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**CAAM-FUNDED FILM *ABACUS: SMALL ENOUGH TO JAIL* WINS  
CRITICS' CHOICE AWARD**

**November 7, 2017, SAN FRANCISCO, CA**— [\*Abacus: Small Enough to Jail\*](#) garnered a [2017 Critics' Choice Documentary Award for Best Political Documentary](#). The film is [funded in part by the Center for Asian American Media](#), through support from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. The documentary aired on [PBS' Frontline series](#) earlier this fall.

The film is directed by award-winning documentary filmmaker Steve James (*Hoops Dreams, The Interrupters*) and is produced by Mark Mitten and Julie Goldman. *Abacus: Small Enough to Jail* details the little-known story of the only U.S. bank prosecuted in relation to the 2008 financial crisis. Directed by Steve James (*Hoops Dreams, The Interrupters*), the film chronicles the Chinese immigrant Sung family's fight to clear their names in his latest film and is one of the past year's most critically acclaimed documentaries during its robust international film festival run and a national theatrical release. *Abacus: Small Enough to Jail* is a Mitten Media, Motto Pictures and Kartemquin Films Production for WGBH/FRONTLINE and Independent Television Service (ITVS). It is co-presented with the Center for Asian American Media.

[In a statement read at the awards ceremony by producer Julie Goldman on behalf of Steve James](#), the filmmakers said that they wish to share the award with “the true heroes of this film: Mr. and Ms. Sung and their family, who showed great courage in defending their bank and community against an overzealous prosecutor...This award confirms what we filmmakers discovered firsthand: the Sung family are an inspiration to all who resist the unequal application of justice in America no matter where you live. Thank you.”

In addition, CAAMFest 2017 film [Cries from Syria](#) received a (tie) Best Director award for director Evgeny Afineevsky, who attended CAAMFest earlier this year. PBS' American Masters series, which aired CAAM-funded film [TYRUS](#), directed

by Pamela Tom, this fall, received an award for Best Ongoing Documentary Series.

The awards program, in its second year, honors the “best of the best,” in documentary and nonfiction filmmaking, said [Broadcast Film Critics Association President Joey Berlin](#).

Please visit [www.caamedia.org](http://www.caamedia.org) for more information.

**About CAAM:**

CAAM (Center for Asian American Media) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to presenting stories that convey the richness and diversity of Asian American experiences to the broadest audience possible. CAAM does this by funding, producing, distributing and exhibiting works in film, television and digital media. For more information on CAAM, please call (415) 863-0814 or visit [www.caamedia.org](http://www.caamedia.org).

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