



**America ReFramed and WORLD Channel  
announce the U.S. broadcast premiere of  
MORONI FOR PRESIDENT  
by Saila Huusko and Jasper Rischen**

**Tuesday, November 20, 2018 at 8 p.m.**

October 18, 2018 – (New York, NY) – Following a heated primary election for the presidency of the Navajo Nation, *Moroni For President* examines the world of LGBTQ rights and the meaning of identity in the largest Native American tribe in the United States.

MEDIA RELATIONS

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*Moroni For President*, a film by Saila Huusko and Jasper Rischen, will make its U.S. television premiere and streaming debut on Tuesday, November 20, 2018 on WORLD Channel as part of the new season of America ReFramed, public media's award-winning documentary series. It will also be available for free on all station-branded PBS platforms including [PBS.org](http://PBS.org), and on PBS apps for iOS, Android, Roku, Apple TV, Amazon Fire TV and Chromecast.

Every four years, the Navajo Nation elects its president, whom many consider the most powerful Native American in the country. Frustrated about the lack of progress and the persistence of the status quo, the documentary's protagonist, Moroni Benally, a Mormon and gay Navajo man, hopes to defeat the incumbent president.

The film follows Moroni, an academic with radical ideas, to every corner of the iconic American Southwest as questions of sovereignty, language and identity, as well as recognition of LGBTQ rights come to the fore.

As the election unfolds, the film weaves the stories of two politically engaged LGBTQ activists working on competing campaigns: Zachariah George, the assistant to the incumbent president, and Alray Nelson, the campaign manager for another frontrunner.



In the midst of a frenzied election fraught with challenges, Moroni soon discovers that theory and a platform do not necessarily prepare you for the daily dirt of politics and the unpredictability of voter's choice.

*Moroni For President* follows a political newcomer's grueling, lonely campaign against the "old guard," and the monumental effort it takes to change the narrative and inspire people to move in new directions.

*Moroni For President* is a co-production of Outburst Pictures, LLC and Independent Television Service (ITVS), in association with Vision Maker Media (VMM), with funding provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB).

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#### **Media Contacts**

For interviews and special requests, journalists and reviewers may contact Neyda Martinez at **917-656-7846** or via email at [neyda@amdoc.org](mailto:neyda@amdoc.org).

#### **Film Credits**

Co-Directed and Co-Produced by Saila Huusko and Jasper Rischen  
Executive Producer for VISION MAKER MEDIA, Shirley Kay Sneve  
Executive Producer for ITVS, Sally Jo Fifer

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#### **About America ReFramed**

America ReFramed is a co-production of the WORLD Channel and American Documentary, Inc.

America ReFramed curates a diverse selection of independent documentaries that brings to national audiences compelling stories which illuminate the changing contours of our ever-evolving country. Viewers will be immersed in stories that span the spectrum of American life, from the streets of towns big and small to its exurbs and country roads. The documentary series presents an array of personal voices and experiences through which we learn from our past,



understand our present and are challenged to seek new frameworks for America's future.

An award-winning documentary series, America ReFramed is the recipient of a Peabody and Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Award for broadcast journalism. The series has earned several Christopher, GRACIE, Telly and Cine Golden Eagle Awards, as well as multiple nominations for an EMMY, Independent Documentary Association, and Imagen Award.

#### **America ReFramed Series Credits**

Executive Producers: Justine Nagan, Chris Hastings, Chris White  
Series Producer: Carmen L. Vicencio

America ReFramed can be accessed online via  
<http://worldchannel.org/programs/america-reframed/>  
and,  
<https://www.facebook.com/WorldChannel>  
<https://www.facebook.com/AmericaReFramed>

@worldchannel  
@americareframed

#### **America ReFramed Co-Producers**

**American Documentary, Inc.** (AmDoc) is a multimedia arts organization dedicated to creating, identifying and presenting contemporary stories that express opinions and perspectives rarely featured in mainstream media outlets. AmDoc is a catalyst for public culture, developing collaborative strategic engagement activities around socially relevant content on television, online and in community settings. These activities are designed to trigger action, from dialogue and feedback to educational opportunities and community participation. AmDoc is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. For more information, visit: [www.amdoc.org](http://www.amdoc.org)

#### **WORLD Channel**

WORLD Channel tells stories that humanize complex issues. WORLD shares the best of public media in news, documentaries, and fact-based informational programming that helps us understand conflicts, movements and cultures that may be distinct from our own. WORLD's original content offers a national platform to makers examining issues too often ignored by mainstream media. These emerging and master filmmakers spotlight a diversity of voices, telling stories not heard elsewhere. WORLD has won a Peabody Award, an Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Award

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and numerous national honors—including an RTNDA Kaleidoscope Award, a Media for a Just Society Award, two Lesbian & Gay Journalist Awards, a Gracie, and an Asian American Journalists Award. Carried by 154 partner stations in markets representing almost 64% of US TV households, WORLD can also be experienced via [WORLDChannel.org](http://WORLDChannel.org) and social media platforms.

WORLD is operated by WGBH/Boston, in partnership with American Public Television and WNET/New York, and in association with PBS and National Educational Telecommunications Association. Funding for the WORLD Channel is provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the Wyncote Foundation and The Kendeda Fund and the National Endowment for the Arts. For more information about The WORLD Channel, visit [www.worldchannel.org](http://www.worldchannel.org).

Follow WORLD Channel on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for updates on other exciting films/series. For a complete listing of original WORLD Channel programming, visit [www.WORLDchannel.org/](http://www.WORLDchannel.org/).

