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Libraries offer Veteran Documentary Corps films through Kanopy

The Kanopy streaming video service now includes films from the Veteran Documentary Corps (VDC), a non-profit organization based at San Francisco State University (SFSU) that produces short documentaries about military veterans.



Each documentary features one veteran and is produced and directed by a professional filmmaker who ensures that veteran's story is conveyed with honor, artistry, and truth. Stories come from all branches of service, military jobs, campaigns, and nations. Featured veterans participate in the editing process and have final approval before the film is released to the public.

By pairing professional filmmakers with military veterans, the VDC aims to facilitate greater understanding of the diverse personalities, struggles, and successes that define the veteran experience through the art of documentary filmmaking. Among their goals, the VDC hopes to engage veterans, families, citizens, and policymakers in meaningful discussions about veteran experiences, issues, and interests.

Veteran Documentary Corps was founded in 2011 by Dr. Daniel Bernardi, an Iraq War Veteran (2009-10) and cinema scholar, and is based at SFSU's Documentary Film Institute. VDC filmmakers are all seasoned professionals, including Daniel Bernardi, Silvia Turchin, Adan Pulido, and David Washburn.

There are 18 VDC films currently available in Kanopy. For the complete list; see <http://syr.kanopystreaming.com/catalog/791>. VDC has produced 30 films and aims to complete 100 by 2020.

Syracuse University Libraries provide campus access to the Kanopy streaming video service, which offers more than 26,000 films. Kanopy's unique PDA (patron-driven acquisition) model ensures that institutions only pay for the films their students and faculty actually watch. Kanopy works directly with filmmakers and film distribution companies to offer award-winning collections including titles from PBS, BBC, Criterion Collection, Media Education Foundation, and more.

For more information on this project, see veterandocs.org. For more information on using Kanopy, contact Janet Pease at jlpease@syr.edu.