

Open Call: Short Documentary Filmmaker Scholarship

Cook the Farm Sicily 2026

10 Years of Food, Place & Community

To mark a decade of immersive food education, [Cook the Farm](#) is offering one full scholarship to a documentary filmmaker ready to capture the heart of this experience while living it.

Cook the Farm (CTF) is more than a program—it's a philosophy rooted in land, tradition, and culture. Held at the **Anna Tasca Lanza Cooking School in rural Sicily**, CTF is a 6 week long educational program hosting students from around the world to learn, cook, and deeply engage with local food systems and rural communities in Sicily. Through hands-on and place-based learning, each participant is encouraged to critically reflect on their relationship with food, the importance of community engagement, and why these connections matter globally. To mark the 10th anniversary of the program, we're looking for a visual storyteller to help us share what this journey truly means, and we believe there's no better way than for you to experience it. Alongside an international group of participants, you will document what makes the core of the CTF experience transformative: **the deep connections between food, place, and community.**

Over the past 10 years, Cook the Farm is a living testimony of the profound impact this experience can have on both its international students and its local community. Through a short documentary, we want to **capture how change emerges from the interaction of different cultures in shared spaces.** Just as CTF students have been shaped by the Sicilian land and its people, so too have the locals been transformed through their exchange with the students. A circular flow of influence, support, and inspiration that, starting from the heart of Sicily, transforms communities worldwide.

What You Will Do:

As our selected filmmaker, you'll immerse yourself in the program—living alongside participants, joining field visits, and experiencing daily life in Valledolmo.

You will be expected to:

- Bring your own filming equipment (please note: we are unable to provide insurance for gear)
- Capture and produce enough content to create:
 - **A 10–15 minute documentary** exploring the “why” and “how” of Cook the Farm
 - **4–5 short promotional clips** (30–60 seconds each) for social media use
- Be responsible for all post-production (with assistance from our team for revisions and edits)
- Deliver final work one month after the program completion - May 1st, 2026

Together, these deliverables should express:

- What Cook the Farm is—not just logistically, but philosophically
- How food connects us to land, history, identity, and each other
- The cultural and emotional shifts that happen when people engage food through place (speaking with participants, alumni, guest experts, and the CTF team)
- What happens when diverse people come together to live and learn through food?

What You'll Receive:

- Full tuition, room, and board for the [6-week program](#) (Feb 12 – Mar 27, 2026)
- Access to all programming, field visits, and events
- On-the-ground support to coordinate interviews, locations, and content

How to Apply:

1. Please submit a 2–4 minute video introducing yourself and sharing why you're passionate about the project at [this Dropbox link](#).
2. Let us know you have submitted the video by sending us an email at cookthefarm@annatascalanza with the following:
 - A 400 word (max.) brief outlining your creative vision for this project
 - A link to your portfolio or samples of past work

Deadline to Apply: September 1st, 2025

Final Deliverables Due: 1 Month After Program Completion (May 1st, 2026)

Copyright and Terms Statement

The filmmaker retains full copyright of the final video. Anna Tasca Lanza is granted a **perpetual, non-exclusive, royalty-free license** to use the video across all media platforms, including but not limited to social media, websites, promotional materials, and public screenings.

The filmmaker will be credited in all published uses of the video by Anna Tasca Lanza.

The filmmaker is also granted full rights to use the video for personal promotional purposes, such as portfolios, showreels, and websites. No commercial resale or third-party licensing of the video is permitted without written consent from both parties.