



TOM NEFF

Tom Neff, Oscar-nominated and Emmy-winning filmmaker and groundbreaking television entrepreneur, previously founded the Documentary Channel™ (DOC; www.documentarychannel.com), the nation's first 24/7 channel dedicated exclusively to showing independent documentaries.

As Founder, CEO, and later as Chief Creative Officer overseeing Programming and Creative Services when the channel was sold to DISH, Mr. Neff conceived the channel and originated the DOC brand, wrote the business plan, raised the financing, designed the channel's original 24/7 programming schedule, and wrote and negotiated all licensing and production contracts. DOC launched on DISH Network in January 2006 and on DirecTV in March 2010, and presently airs in over 25 million households nationally.

Mr. Neff oversaw all network operations and created the network's four signature original series (*DocTalk*, *DocU*, *Treasures of the Academy*, *SoundCheck*) as well as other specials. With Bill McGowan of Discovery Networks, Mr. Neff assembled the sales force and oversaw all ad sales. He conceived and supervised brand-sponsored original productions that attained over \$1M in revenue from Exxon, TVA, EPA, and Don Rico Rum.

Mr. Neff won the Emmy for Best Feature Documentary for Executive Producing *Shake Hands with the Devil*. With the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, Mr. Neff restored several John Huston documentaries, including *The Battle of San Pietro*, acclaimed as the best documentary on war ever produced. Mr. Neff also restored with the Academy the groundbreaking Oscar nominated

1966 documentary on race relations, *A Time For Burning*, set in Omaha, Nebraska, directed by Bill Jersey.

Mr. Neff's stature in the industry has enabled him to form an Advisory Board of illustrious documentarians including Ken Burns, Barbara Kopple, Al Maysles, Haskell Wexler, Diane Baker, Bob Drew, Jessica Yu, and many others. A member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences and National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, he has served on numerous panels, and has lectured and taught master classes at Sundance Festival, University of Southern California, Paley Media Center, Westdoc, Hot Docs, RealScreen, and elsewhere.

Mr. Neff, who has won more than 25 national and international honors for his documentary work, developed the earliest branded documentaries 20 years ago, working with organizations to tell their stories in a fuller, more compelling format than traditional advertising.