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## **“Barrio Television” Awarded Full Scholarship for UnionDocs Prestigious Early Production Lab**

*“Barrio Television” announces that it is now one of two projects—chosen from a global pool of applicants—to be awarded a full scholarship for UnionDocs’ Early Production Lab*

**New York, NY** —Today, UnionDocs announced “Barrio Television” as one of two projects to be awarded a full scholarship to participate in their Early Production Lab. The Early Production Lab accepts twelve applicants every year for a five week intensive on the fundamentals of documentary planning, production, editing and independent release.

As a participant in the lab, “Barrio Television” director Christina DiPasquale will be sitting down with the some of the biggest names in the documentary industry—Sundance, Firelight, Chicken & Egg, Topic Studios, the Museum of Moving Image, Catapult, Impact Partners, Working Films, and POV—to take this documentary from a dream ten years in the making to a full length, feature film.

**Christina DiPasquale, “Barrio Television” director and UnionDocs award recipient, said:**

**“As a first-time feature filmmaker working outside of the industry, I am deeply grateful and excited for the opportunity that UnionDocs has created for this project. I am looking forward to meeting other independents pushing to complete innovative documentaries that entertain and inspire. ‘Barrio Television’ is a concrete step forward in documenting an untold piece of Latino history to meet this moment when more local, diverse and culturally-relevant news is urgently needed. Our team will be sharing a behind-the-scenes look into how the “Realidades” series of the 1970s fought for structural change in the TV industry, uplifted emerging creatives of color, and provided innovative and quality service journalism. We are humbled to be chosen for this UnionDocs program, and looking forward to using what we learn from innovators in the documentary field today to honor those of our past.”**

“Barrio Television” is the untold story of a 1972 media caper, orchestrated by Puerto Rican activists who rebelled against media exclusion and occupied public television’s flagship New York City studio to demand the airing of “Realidades.” Without any experience in television, these activists produced the first prime-time TV program for Puerto Ricans in New York which later became the first national and bilingual news series by, for and about Latinos in the United States. The film is an amalgamation of over ten years of archival research by director Christina DiPasquale, which the Library of Congress used to officially acknowledge the show’s achievements this year.

“Barrio Television” is in early production and actively fundraising to finish film production. For more information on this project, access to the film’s lookbook, and ways to get involved please visit [barriotelevision.com](http://barriotelevision.com).