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**OCTFME Recognizes Dustin Harrison-Atlas as June 2017 Filmmaker
of the Month**

*Local filmmaker acknowledged for contributions to the Washington, D.C. film and media
community*



Washington, DC. -- The District of Columbia Office of Cable Television, Film, Music and Entertainment (OCTFME) is pleased to recognize local filmmaker Dustin Harrison-Atlas as the June 2017 Filmmaker of the Month.

Harrison-Atlas' directorial feature film debut, [*New Chefs on The Block*](#), will screen at 2017 AFI DOCS Festival in Washington, D.C. on Friday, June 16th at the Landmark E Street Theater and again on Sunday, June 18th at the AFI Silver Theatre, Silver Spring, MD.

Tickets for the Friday screening are sold out, but tickets are still available for the Sunday screening. To get tickets for the Sunday screening check out the [AFI DOCS' tickets site](#).

New Chefs on the Block follows the multi-year journeys of two very different chefs as they pursue their dreams to establish their own restaurants, from brick-and-mortar to opening night. Veteran chefs Aaron Silverman (Rose's Luxury) and Frank Linn (Frankly...Pizza!) star in this heartwarming, anxiety-driven feature. Also featured are

restaurant notables Danny Meyer, Michel Richard, Mike Isabella, and *Washington Post* Food Critic Tim Carmin.

“My film is not about chefs, it’s about who and what it takes to open and sustain a restaurant,” comments Harrison-Atlas. “My intention was to capture the rise of the D.C. food scene.”

“I wanted *New Chefs* to be a family story that captures hard work paying off in light of insurmountable hurdles. he continues by saying “It’s an American dream film,”.

For more information on the film and to see a trailer, please visit the New Chefs on the Block homepage [here](#).

Harrison-Atlas is a D.C. resident and graduated from George Washington University with a degree in political communications (2004), then received a Masters Degree in Fine Arts from the American University’s School of Communication (2010). After finishing his coursework, Harrison-Atlas began his professional media career at The Discovery Channel working in post-production and program development before embarking on a career as an independent filmmaker.

Currently, Harrison-Atlas operates a Washington, D.C. based production company, [The Crow’s Nest](#) with business partner and District native Adrian Muys.

Harrison-Atlas also tells OCTFME that his creative inspiration comes from the District’s skyline: ‘My love for Washington is rejuvenated when I revisit the monuments,’ he says.

OCTFME launched the “Filmmaker of the Month” initiative as a vehicle for highlighting the talents and creative contributions of filmmakers that make the District of Columbia their home. The Filmmaker of the Month initiative is part of OCTFME’s mission to elevate the national and international profile of the District’s talented filmmakers.

***Do you know a filmmaker you would like to see featured as OCTFME’s Filmmaker of the Month”? If so, please forward your suggestion to: film@dc.gov.

About OCTFME

The District of Columbia Office of Cable Television, Film, Music and Entertainment is responsible for implementing, managing, and administering programs, initiatives, and services that support media industry economic activity, growth, and employment in the District of Columbia.

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