

# DESONI COOPER



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## Education

**Ithaca College, Roy H. Park School of Communication**, Ithaca NY  
**Bachelor of Arts** | Documentary Studies and Production; **Minor** | Economics  
**Expected Graduation** | December 2024

**Awards:** *Higher Education Opportunity Program; National Coalition of 100 Black Women; Class of 2008 Scholarship; Janice L. Levy & David I. Stewart '67 Study Abroad School; Citizen Storyteller Scholarship; Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship; Peggy Ryan Williams Award for Academic and Community Leadership; James B. Pendleton Student Research and Production Grant; Park Center for Independent Media Grant; Ithaca College Startup Business Pitch Demo Day Competition, The Gloria L. Hobbs Inspiration Award, Park School Summer Internship Scholarship*

## Skills

**Programs:** Adobe Premiere Pro, iMovie, Final Cut Pro, Word, Excel Certified, PowerPoint, Google Suite, Photoshop  
**Equipment:** SONY X70, Canon C100, iPhone, SONY FX30  
**Social Media:** Instagram, YouTube, Snapchat, Facebook, TikTok, LinkedIn

## Work Experience

**Actuality Abroad**, Tangier MORO

July '24 – Aug '24

Editor Intern

- Participated in daily group briefings, screenings, and exercises focused on documentary storytelling
- Collaborated with crew members to plan production by developing a story summary, outline, schedule, and shot list
- Edited the film on location from rough cut to picture lock with comprehensive support

**Hilgartner Productions**, Ithaca NY

July – Oct '23

Production Intern

- Contributed to pre-production activities including set painting, location scouting for reference shots, and acquiring props
- Recorded behind-the-scenes content throughout both pre-production and production phases
- Collaborated with the Director of Photography, Alex Podolyanchuk, to help with camera operation

**American Pavilion – LA Intensive**, Los Angeles CA

July – Aug '23

Student Intern

- Gained career insights from distinguished industry professionals including Patrick Friend, Brian Gay, Rachel Raimst, etc.
- Attained a comprehensive understanding of studio operations from studios like Walt Disney, Universal, Asylum, and Sony
- Acquired knowledge of career-building strategies and pitch workshops

**Finger Lakes Environmental Film Festival (FLEFF)**, Ithaca NY

Jan – May '20

Blogger Intern

- Authored 10 informational blog posts in a creative non-fiction style, published on the FLEFF and my portfolio website
- Conducted interviews with industry experts like Jeff Cohens and Warren Schlesinger, to learn about film festival operation
- Actively participated in the virtual film festival, critically reviewing a wide spectrum of content, including documentaries and environmental research projects

## Selected Film Work

“Man’s Best Friend”	Editor	Mini Doc – July '24
“My Life Is Circus”	Director, Editor	Documentary – May '24
“From The Outside In”	Co-editor	Documentary – Dec '23
“A Life With Hope”	Director, Producer, Editor	Narrative – Oct '23
“Blacklisted”	Editor	Television – Sep '23
“No Choice”	Production Intern	Indie Film – July '23
“Pink Helmet Posse”	Editor	Documentary – Dec '19
“Haircare Equity at Ithaca College”	Director, Producer, Editor	Documentary – Dec '19
“It - Trailer Remix”	Editor	Trailer – Oct '19

## Film Festivals

<b>Silent City Film Festival</b> , Selected	Oct '23
<b>Serbest International Film Festival</b> , Quarter-finalist	Sep '24
<b>Toyoko International Film Festival</b> , Selected	Oct '24
<b>Cayuga Film Festival</b> , Winner	Nov '24