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INDEPENDENT LENS WINS FIRST WEBBY AWARD FOR “THE PEOPLE v.”, COMPANION WEB SERIES TO “PHILLY D.A.”

“The People v.” was awarded the Webby Award for Best Video Series for Public Service & Activism for its exploration of issues within the criminal justice system that contribute to mass incarceration as highlighted in the critically-acclaimed docuseries “Philly D.A.”

(San Francisco, CA) April 28, 2022 — [INDEPENDENT LENS](#) is proud to accept the Best Video Series for Public Service & Activism for [“The People v.”](#), which was awarded by the International Academy of Digital Arts and Sciences (IADAS) in the 26th Annual Webby Awards Internet Celebration. This marks the first Webby Award for INDEPENDENT LENS, PBS’s Emmy-Award winning documentary anthology series and flagship series of ITVS, public media’s leading incubator and presenter of independent film. The award was announced on April 26, 2022.

“The People v.”, produced in partnership with [Complexly](#), is a companion web series to the duPont Award-winning and Peabody-nominated [“Philly D.A.”](#) the groundbreaking eight-part docuseries from PBS, ITVS and filmmakers Ted Passon, Yoni Brook and Nicole Salazar that takes viewers inside the office of Philadelphia District Attorney and unapologetic reformer Larry Krasner as he and his team attempt to reform the criminal justice system from the inside.

The four-part web series hosted by Danielle Bainbridge, creator of PBS’s “Origin of Everything,” engages in the deeper narrative of “Philly D.A.” to further illustrate key aspects of policies within the criminal justice system that drive mass incarceration in America and spark conversations on ways to enact systemic change.

Each episode of “The People v.” tackles a different policy issue within the criminal justice system as highlighted throughout “Philly D.A.” These issues include [juvenile sentencing](#), [extended probation](#), [cash bail](#) and [qualified immunity](#).

Lauded by the *New Yorker* as “a sober, deeply reported disambiguation of what reform practically entails,” “Philly D.A.” not only was recently awarded the Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Award, but also won for Best Breakthrough Nonfiction Series at the 2021 Gotham Awards and was nominated for Best New Non-Scripted or Documentary Series at the Film Independent Spirit Awards and Best Multi-Part Documentary at the IDA Awards. It’s also nominated for a 2022 Peabody Award.



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“‘The People v.’ was integral to the success of ‘Philly D.A.’ and plays a vital role in the timely conversations about systemic racism and equity in our criminal justice system,” said Lisa Tawil, Vice President of Marketing and Communications at ITVS. “We are particularly proud of this Webby win in the Public Service & Activism category as our goal was to invite the public into the conversation around reform.”

Both “The People v.” and “Philly D.A.” are part of INDEPENDENT LENS’s [Stories for Justice](#) public media partnership created to kickstart community conversations and boost the work of people on the front lines of justice reform. By connecting documentaries, docuseries and journalism to community-led engagement, Stories for Justice is a multi-year commitment to bold storytelling about racial inequities in systems across America.

This is the sixth Webby nomination for INDEPENDENT LENS alongside six honoree recognitions in the past. In addition to this win, PBS was awarded nine other Webbys this year. “The People v.” will be honored at the 26th Annual Webby Awards in New York City on May 16, 2022.

Visit the [“Philly D.A.” page](#) on INDEPENDENT LENS for more information on the docuseries, and [“The People v.” page](#) on YouTube to watch the web series.

ABOUT INDEPENDENT LENS

INDEPENDENT LENS is an Emmy® Award-winning weekly PBS series airing Monday nights at 10:00 p.m. ET. The acclaimed series, with Lois Vossen as executive producer, features documentaries united by the creative freedom, artistic achievement, and unflinching visions of independent filmmakers. Presented by ITVS, the series is funded by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, a private corporation funded by the American people, with additional funding from Acton Family Giving, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Wyncote Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts. For more visit pbs.org/independentlens. Join the conversation: facebook.com/independentlens and on Twitter @IndependentLens.

ABOUT ITVS:

ITVS is a San Francisco-based nonprofit organization that has, for over 25 years, funded and partnered with a diverse range of documentary filmmakers to produce and distribute untold stories. ITVS incubates and co-produces these award-winning films, and then airs them for free on PBS via our weekly series, INDEPENDENT LENS, as well as on other PBS series, and through our digital platform, OVEE. ITVS is funded by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, The National Endowment for the Humanities: American Rescue Plan, Acton Family Giving, the John



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D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the Ford Foundation, and Wyncote Foundation. For more information, visit itvs.org.

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