April 10, 2017

College for Creative Studies
201 E. Kirby
Detroit MI, 48202

On March 29, 2017, eleven-time Emmy Award winning Producer and Director Keith Famie presented a lecture entitled *The Amazing Journey of Story Telling* at the College for Creative Studies in Detroit, MI. Keith began by recounting his own eclectic personal journey, from acclaimed restaurateur, to celebrity chef, to *Survivor* finalist, to host of his own Food Network series, to documentary filmmaker at Visionalist Entertainment. To begin his presentation, Keith posed a number of questions that are relevant for artists in all disciplines to consider: Why are you doing this? Whom are you serving? How do you get the job done? What qualities should great artists have? In the context of these questions, Keith showed trailers for four of his recent films: *Marie's Journey, A Day in the Life of Elijah, Death is not the Answer,* and *Grit.* These compelling human interest documentaries delve into the personal stories of people in Michigan who persevere in the face of difficult challenges and struggle to overcome daunting obstacles. "Everyone, everywhere, has a story," Keith said. "The number one rule is, See it, say it; Say it, see it." Keith provided detailed insight into the creation of the films, describing his artistic inspiration, the evolution of the narrative, and the technical aspects of the production process. Keith explained how the stories take on a life of their own during filming, and how he and his team often become emotionally involved with their subjects and personally affected by the relationships they form. Keith's presentation provided a valuable opportunity for students to engage with an accomplished professional artist whose own journey has covered wide-ranging territory. I enjoyed meeting Mr. Famie and learning about his work, and I recommend him as a guest lecturer.

Sincerely,

Douglas Malone
Chair of Foundations
College for Creative Studies