Military Visual Journalists graduate from Syracuse

by Barbara Burfeind
DIMOC Director

Thirty-two graduates of the 2016-17 Military Visual Journalism program were recognized on May 11, 2017, at Syracuse University with proud family members, friends and colleagues looking on.

The program is made up of the Military Photojournalism (MPJ) and Military Motion Media (MMM) programs, which teach active-duty military photojournalism and broadcast journalism personnel how to build on their storytelling skills. The graduates earned 30 credit hours over the course of 10 months.

U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Greg Hignite, the most senior active-duty graduate of the Military Visual Journalism programs, was the graduation speaker. He is in charge of the Air Force National Media Engagement office in New York and a graduate of the Syracuse program as an enlisted Sailor. He later earned a Bachelor’s degree at Syracuse.

Hignite said, “With each class and professor it was clear that this faculty was not at all interested in rubber-stamping our experience. It was tough, it was demanding, yet it was caring.”

“This program ignites students,” he continued. “It infused us with a confidence to dream bigger, accept risk and always remain true to the craft of being an honest story teller. This is now your inherited legacy.”

His time at Syracuse was “nothing short of life-changing.” The coursework propelled him to his current position, where he pitches story ideas and connects the U.S. military with commercial media outlets, advocating for the military services.

U.S. Air Force Capt. Michael F. Winter, the commanding officer of the 374th Security Forces Squadron, holds a ceremonial flag during a memorial retreat ceremony for fallen law enforcement members, May 18, 2017, at Yokota Air Base, Japan. The flag represented all the flags given to the families of fallen U.S. Security Forces members. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Donald Hudson)
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in national news and entertainment venues.

Hignite asked the graduates to consider the program as a rare gift, and to take what they’ve learned and pay it forward in their storytelling.

He challenged the new graduates to “dream big, take risks and solve communication challenges from a fresh perspective. It is now your responsibility to educate leadership about new and innovative ways to tell a story.”

As to the future, Hignite said, “I want a graduate from this program, from this class, to be standing right here in 10-15-20 years. Be a leader in whatever you do. This program has laid an incredible foundation upon which you can build an amazing career and life. Remain inspired from what you learned and change the world!”

To view imagery produced by the 2017 graduates, go to:
http://newhousemilitary.syr.edu/2017/
http://newhousemilitary.syr.edu/2017/stories/

The stories showcase graduates newly attained skills and the work they’ve produced. Graduates will now put their skills as photographers for the Secretary of Defense and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, White House TV, Defense Media Activity, Airman and All Hands magazines, Stars and Stripes newspaper, Combat Camera or as instructors at the Defense Information School.

The Advanced Photojournalism Honor Graduate for 2017 is MC1 Tony D. Curtis, USN.

The Advanced Motion Media Honor Graduate for 2017 is SSgt Darren Scott, USAF. (He also worked on his Masters degree in Television, Radio and Film)

Advanced Photojournalism Program
Jeffrey D. Anderson, USMC; Perry M. Aston, USAF; Greg C. Biondo, USAF; Matthew Bragg, USMC; Jonathan A. Colon, USN; Seth Coulter, USN; Tony D. Curtis, USN; Rusty Bryan Frank, USAF; Gabriela Garcia, USMC; Cody Aaron Hendrix, USN; Liam Nial Kennedy, USN; Carlin Owen Leslie, USAF; Jennifer S. Martinez, USMC; D. Evan Parker, USN; Melissa C. Parrish, USA; Pablo N. Piedra, USA; Matthew G. Ryan, USA; Paul A. Sale, USA and Jensen Stidham, USAF

Advanced Motion Media Program
Brian M. Brooks, USN; James Marshall Cason, USAF; Royce H. Dorman, USMC; Steven J. Hill, USN; Melissa L. Karnath, USMC; Nancy Carina Kasberg, USAF; Samantha Konieczny, USAF; John Christopher Lamb, USMC; Daniel Luksan, USA; Eric Michael Melone, USAF; Darren Scott, USAF; Angelica “Dylan” Vasquez, USA and Kowshon Ye, USMC

EYE ON VI SUBMISSIONS
If you have a story or idea you think should be included, please email us your content. All story submissions must follow these standards: 1) Typed in Microsoft Word; 2) All images must be in the original JPEG format, submitted separately from the Word document, with required caption, attribution and metadata; 3) No more than 350 words.

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CALENDAR

Aug 22 - 23  Joint Combat Camera Planning Group  DMA, Ft. Meade, MD
Aug 15 - 17  Corps of Engineers VI Training  Biloxi, MS
Oct 17  Defense Visual Information Steering Committee (DVISC)  DMA, Ft. Meade, MD

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The 25th Annual DoD Visual Storytelling Workshop

by Barbara Burfeind
DIMOC Director

The 25th annual Department of Defense Visual Storytelling Workshop was held from June 26th to July 2nd at Norfolk, Virginia.

With the expertise, direction and mentoring of other talented visual communicators, the students in the workshop refined their ideas, techniques and imagery. Still and video military photographers were selected from around the DoD to participate in the workshop to help them expand their skills. The workshop is intense, and it pushed the participants outside of their comfort zones from the beginning.

I was green with envy and in awe of these talented individuals who had such keen visions for telling stories visually. This professional development and training didn’t exist when I was a military photojournalist.

“This is a launch pad for who they’re going to be,” said Luanne Dietz, a CNN video producer and one of the video team leads for the workshop.

The team leaders shepherded the photographers through the creative storytelling process. For example, Ernie Grafton, a lead for still photographers, described teaching his photographers to look for “moment magnets.” He pointed out to his students a bronze statue of a child playing baseball.

Grafton encouraged them to ready their cameras and wait as fans arrived for a game. Sure enough, a young girl with a ball cap came up to the statue and touched the bill of the hat on the statue’s head. Click. The moment was captured. Patience paid off, and a lesson was learned.

Grafton also encouraged his team of photographers to talk to their subjects, get to know them, tell them what they were doing, and suggested they offer to send the subject the photo they just shot of them.

This year, a total of 32 photographers and 18 videographers from all five military services met in Norfolk to form five video and seven still teams. They researched and tested out story ideas with their team leads and mentors, eventually focusing on one story to shoot, shoot, and then shoot some more. They shot long, medium and close-up shots, and used different metering and lighting techniques, and it was the first time for many of the participants.

Over the course of the week, the images were refined into a final visual storyline for presentation to the entire workshop and at an awards dinner on the last day. Judges were present to view, critique and select winning videos and photo stories that were announced the final night. To view those videos and stories go to: https://www.facebook.com/DODVSW

Planning is already underway for the 2018 Visual Storytelling Workshop. The location and details will be announced via dimoc.mil and the above-mentioned Facebook page in the coming months.

Barbara Burfeind is the director of the Defense Imagery Management Operations Center at the Defense Media Activity, Fort Meade, Maryland. She is also a retired Navy public affairs officer and photojournalist.
Information Operations Fundamentals Course

A 1st Information Operations Command training team will come to the Joint Combat Camera Center at Fort Meade, Sept. 11-15, 2017, to host the Information Operations Fundamentals Course. About 20 seats are still open as of July 18. The unclassified course covers the principles of Army IO for those not expected to be IO planners. Commands will only be responsible for travel and lodging costs. If interested, contact the JCCC at jccc@mail.mil or 301-222-6273.

DoD Visual Information Style Guide Updates

DIMOC is still preparing the next edition of the Visual Information Style Guide (VISG), with the goal of publication in late August.

The VISG Mobile App is nearing the final phases of development, with field testing slated soon. About 20 military and civilian DoD VI professionals representing all of the services will take part in the field test over a two-week period. After the feedback phase, the app should be released by September.

The app will be available for personal devices on Apple and Android platforms. However, it will not be available for use on government-owned devices for the time being.

DIMOC will announce the publication of the VISG and the launch of the mobile app via our website, social media platforms and email notifications to the DoD VI community.

Go to DIMOC’s Facebook page for news and updates on the VI Style Guide and mobile app.

Questions, comments or feedback? Email DIMOC at dma.dvi.dimoc@mail.mil.

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

5th Annual Spc. Hilda I. Clayton Best Combat Camera (COMCAM) Competition
https://www.dvidshub.net/image/3325173/2017-5th-annual-spc-hilda-clayton-best-combat-camera-comcam-competition

From Norfolk to NARA: The Unexpected Journey of the Navy Shipyard Glass Plate Negatives

Getting to Know DIMOC: What It Offers, How You Can Help
http://www.dodlive.mil/2017/05/04/getting-to-know-dimoc-what-it-offers-how-you-can-help/

VI UPDATES

VI POLICY

Reminder
Using personal cameras to record mission-related imagery: DoD personnel are prohibited from publically releasing mission-related imagery captured on their personal cameras without a proper security review. See the ATSD(PA) memo, “Guidance for Use of Visual Information Captured by Department of Defense Personnel on Personal Equipment,” dated Nov 8, 2016 for more information. The memo is available for download on the DIMOC web site.

Notice of Limitations Banner Required for On-line VI Collections: All DoD component website VI galleries (including social media websites), regardless of domain, are required to prominently display the official “DoD Notice of Limitations” as required by DoDI 5410.20 available for download. The Limitations for Public Use language can be viewed on the DIMOC website.

Under Development
DoDI 5040.02, “Visual Information” (Full Revision) will incorporate and cancel DoDI 5040.07, “Visual Information Productions,” as an enclosure (effective upon publication).

DoDI 5120.04, “DoD Newspapers, Magazines, Guides, and Installation Maps” is undergoing a major revision. Per DoD Office of the General Counsel guidance, those portions relating to Commercial Enterprise (CE) publishers, source selection, and CE distribution rights and obligations are to be published in the Federal Register. Once published, DoDI 5120.04 will be revised to only include those portions dealing with departmental guidance, including the publication of funded papers, and editorial and content guidance to staff and PAO offices.
Broadcast Management Course  
(2 weeks) 12 students  
Class 010 - 1 Dec - 16 Dec 2017  

Content Management Course  
(4 weeks) 16 students  
Class 010 - 17 Oct - 15 Nov 2017  

Visual Information Management Course  
(2 weeks) 24 students  
Class 030 - 11 Sept - 22 Sept 2017  

Intermediate Photojournalism Course  
(8 weeks) 18 students  
Class 040 - 24 Jul - 20 Sept 2017  
Class 050 - 25 Sept - 22 Nov 2017  

Digital Multimedia Course  
(7 weeks) 24 students  
Class 040 - 12 July - 30 Aug 2017  

Intermediate Videography Course  
(3 weeks) 8 students  
Class 070 - 26 Jul - 30 Aug 2017  
Class 080 5 Sept - 10 Oct 2017  

Advanced Electronic Journalism Course  
(4 weeks) 12 students  
Class 040 - Cancelled  
Class 050 - 20 Sept - 18 Oct 2017  

Intermediate Public Affairs Specialist Course  
(2 weeks) 24 students  
Class 030 - 8 May - 19 May 2017  

Joint Contingency Public Affairs Course  
(2 weeks) 16 students  
Class 020 – 10 Jul – 21 Jul 2017  

Joint Intermediate Public Affairs Course  
(5 weeks) 24 students  
Class 020 – 21 Aug – 28 Sep 2017  

Joint Senior Public Affairs Course  
(2 weeks) 16 students  
Class 020 – 5 Jun – 16 Jun 2017  
Class 030 - 31 Jul - 11 Aug 2017  

Public Affairs Qualification Course (PAQC)  
(9 weeks) 60 students  
Class 040 - 17 Jul - 20 Sept 2017  

Combat Camera Leadership Course  
(2 weeks) 24 students  
Class 010 – 4 June - 15 June 2018  

Additional information available at:  
http://www.dinfos.dma.mil/StudentInfo/CourseCatalog.aspx
Two American veterans of D-Day and the liberation of France share a laugh at the Charles Shay Memorial in Saint-Laurent-sur-Mer, France, June 5, 2017. The ceremony commemorated the 73rd anniversary of D-Day, the largest multi-national amphibious landing and operational military airdrop in history. (DoD photo by U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Alexis C. Schultz)

U.S. Soldiers taking part in the Region One Best Warrior Competition train the way they fight at Westhampton Beach, N.Y., April 26, 2017. Fourteen Soldiers competed in the three-day event, which included urban warfare simulations, a 12-mile ruck march, land navigation, and the Army Physical Fitness Test. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Christopher S. Muncy)

The guided-missile destroyer USS Porter (DDG 78) conducts strike operations against a target in Syria while in the Mediterranean Sea, April 7, 2017. The Porter conducted naval operations in the U.S. 6th Fleet area of operations in support of U.S. national security interests in Europe. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Ford Williams)

A U.S. Navy F/A-18E Super Hornet aircraft assigned to the Gladiators of Strike Fighter Squadron VFA 106 launches from the flight deck of the aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) in the Atlantic Ocean June 2, 2017. The ship was conducting aircraft carrier qualifications during the sustainment phase of the Optimized Fleet Response Plan. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Anderson W. Branch)