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VMG Media Release

The Big Picture – planning phase

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Voyageur announces plans for new documentary series *The Big Picture: A History of Photography in Greater Cincinnati*

Voyageur Media Group, Inc. has launched the planning phase for a collaborative, three-hour documentary series on the remarkable history of photography in Greater Cincinnati. *The Big Picture: A History of Photography in Greater Cincinnati* examines the role of photography in the development of Greater Cincinnati from 1839 to 1939. *The Big Picture* explores how photography impacted the region economically, socially, politically and culturally over the course of a century.

Greater Cincinnati was a national center for the development of daguerreotypes - an early form of photography - from the 1840s to the 1850s, according to Tom Law, Project Director, Voyageur Media Group, Inc. "Yet, our region's incredibly rich photographic history has yet to be told in documentary form," says Law. "*The Big Picture* examines our photographic heritage as the region grew from modest river towns into a major commercial center in America's heartland," says Law. Voyageur's production team is conducting research, writing script treatments and drafting production plans during the planning phase from March to July, 2023. The documentary is to be presented in three, one-hour episodes: "Capturing Life" (1839 - 1869); "Developing Communities" (1870 - 1909); and "Expanding Views" (1910 - 1939). Voyageur has formed an advisory panel composed of regional photographic archivists, historians and authors to help review content at each phase of development.



Photo History Forum (May 10): Voyageur is holding a public Photo History Forum for anyone who wants to let us know about their photographic collections from 1839-1939. The Photo History Forum is from 6:00 to 7:00 pm on Wednesday, May 10 in the auditorium of the Walnut Hills Branch of the Cincinnati Public Library. Project scholars and resource books will be on hand to identify the type and approximate date of your photographs. The forum is a free, public event. No registration is required.

Voyageur Media Group, Inc. is a 501c3 nonprofit organization dedicated to the creation of public media about science, history and culture. Established in 1998, Voyageur has produced dozens of documentaries, websites, books and educational materials in collaboration with scholars, musicians, organizations and academic institutions. The first episode of *The Big Picture* is targeted for distributed via public screenings, regional public television stations and streaming video beginning in the fall of 2024. The documentary project will also feature a companion website and educational materials designed to enhance use of the documentary in classrooms and workshops. More information and a five-minute trailer are available on our project website: <https://voyageurmedia.org/projects/the-big-picture-a-history-of-photography-in-greater-cincinnati-home/>

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