

SDCF Testimonials Video Transcript:

Eric Gelb:

Receiving an award from SDCF completely changed the trajectory of my career. I was still pivoting back from covid. I had started doing some company managing and doing more producing, and I wanted to come home to directing. And this is an opportunity that I think really legitimized that I was done with all of those things and that I was really an early career director. Um, the opportunity that I had, the shadow on Hamilton was perfect. It was specific individual and tailored to what my interests were, which is to be a resident director on a large mega musical. And it was really wonderful. Throughout the entire process, I felt like in the interviews and in my application feedback, the panel really understood that I wasn't just someone who was like, I want to direct, but I want to direct on this specific type of show with this specific type of human. And that individuality, um, is really unmatched professional development programs. Um, it really did change the trajectory of my career and I'll forever be grateful.

Colette Robert:

Hi. Receiving the Denham Fellowship this past year was incredible. It was a real confidence boost and it also gave me some financial security while directing in non-profit New York Theater, um, which is rare as we all know. I am extremely grateful to the SDCF for the acknowledgement and the award.

Ines Braun:

Hello, my name is Ines. I'm a film and theater director from Argentina. I'm so grateful to SDCF and Observership program for giving me the chance to observe Paula Vogel's play, How I learned to drive. For two months, I got to watch the rehearsals and previous at the Friedman Theater on Broadway. And I cannot even begin to express how wonderful that experience was for me being in the room with such incredible talented artists and having Mark Brokaw as my mentor was a life-changing experience. I learned so much by watching how all the designers, crew and the actors collaborated in bringing to life such a thrilling play.

Kunal Prasad:

SDC gave me the opportunity to work with some of the most talented, thoughtful, and supportive artists in our industry. And I'll take that experience in everything I learned with me throughout the rest of my career. Thank you.

Elena Velasco:

Hello, my name is Elena Velasco and I wanna thank the stage director and Choreographers Foundation for the Barbara Whitman Award, which I received in 2023. This award was indeed life changing as it allowed me to pursue a passion of mine that I have intersected for many years with my directing and choreography work. And now I have a deeper understanding of how it affects the body and mind connection. My practice in yoga, I was able

to enroll in a certification program and now I'm able to bring that mind-body connection deeper into text work and into the relationships that are built in the rehearsal room, in the design process, and even extend to audience experiences. Thank you so much. It has truly transformed who I am today

NJ Agwuna:

with the Barbara Whitman Award through the SDC Foundation, I was given more access to agents and folks to really showcase my work as a director. So I am great, very grateful to them and their support.

Elizabeth Carter

Receiving the Lloyd Richards New Futures residency from SDCF really changed the path of my career. It opened so many doors, it created new relationships between myself and other artists visionaries in our field. It connected me to regional theaters and to other opportunities for me to continue to develop as an artist. I've gotten to explore multimedia film, theater, xr, and all sorts of ways of creating storytelling for our new future. I'm so excited about SDCF in my life and what it has done for myself and for other artists as we move forward and envision the future of theater.

Claudia Mulet:

I wanted to take a second to thank the SDCF for the amazing work they're doing. I was the observer in New York, New York this year, um, under the mentorship of Susan Stroman. And that was one of the experiences that changed my life, um, because thanks to the SDCF I had the opportunity to be in a room where this massive show was created from the pre-production all the way to opening. Um, and it was, it was amazing. It's the, I think the work the SDCF is doing is remarkable and is outstanding and it really help us, us upcoming creators and, and directors to develop a career and develop connections and, and learn from the best of the best in order for us to grow in our work in the future. So, thank you. It's, it's, it's really a highlight in my career, what you guys are doing.