Meet Directors through Home Hosting

By Kathy Condon

The American Documentary and Animation Film Festival (AmDocs), based in Palm Springs, launches its 9th year of presenting high-quality documentaries from directors from throughout the world. Thousand of movie buffs travel to the area for the weekend of March 27 - 31, 2020.

Unlike major motion pictures, during the creation of the film and editing stage, documentary directors most likely do not have sponsors. They often use their savings or max out their credit cards to produce their films. They travel to various film festivals with the *hope* someone will see their film and consider being a sponsor. Then their documentary can be distributed to a much larger audience.

**Hosting a Director**

The American Documentary Series is a 501c3 nonprofit organization that is primarily run by volunteers. A host committee coordinates the housing needs of approximately 60 individuals.

Presently, the Host Committee is the need of people willing to open their homes for these up-and-coming directors. You do not need a palatial home.

**Here are the simple requirements:**

* A bedroom with access to their own bathroom. (A recent host used the daybed in her den and bathroom directly across assigned to her for the duration of her two-day stay.)
* Provide breakfast, which can be as simple as pastries and coffee set out for your guest or guests.
* You do not need to provide transportation for your guests.

***As a Home Stay Host, you will have the opportunity to view documentary films from all over the world.***

If you decide you want to consider being a host, the Host Committee will get in touch with you to see if you prefer a man, woman, or couple. They will discuss any questions you may have about your accommodations or responsibilities.

**Quotes from Past Hosts**

“As a single woman with a room, I wondered if it was the smartest idea to be a host. However, I have now been a host for two years. One year I hosted a delightful 25-year-old from Scotland and then another year a lovely 23-year-old of Philippine descent going to school in Chicago. Frankly, we enjoyed each other’s company so much; our only regret we did not have more time together.” *Full disclosure—I was that single woman.*

“We have been hosts since the inception of the AmDocs Festival nine years ago. Each year we look forward to our new guest or guests. We always find it enlightening to learn how the seed of an idea becomes a film. Often our guests are from another country. Our guests from Berlin invited us to Germany. I am pleased to say, we took them up on their invitation and ended up with our own flat provided by them in Berlin.” Harly and Caryl Rudofsky

Please go to the website [www.amdocfilmfest.com](http://www.amdocfilmfest.com/) for more information on the festival.

For more information on hosting please contact [info@amdocfilmfest.com](mailto:Cheryl@amdocfilmfest.com)