produces a dance performance in his rural hometown, capturing his experiences with Blackness, sexual trauma and southern culture.
- ***North on Thurmond***, a documentary feature by Ivan Weiss and Cagney Gentry that tells the history of a neighborhood through personal remembrances and the sights and sounds of its streets.
- ***Bloom***, a documentary feature by Elizabeth Miller-Derstine that follows four doulas and the mothers they advocate for. It questions why a country that values personal freedom limits how parents exercise it at birth.
- ***Gabriela***, a short narrative by Evelyn Lorena, that focuses on a young, undocumented Guatemalan woman that dreams of joining the country club swim team in the American South
- ***Keepsake***, a narrative feature by Tiffany Albright, is about a photographer that finds herself at the heart of a sinister ritual when hired to document a family hike for the last people to see her sister alive.

- ***The Making of the Nuevo South***, a television series by Rodrigo Dorfman that explores Southern history from the perspective of the Latino immigrant experience
- ***The Corner Gas Station***, a short narrative by Ashley Maria and Kate E. Henshaw, centers on the weekly “kid switch,” common with divorced parents.
- ***Teflon Body Rot***, an experimental film by Kate E. Henshaw, explores the human cost of an industry that poisoned the water in coastal Carolina.
- ***What Happened to Oattie B. Graham?***, a narrative feature by Aileen Lassister, is the journey to find the gaps in history in the life of the filmmaker’s great-grandmother.
- ***Long Drive to Yadkin***, a narrative feature by Parrish Stikeleather that recounts the story of a recently widowed Bible salesman on a journey to reconnect with his estranged son
- ***Carousel*** by Justin Lacy is an experimental, stop-motion animation set to three original songs about a bee, a beekeeper and pollinator caught in a loop.
- ***Fading Ink***, a short narrative by Tylen Watts, is about a memorial shirt printer that comes to terms with the vulnerability of fatherhood.

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Cucalorus is an evolving experiment in community building that connects visionary leaders in film, performance and technology, supporting the creation of new work and new ideas through festivals, residencies, funding and education. Find more information at cucalorus.org.