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## ***Hollow* nominated for an Emmy**

### **Independent production team alongside Showtime, A&E, networks and others as nominees**

New York, N.Y. -- *Hollow*, an interactive documentary that explores the issues and future of small-town America, has been nominated for a 2014 News and Documentary Emmy Award, announced July 15. *Hollow* is competing against nine other projects in the New Approaches to News & Documentary Programming: Current News category.

The news and documentary category recognizes excellence in broadcast journalism and documentary filmmaking. Winners will be announced at a ceremony in New York City on Sept. 30.

"What an amazing honor to get a nod from the Emmys," said Elaine McMillion Sheldon, project creator and director. "As a team of independent filmmakers, designers, journalists and developers, we are ecstatic."

*Hollow*, which launched June 2013, tells the story of 30 residents living in McDowell County, W.Va. The Southern West Virginia community experienced a boom in the 1950s then a bust in the latter part of the 20th century. The interactive documentary merges cinematic techniques with web-based storytelling to encourage a dialogue about the issues that small towns face.

"We hope this recognition will keep residents motivated and working toward their shared goals and hopefully draw more attention from our state and national leaders," Sheldon said.

Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV) has invited the makers of *Hollow* and the public to view and discuss the film at the U.S. Capitol on Tuesday, July 22 from 6 to 8 pm.

*Hollow* was recently honored by the Peabody Awards as well as the World Press Photo Multimedia Awards, receiving third prize in its interactive documentary contest. The project was selected for the 2013 New York Film Festival, 2014 SXSW Interactive Awards, as well as The 2013 DocLab Showcase at the International Documentary Festival of Amsterdam, placing in the top three out of 15 selections. It has been screened locally, nationally and internationally more than 40 times, including a recent screening in Bristol, England. The FWA has named *Hollow* "Site of the Day," and the project has also received the Adobe Creative Edge Award from The FWA. *Hollow* was a CSS Winner and a platinum winner of AVA Digital Awards for creative web video and original music.

The project has been featured in *The Huffington Post*, *LA Times*, *New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, *Filmmaker Magazine*, *IndieWire*, *Variety* and *PBS MediaShift*.

"Everyone who contributed to the project, from the residents to the technologists, should be honored," Sheldon said. "It's rare to see an independent project, not affiliated with a network or corporation, nominated for this type of award. We would love to see this nomination encourage a dialogue on a national scale about the future of small towns in our country."

The *Hollow* team includes Sheldon, Jeff Soyk (interactive designer and architect), Tricia Fulks (associate producer), Robert Hall (senior technologist), Russell Goldenberg (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).

To experience the interactive documentary, visit [www.hollowdocumentary.com](http://www.hollowdocumentary.com).

View the Emmy News & Documentary [press release](#).

[More information](#) about the Washington, D.C., event with Senator Joe Manchin.