

Media Contact:

Hollow Outreach Team
hollowinteractive@gmail.com

“Hollow” to be screened at U.S. Capitol

Manchin welcomes a discussion about the future of McDowell County, W.Va.

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- “Hollow,” the Peabody award-winning interactive documentary that explores the issues and future of small-town America, has been invited by U.S. Sen. Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.) to view the film at the United States Capitol.

The documentary will show in the Capitol theatre on July 22 from 6 to 8 p.m. A reception, featuring West Virginia-themed food and drink will take place beforehand.

“It’s a huge honor that Sen. Manchin has invited the producers and community behind this project to our nation’s capitol to discuss these important stories,” said Elaine McMillion Sheldon, the project’s creator and director.

“Hollow,” which follows the people of McDowell County, W.Va., home to 22,000 people, has been recognized numerous times since it hit the web and viewed by 125,000 people in 178 countries. The project won third prize in the World Press Photo Interactive Awards and was chosen for The 2013 DocLab Showcase at the International Documentary Festival of Amsterdam. The project has been featured in *The Huffington Post*, *LA Times*, *New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, *Filmmaker Magazine*, *IndieWire*, *Variety* and *PBS MediaShift*.

“We are so pleased with the response to the project, not just in the community, but also nationally and internationally and we look forward to having a discussion with the senator and residents in Washington,” Sheldon said.

“‘Hollow’ is a captivating documentary about McDowell County, which as many West Virginians already know is a truly special place in the Mountain State,” Manchin said. “It is my hope that the stories and vivid images our McDowell residents shared on camera will encourage West Virginians, especially our young adults from the region, to dedicate their time and efforts to rebuilding their communities.”

Several individuals featured in the film will be in attendance at the screening, along with a number of team members. The *Hollow* team includes Sheldon, Jeff Soyk (interactive designer and architect), Tricia Fulks (associate producer), Robert Hall (senior technologist), Russell Goldenburg (interactive developer), Billy Wirasnik (sound designer and editor), Sarah Ginsburg (video editor), Kerrin Sheldon (video editor), Lee Strauss (composer), Michelle Miller (community outreach), Nathaniel Hansen (project manager), Jason Headley (copywriter), Eric Lovell (cartographer), Megan Bowers Sutherland (videographer) and Rheanna O’Neil Bellomo (production assistant).

The theater seats 300 people. **RSVP** to HollowEvent@manchin.senate.gov or call Senator Manchin's office at (202)224-3954. For directions and parking instructions, please click **here**.

To view the documentary at home, visit www.hollowdocumentary.com via a Google Chrome browser.