

AKILA WORK SONGS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 10, 2022

MEDIA CONTACT: April R. Silver | (718) 756-8501 office | (646) 522-4169 mobile

WORLD PREMIERE AT TRIBECA FILM FESTIVAL 2022!

DIRECTOR BYRON HURT'S *HAZING* DOCUMENTARY FILM SHEDS LIGHT ON DANGEROUS AND SOMETIMES DEADLY HAZING CULTURE IN THE U.S.

Virtual Screening Starts Saturday, June 11, 2022, at 6:00 pm ET



New York, NY - - Award-winning filmmaker **Byron Hurt** announced earlier this month that his highly anticipated documentary film *HAZING* will premiere at **Tribeca Film Festival 2022**. As a part of Tribeca's *At Home Online Premieres* and Juneteenth programming, the highly anticipated documentary will screen virtually for U.S. residents starting on Saturday, June 11, 2022, at 6:00 pm ET. The screening is a ticketed event for the public. For more information, visit <https://www.tribecafilm.com/films/hazing-2022>

HAZING sheds light on rarely discussed factors that contribute to a persistent hazing culture and explains how pledging and membership rituals have evolved over time. Tragic deaths, emotional trauma, and life-altering injuries are often horrible consequences connected to hazing rituals on college and university campuses across the country. On June 9, when triggering video content surfaced publicly, [Good Morning America reported](#) on the injuries sustained by a University of Missouri freshman, Danny Santulli, during a hazing ritual. Hurt offers: "My heart goes out to his family and those who love him. This is an outcome that could have, and should have, been prevented. My hope is that with greater awareness and a renewed commitment by institutional leaders the dangerous and sometimes deadly

more

consequences of hazing culture will be eradicated.” He adds, “I believe that we can create new and healthier ways to form valuable bonds with one another. I don’t believe that people should die in pursuit of the human desire to belong to a group.”

Executive Produced by **Stanley Nelson** and **Regina Scully**, *HAZING* will broadcast on Independent Lens/PBS in September 2022.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR Byron Hurt is an award-winning documentary filmmaker whose began his journey into filmmaking as a college student at Northeastern University. His most acclaimed documentaries, *Hip-Hop: Beyond Beats and Rhymes* (2006) and *Soul Food Junkies* (2013), both aired on Independent Lens/PBS. His next film, *Looking for Lee and Liza* (working title) will air on PBS NOVA in November 2022.

FILM CREDITS Director, Byron Hurt; Producer, Natalie Bullock Brown; Associate Producer, Shantell Huggins; Screenwriter, Byron Hurt; Editor, Jessica Lee Salas; Composer, Wendell Yohannes Hanes; Cinematographer, Bill Winters.

Funding for *HAZING* is provided by Artemis Rising, Black Public Media, Firelight Media, IDA Enterprise Documentary Fund, Impact Partners, ITVS, the Kind World Foundation, Perspective Fund, The Sundance Documentary Fund, The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Virginia Public Media, the Waitt Foundation, and hundreds of online individual donors via IndieGoGo and GoFundMe.

CONTACT US: To learn more about Byron Hurt’s previous documentary films, please visit www.BHURT.com; [@ByronHurt](https://twitter.com/ByronHurt) (Twitter); [@ByronHurt](https://www.instagram.com/ByronHurt) (Instagram), and on Facebook ([@byronhurtfilms](https://www.facebook.com/byronhurtfilms)). Hurt is available for interviews. Media/press inquiries are directed to April R. Silver. Send email to pr@akilaworksongs.com or call the office at (718) 756-8501.

