



THE DON HAIG FOUNDATION

Tracey Deer
2009 Don Haig Special Jury Prize Winner



A dedicated Mohawk filmmaker and series director, Tracey Deer was chosen for her body of work which included her 2008 critical documentary, ***Club Native***, on Mohawk identity and tribal blood laws. This film won her two Gemini awards. *Club* puts the energy of fed-up young Mohawk women up against snobby attitudes and outright racism after more than 100 years of sexist government policy..

Deer made *Mohawk Girls* in 2005, where she looked at three teenage girls from her reserve who faced the same decision she did at their age: to move away and risk losing their rights as Mohawks.

In 2009, Deer collaborated with Montreal writer Cynthia Knight on *Crossing the Line*, a short for the Vancouver Olympics. They also created a dramedy TV pilot *Escape Hatch*, about four young Mohawk women at Kahnawake, looking for relationships. She calls it "a native take on Sex and the City." It became a series for APTN.

She produced, wrote and co-directed another six-part documentary series, *Working it Out Together* with Olympian Waneeek Horn-Miller to empower six Mohawk people to reclaim their vitality through health, wellness and fitness.