

UFVA Statement of Inclusivity

The University of Film and Video Association is a community of makers, writers, researchers, scholars, and speakers. As such, we recognize that it is our responsibility to stand in support of the values of freedom of expression and to speak out when those values are questioned or threatened, potentially harming the members of our vibrant and diverse community.

Numerous national and campus-centered events of the past year have been emotional and divisive, making conversations about politics, policy, and social issues and the practice of free expression challenging in the midst of an increasingly polarized environment.

The UFVA maintains an unwavering commitment to building and promoting a genuinely inclusive and harassment-free community for students, faculty, staff, and media-makers of all identities, backgrounds, abilities, and beliefs.

In particular, we support those who have been affected by recent Executive Orders instituting travel bans, or who may be affected by future restrictive immigration orders, which we recognize will result in deep and lasting harm to our community. The UFVA endorses border and immigration policies that protect the open exchange of ideas and the dignity of all citizens, nationally and internationally.

The University Film and Video Association pledges the following:

We respect and affirm the dignity and the inherent rights of each member of our academic community;

We value our colleagues because of our diverse backgrounds and perspectives, not in spite of them;

We will continually and actively foster an environment of mutual respect for the free expression of all individuals, so long as this expression excludes blatantly intolerant, hateful, disruptive, threatening, or harmful speech or actions against a person or group;

We will address and denounce harmful speech or actions;

We will attempt, to the best of our ability, to educate our faculty, staff and students about and within an affirmative and inclusive community;

And, we will hold ourselves and each other to high standards of respect, mutual understanding, and open-mindedness with regard to all populations and identities.