

INDIECOLLECT



Meet the IndieCollect Board of Directors LYDA KUTH



Next in our series of Board profiles we highlight the wonderful Lyda Kuth.

Lyda is a founder and current Executive Director of the LEF Foundation. In 2002 she launched the [LEF Moving Image Fund](#) to support New England documentary filmmakers, funding projects from the early risk-taking stage to a film's completion. Lyda has been vital to the success of independent filmmakers throughout the region and to broadening visibility for their work. She is passionate about the rich history of New England documentary filmmaking and ensuring its legacy going forward.

Lyda joined the IndieCollect Board of Directors in 2010, and from the beginning has understood Sandra's impulse to inventory and save film elements that were on the verge of being destroyed, as well as shared a belief that American independent work be preserved for future audiences to experience and for filmmakers to know and build on.

Since 2002, the LEF Moving Image Fund has supported over 300 independent films. Grantees include Frederick Wiseman's *EX LIBRIS: The New York Public Library*; *One Cut, One Life* by Ed Pincus and Lucia Small and Jennifer McShane's recently released *Ernie & Joe*.

Lyda's visionary leadership has been recognized by the Massachusetts Cultural Council from which she received a prestigious Commonwealth Award. She has been honored by Women in Film and Video / New England with its Image Award for Vision and Excellence in the media arts.

In addition to serving on the IndieCollect board, she is also a member of the Creative Capital Board of Directors.



Still from CUNNINGHAM (2019) by Alla Kovgan. Photo: Mko Malkhasyan

Lyda Kuth the Filmmaker

Alongside her philanthropy, Lyda is herself an independent filmmaker. In 2001, she produced and directed *Love and Other Anxieties*, a personal essay film on motherhood, marriage and the nature of commitment. She served as co-producer on the 2014 documentary *Secundaria*, directed by Mary Jane Doherty, a compelling film about teenage ballet dancers in Cuba. Her most recent film as Executive Producer is the 3D extravaganza *Cunningham*, by Alla Kovgan, about the choreographer Merce Cunningham.

Please join us in celebrating Lyda and all she has done for independent film!

All my best,
Sandra Schulberg



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