



COMMUNITY-ORIENTED RESEARCH IN VISUAL ANTHROPOLOGY

EMMY NOMINATION FOR A CENTURY AFTER NANOOK

Our film, *A Century After Nanook*, has been nominated for an Emmy by the Northwest Chapter of the National Academy of Television, Arts, and Sciences. The CORVA team and all involved are deeply honored by this recognition from the Academy.

There's a saying "it takes a village". And in this case, producing *A Century After Nanook* took a village -- the Northern Village of Inukjuak. If it were not for the dedication and hard work from so many Inukjuamiut, this film would have NEVER happened. After all, over 40% of the documentary was filmed by 15 community members!

The winners will be announced on May 30 -- so stay tuned.



Photo Caption: Emmy Nomination

PREMIERE OF THREADS THAT BIND – THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST WOOLLY DOG

In November, we celebrated two community premieres of *Threads that Bind: The Story of the Pacific Northwest Woolly Dog*. The first film screened was at the Burke Museum in Seattle to a sold-out crowd. Dr. French was joined by Liz Hammond-Kaarremaa, author of *The Teachings of Mutton: A Coast Salish Woolly Dog*; Logan Kistler, curator of anthropology at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History; and Smithsonian postdoctoral fellow and geneticist Audrey Lin for a question-packed Q&A. Just two days later, the film had its first Canadian public screening at the Museum of Vancouver as part of Unravelling Colonial Threads: Stories of Salish Wool Dogs. Kirk French was joined by an extraordinary panel of Indigenous knowledge keepers and weavers. The discussion dove deep into the cultural significance of the woolly dog, the lasting impacts of colonization on Coast Salish weaving traditions, and the ongoing community work to revitalize and share this history. CORVA was thrilled to share the film to get community feedback and is currently working diligently to get the final version ready! Here's a short [video](#) that CORVA team member, Riley Mallory put together about our experience in the PNW!



corva@psu.edu



kirkfrench.com



corva.la.psu.edu

SCREENING AT AAAS

During February 2026, the CORVA Studio Lab and Inukjuak community members Pheebe Atagotaaluk, Eric Atagotaaluk, Annie K. Alaku, and Sarah Lisa Kasudluak, along with Siila Watt-Cloutier from Kuujjuaq/Montreal traveled to Arizona to present *A Century After Nanook* at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Conference, the largest annual meeting of scientists in the world. Before the screening the crew met up with Tim Benally, Navajo Nation Government & Legislative Affairs Officer, and Kirk's former student! Together, we traveled through the Grand Canyon, toured the Kayenta Solar Plant (the largest tribally owned/operated solar farm in the US), and met with Navajo Nation Speaker Crystalyne Curley at the Navajo Nation's capital in Window Rock. The screening opened with the traditional lighting of the qulliq, Inuit throat singing, and ended with a lively Q&A panel. Siila Watt-Cloutier took part in an interview on the Sci-Mic Stage as well as a book signing for her award-winning book *A Right to Be Cold – One Woman's Fight to Protect the Arctic and Save the Planet from Climate Change*.

Here's a fun clip about the beginning of our journey in Montreal.

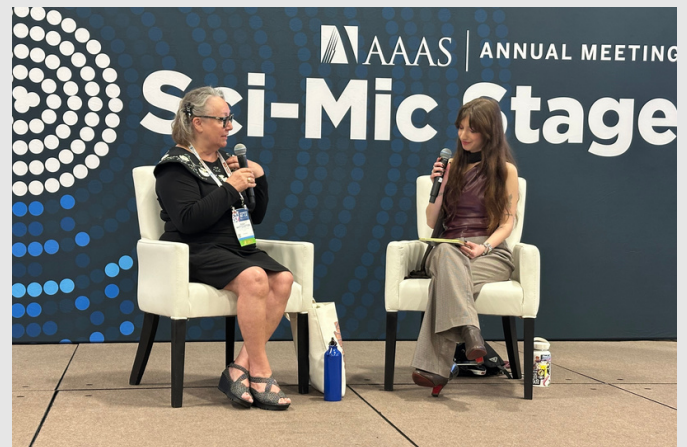


Photo Captions: Top Left: The crew at the Benally's sheep camp near Round Rock, Arizona. Top Right: Annie Alaku and Pheebe Atagotaaluk throat singing at the AAAS. Bottom Left: Eric Atagotaaluk talking with Navajo Nation Speaker Crystalyne Curley in the Council Chamber in Window Rock, Arizona. Bottom Right: Siila Watt-Cloutier being interviewed on the AAAS Sci-Mic Stage.



corva@psu.edu



kirkfrench.com



corva.la.psu.edu

CORVA IN NORTH MACEDONIA

Our director, Kirk French, was invited to North Macedonia in mid-October to participate and screen *A Century After Nanook* at several film festivals. The first was the 46th Annual Nordic Anthropological Film Association (NAFA) International Film Festival at the National Museum of Macedonia in Skopje. NAFA is the oldest film festival of its kind in Europe, first held at the Ethnographic Museum in Stockholm in 1979. A few days later, French traveled to the mountain village of Kratovo for the 14th Kratovo International Festival of Ethnological Documentary Films. In both film festivals, *A Century After Nanook* was screened as an official selection, followed by lively Q&A. French saw many thought-provoking films and met many like-minded anthropologists that have already spurred potential collaborations.



Photo Caption: Kirk and Peter Crawford at the NAFA International Film Festival in Skopje.

BE ON THE LOOK OUT

- CORVA Productions is sponsoring the Penn State Party at the Society for American Archaeology Meetings in San Francisco in later April. The gathering will feature food, drink, and a spattering of CORVA shorts screening on a loop. If you plan on being at the SAAs, please stop by.
- Kirk will be screening *Threads That Bind* at the Canine Science Society Conference in Vancouver on June 4.
- Screenings of *A Century After Nanook* at the Australian Anthropological Society Meetings in Alice Springs, Northern Territory. There will also be screenings at the University of Newcastle and at a local cinema in Newcastle, New South Wales the third week of June.

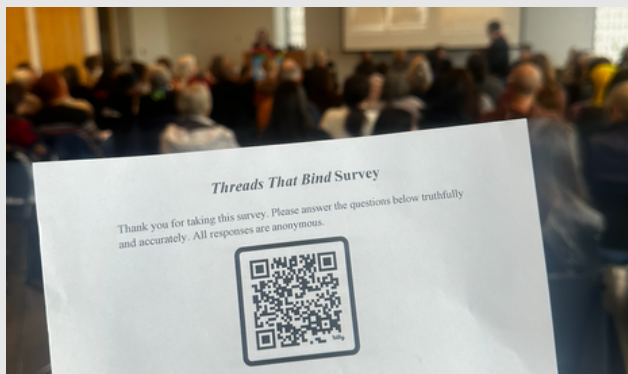


Photo Caption: CORVA community feedback form at handed out at film premieres



Photo Caption: Kirk French at the Premiere of *Threads that Bind* at the Burke Museum



corva@psu.edu



kirkfrench.com



corva.la.psu.edu

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

“



DR. KIRK FRENCH
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
EMMY-NOMINATED
FILMMAKER

I must admit, the Emmy nomination has kept me on a cloud the last couple of weeks. And although I'd love it if we won (winners announce May 30), just being nominated feels great. The last six months have been very busy for me with CORVA related projects. Since October I've participated in screenings of *A Century After Nanook* at two film festivals in North Macedonia, North Carolina State University, University of Montreal, Princeton, the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Phoenix, and the Society for Applied Anthropology Meetings in Albuquerque. Oh, and along the way, my methods article outlining CORVA's approach to anthropological filmmaking was published in Visual Anthropology Review. Penn State put together this nice article about our approach to community-oriented research.

There's a lot more happening this summer that I'll fill you in on in the fall newsletter. Have a great summer!

FOLLOW CORVA ON SOCIALS

Stay up to date on all things CORVA is up to, and what is coming on our socials. We can be found on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram. Here is a snapshot of our latest posts!



Photo Caption: CORVA team at our annual AnthroFest



Photo Caption: CORVA hosts *Searching for the Songs of Wanargua* by Eli LeBan



corva@psu.edu



kirkfrench.com



corva.la.psu.edu