

## **Five Documentaries Awarded Summer 2020 Grants from The Rogovy Foundation**

(New York, NY). The Rogovy Foundation is pleased to announce the Miller / Packan Documentary Film Fund Summer 2020 award winners. The Fund awards grants totaling \$200,000 to a selection of film projects annually through its Summer and Winter open calls.

The Fund's five selection of award winners for this Summer period are:

***Planet Z*** — The film follows a group of climate change youth activists as they mobilize their efforts to empower and inspire other youths and adults to create change within their communities, government and beyond. Director: Tom Donahue.

***Untitled Prison Hunger Strike Film*** — In 2013, three men, trapped for decades in solitary confinement in, all arrived at the same decision – a hunger strike, the largest in US history. 30,000 people abolished indefinite solitary confinement in California prisons. Director: Lucas Guilkey.

***In the Cold Dark Night*** — In 1983 in a small Georgia town, white men brutally murdered Timothy Coggins, a young black man, because of his relationship with a white woman. Authorities stopped investigating and witnesses received threats to remain quiet, the case went cold for nearly 34 years... until a new investigation opened in 2017. Director: Stephen Robert Morse.

***STAYERS*** — The documentary follows the tight-knit crabbing community of Tangier Island, Virginia, through a dramatic year as the islanders are fighting for a sea wall to save their home. This all happens in the lead-up to one of the most anticipated presidential elections in US history. Director: Julia Dahr & Julie Lunde Lillesæter. [www.differmedia.com/project/stayers](http://www.differmedia.com/project/stayers)

***Untitled West Virginia Project*** — A meditation on the suffering and devastation resulting from the coal industry and its decline in West Virginia, as communities bear witness to a perfect storm of afflictions: a crumbling economy, an opioid epidemic, and environmental damage. Director: Lucas Sabeau & Peter Hutchinson. [www.bigtentproductions.nyc/west-virginia](http://www.bigtentproductions.nyc/west-virginia)

*"This year we're all seeing the profound challenges we face as a society first-hand,"* said Asher Rogovy, Foundation Vice-President. *"Supporting these films is but one step towards progress. We can only face problems if we recognize problems, and documentary films are a powerful medium to illustrate them."*

Applications are now being accepted for the Winter 2020 Open Call, which ends November 15th. Further details on the Miller / Packan Film Fund can be found at: [rogovy.org](http://rogovy.org)

### About The Rogovy Foundation.

The Rogovy Foundation invests in inspired people and nonprofit organizations working to build a more enlightened and harmonious planet. The Foundation sees documentary film as a potent medium which broadens our vision and changes our perspectives.

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**Contact: Lulu Parent; [lulu@rogovy.org](mailto:lulu@rogovy.org)  
The Rogovy Foundation, 60 Broad St. Suite 2407, New York, NY 10004  
Web: [rogovy.org](http://rogovy.org)**