December 3, 2015

for too. So it's like totally long-lasting relationships and great networking opportunities for everyone. And all of the guest speakers that came in were incredible and really established and successful people that I could see myself wanting to be.

Describe a little bit your creative process did you come up with the story first; did you have skills that you wanted to use first; did it begin at Storytellers'; did it begin before that how did it all evolve?

So I was sort of working on two projects. One of the projects was more based on anthropology and that was the one where we went into the production stage at Storytellers'. So I was working with two professors and one student on a project about Oaxacan Mexican migrant workers in Saratoga Springs, and their daily lived experience. And that one was more of a teaser that we were creating so we could maybe do more of a long-term project.

The other project that I worked on, that I would definitely call, completely my own project, I brought in with just a bare bones structure of what I wanted it to be and then I came out of it with a developed proposal. I definitely wished I had been able to work on it more because now I realized how helpful everyone was with developing your idea and taking it from an idea to something that is gonna become an actual project, you know, an actual tangible thing. That project went from something that I just was always thinking about to something that like, 'ok I'm gonna do this,' and I've taken the advice from all these people about how to develop this proposal into something that I actually can do, without having to raise tons of money. Something that I could do on my own, which I think everyone can do for a documentary. And then I did it! You know, without that help from everyone, without that point of taking an idea and turning it into a tangible actual project, I don't know if maybe I might not have actually continued and started this journey that I'm taking to making a documentary.

## So what is this story that you're chasing down?

It's about a 1960's rock musician named Peter Lewis and it sort of tells his biographic story. It's about him, mainly about him and this band named Moby Grape, which was a very successful band in it's time, but a lot of trials and tribulations caused them to not really create a legacy like contemporaries like The Grateful Dead or Jefferson Airplane. But it also touches on his early life and his childhood and his upbringing because he grew up in Hollywood and his mother was the actress Loretta Young. And it's sort of him talking a little bit about how Hollywood shaped him and why he needed to leave Hollywood and join this sort of, free spirited movement of the hippy, 1960's, that San Francisco scene movement, which was polar opposite from what he was used to. And it goes into the story of Moby Grape and their ultim1 (r) -6 ( $\mathbf{Q}$  i6 (u)  $\mathbf{E}$  00(4) Tj  $\mathbf{E}$ 1ncisco (c)]TJ  $\mathbf{E}$  Q (6 (u Tu

## You said that Storytellers' changed for you the definition of what a documentary is. What would you say now a documentary is?

Well, one thing is I wasn't as open to documentary storytelling to be outside of video documentary. That's something that was very kind of, closed minded of me. Now I realize that there's so many ways to tell a documentary, there's so many ways to tell a story, it doesn't have to be a video documentary. It can be through any sort of medium and I think that's something that's important to understand because even if you are making a video documentary it will make you think about every aspect of it. It will make you think about, how can I creatively tell something through sound right now, or how can I creatively tell something the way things are laid out on a table. It really makes you think about every aspect of storytelling, you know, it's not just the typical PBS documentary that you might see, it's way more broad and multi-layered than that.

## Any lasting thoughts that you want to say?

I would say, if anyone applying has any reservations about the fact that they might not want to go into documentary storytelling, I think it's s