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## The Manuel Rivera-Ortiz Foundation Expands into Documentary Film and Opens 2013 Call for Entries

**New York, 4 December 2012** — The Manuel Rivera-Ortiz Foundation for Documentary Photography & Film today announced an expanded 2013 grant program that now includes an award for short-short documentary filmmaking. In addition to their third annual call for documentary photography submissions, the foundation is now seeking outstanding entries in social documentary film focusing on the lives and populations ravaged by war, famine, disease, poverty, religious persecution, political oppression, forced migration and other human injustices.

One winning submission in each category will be selected by a distinguished jury. The foundation will once again award a \$5000 USD grant for the production or completion of a social documentary photography project, and a \$5000 USD prize for a completed social documentary film.

“The addition of documentary film to our grant programs is a natural progression for the foundation,” says Manuel Rivera-Ortiz, foundation Founder and President. “Expanding beyond still images to moving pictures brings us full circle within the realm of documentary reportage and maximizes our impact on effecting change and social justice through journalistic humanitarianism.”

The 2013 Photography Grant entries must be received by March 31, 2013. Submissions will be evaluated in three rounds. The top twelve entries will be exhibited in July 2013 during Les Rencontres d’Arles, the international photography festival in Arles, France. The grant winner will be selected and announced there by a renowned international jury.

The 2013 film submissions must be received by May 31, 2013. Films must be under 20 minutes in length. The film award will be judged in two rounds with the winner announced in July 2013 in Paris, France.

Submission details and entry rules for both grants can be found at [www.mrofoundation.org](http://www.mrofoundation.org) under "Programs." There is no cost for entering either award category.

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### About the Foundation

The Manuel Rivera-Ortiz Foundation for Documentary Photography & Film is a 501(c)(3) Not-for-Profit Organization committed to positive social discourse in underrepresented communities throughout the world by encouraging emerging and established photographers working in around the world to keep their lenses fixed on the plight of the poor and disenfranchised. Headquartered in New York, with a presence in Paris and Zurich, the foundation is a charitable trust serving the international photographic community through exhibitions, publishing, grants, and other curatorial projects.

Established in 2010, the foundation aims to encourage a new generation of photographers, armed with only a camera and a vision of a better world, to take to the streets every day and document humanity on the move. For additional information, please visit [www.mrofoundation.org](http://www.mrofoundation.org).

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