

WOMEN
IN
FILM & VIDEO
WASHINGTON, DC

WIFV NEWS

October 2024

In this Issue

1. President's Message
2. Roundtable Roundup
3. New and Renewing Members
4. 45th Anniversary Photo Montage
5. WIFV Narrative Short Film Finishing Fund Grant 2024 Recipient
6. THE LIFE AND TIMES OF HANK GREENBERG at The Avalon, 9/29
7. HRC Launches New PSA Campaign
8. WIFV Fall Fiscal Sponsorship Application Deadline - Oct 21
9. FORAGER on MPT - Oct 17-18
10. DISTRICT OF SECOND CHANCES in Fall Festivals
11. WIFV Filmmaker Challenge - Register by Oct 11
12. Weds One: Maximizing the Power of LinkedIn - Oct 2
13. Pitch Decks - Oct 3
14. Coffees - Annapolis, Executives, Frederick, Reel Moms
15. Film Club: TIGERS ARE NOT AFRAID - Oct 21
16. Just How Does Distribution Via PBS Work? - Oct 22
17. ScriptDC: Make It! - Nov 15-17
18. Care for Creatives/Resources
19. Thanks to our Sponsors

Roundtable Roundup

Documentary: *Trailer Night*

POLLUTER's PLAYBOOK by Maureen Cohen
HARMACY by Anaïs Webster Mennuti

Mon, Oct 14, 7:00 pm [RSVP here](#)

Film Club: TIGERS ARE NOT AFRAID

Mon, Oct 21, 7:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

Screenwriters: Script to Screen Case Study of WHO CLONED TYRONE?

Mon, Oct 28, 6:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

President's Message



Dear WIFV Members & Friends,

What a fantastic time we had at the 45th Anniversary Celebration on September 13th!

The costumes, the music, the trivia, the food & beverage, and the Barbies made for a spectacular event! Yes, that's me holding my Barbie twin. Photos are being posted to the WIFV website.

Thank you to everyone who came out and joined us.

That was just the beginning of a year-long celebration. We have so much more in store. Here's what's coming up in the fall.

- We announced a Barbie Filmmakers Challenge at the party. WIFV members are invited to create a 5-minute short film using their Barbie. The qualifying shorts will be screened at ScriptDC in November. Register [HERE](#) by October 11 to be part of the challenge.

Send your program suggestions to programming@wifv.org and we will get them in the hopper!

Send Your News & Photos

The deadline for Members in the News is the 10th of the month. Send an article (100 words or so) and a photograph or link to director@wifv.org. You can see past issues [here](#). The deadline for the monthly newsletter is the 20th of the month.

We welcome receiving photos of you at work - writing, filming, acting, and supporting colleagues. Send your photos to director@wifv.org. Please provide a project name and a photo credit.

- In October, we are kicking off a giving campaign to help pave the way for **The Next 45**. You are welcome to join me in being one of WIFV's first donors.
- On November 15, we will host a Media Mixer (our annual Open House) as part of ScriptDC, but open to all (with RSVPs). This event is free but you must **register to attend**.
- We will be hosting a series of hot topic panels to discuss issues facing the industry and the impact WIFV has had over the past 45 years. Stay tuned for more information.

WIFV continues to make herstory, and you are part of the legacy. Let's continue to tell our stories that uplift, inform, inspire, and change the world for the better!

In celebration,

Connie

New and Renewing Members (Aug 28 - Sept 25, 2024)

Shilette Addison-Reed
Laura Bennett
Julia Berrebi
Michelle Bowen-Ziecheck
Bonnie Breuner
Akima A. Brown
Susanne Coates
Randi Cohen Coblentz
Emily Cohen
Ricardo Coleman
Martin Dale
Colin Davies
Amy DeLouise
Mel Devon
Carolyn Dodd
Eileen Dougherty
T Dumas
Ramata Eller
Sydney Fisher
Patricia Fredley

Todd Gardner
Sedrick Gary
Kodi Gates
Shanya Gordon
Lee Green
India Gregory
Linda Harris
Steven Holloway
Rebecca Howland
Enrique Huaiquil
Tara Jabbari
Tanya La Force
Becky Lake
Jocelyn Levine
Nora Lindner
Jay Mallin
Natalie Mansfield
Kerri Lane Mariano
Caroline Marney
Lauren Menkes
Roland Millman
Pritidhara "Jini" Mohanty
Apryl Motley

Ilmani Njau
Shyla Palm
AnnMarie Parker
Jennifer Parris
Allie Rood
Christopher Root
Tilahun Selassie
Alice Shen
Eleshia Simms-Harris
Brenda Spevak
Maggie Stogner
Leon Swerdel-Rich
Malory Todd
Shimaa Tolba
Kate Tsubata
Cid Collins Walker
Vickie Warehime
Mary Beth Warner
Marilyn Weiner
Kevin Wilson
Alia Yunis
Joanna Zelman

And, here's how we started celebrating 45!



Hugs, Conversation, Crochet, Wigs, Barbies, Friends. Among the familiar faces are Samantha Cheng, Ericka Timmons, sheri ratick stroud, Carla Sandy, Anna Reid Jhirad, Connie St. John, Angel Nylund, Trish Finneran, Sonny Bono (Scott Gordon under that moustache), Beth Mendelson, future Filmmaker Challenge submitters, and two women we look forward to hanging out with. More snapshots from photographers Liz Green and Lauren Fletcher will be posted to the WIFV website. Share yours too!!!!

Thanks to the WIFV Board Members and event volunteers including Stephen Ames, Samantha Cheng, Alan Field, Cheryle Franceschi, Marilyn Francis, Brooke Friedman, Paige Gold, Heather Morgan, Emily Morrison, Ginger Moss, Jackie Perez, Renata Phillippi, Lisa Scott, and Sharon Sobel who made this event a success.

WIFV 45th Anniversary Dance Party Sponsors are Play It Forward: Mattel; Blackmagic Design; Interface Media Group; Maryland Film Office; OCTFME/202 Creates; Roman Media Works; and WETA.

News You Can Use



EXCUSE ME Receives WIFV Narrative Short Finishing Fund Grant

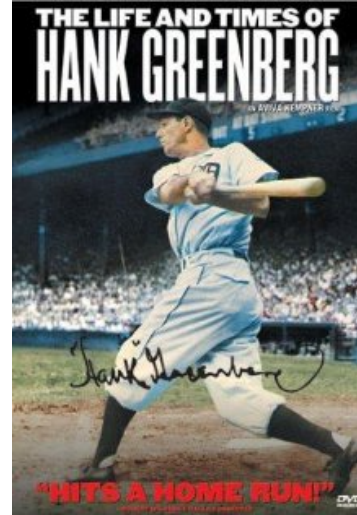
Written and produced by **Mary Beth Warner**, EXCUSE ME, tells the story of Amanda Firth, a woman in her 50s, facing the challenge of finding a new job at a time when she is becoming increasingly invisible in daily life. The script was a finalist in last year's WIFV Narrative Short Screenplay Competition. The short was directed/edited by **Lena Streitwieser** and stars Laureen E. Smith, Greg Oliver Bodine, **Karyn-Siobhán Robinson**, Charlotte Caldejon, and Max Streitwieser. Additional crew: Producer **Bernhard Streitwieser**; Director of Photography Robert Lodge; Assistant Director: Manny Vilmatelo; Sound Recordist: Ben Weingartner; and Music by Max "Nicknames" Streitwieser.

Administered by Women in Film & Video, this program exists to support WIFV Members with the post-production of a short film (no longer than 15 minutes including credits). It consists of limited in-kind services from **Henninger Media Services**, **Interface Media Group**, **Ott House Audio**, and **ReelPlan**.

GREENBERG at The Avalon

The Ciesla Foundation is proud to commemorate the 25th anniversary of **Aviva Kempner's** acclaimed documentary, **THE LIFE AND TIMES OF HANK GREENBERG**, by remastering and rereleasing the film in stunning 4K resolution. This project also marks the 90th anniversary of the iconic moment when Hank Greenberg, in an inspiring act of faith and integrity, chose not to play in a crucial pennant race game to observe Yom Kippur.

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF HANK GREENBERG will also receive a special anniversary screening at The Avalon on Sunday, September 29 at 10:30 am. [Buy tickets here.](#)



HRC Launches New PSA Campaign

Amy Oden is the director for a new series of PSAs produced by the Human Rights Campaign around the idea that "Trans Stories are Everyone's Stories". Oden also reached out to WIFV Members to help craft the tagline to support the series and is grateful for the feedback they received!

Daniel's story (see seven-minute film above) is typical of any teenager with the same quiet milestones of youth that we all experience. He's also one of more than two million people who are transgender or non-binary in the United States. Watch and see how you can help create a world where Daniel has the freedom to be himself. [More info here.](#)



WIFV Fiscal Sponsorship Application Deadline - Oct 21

The WIFV Fiscal Sponsorship Program, available only to WIFV members, is a financial and legal system where our 501(c)(3) public charity provides limited financial and legal oversight for a project initiated independently by a filmmaker. That project must be non-commercial in nature, i.e. not produced solely for financial gain. Sponsored Projects are eligible to solicit and receive grants and tax-deductible contributions.

[Click here to learn more about the application requirements!](#)

Monday, October 21, 5:00 pm \$50 Application Fee [Register here](#)

You will receive a link to the application in the application fee payment confirmation.



FORAGER on MPT - October 13 & 17

FORAGER is a glimpse into the life path of James Beard-nominated Chef Chris Amendola, who is known for using foraged and seasonal-only items to create culinary brilliance. A creative force in the Baltimore restaurant world, Chris navigated through a turbulent youth and then honed his craft, only to launch a popular new eatery a few short years before the Covid shutdown. This documentary is a story of seeking, resilience, resolve, and how a true passion can save one's life. It will premiere on Maryland Public Television on Sunday, Oct. 13 at 6:30 pm and then on MPT2 Oct. 17 at 10:30 pm. It will then find a home on PBS digital online. [More info here.](#)

Directed by **Renee Fischer**, this is the latest film from Spring and Fall Productions which is dedicated to creating documentaries which highlight our commonality and shine a spotlight on issues of social concern. Their last documentary, **BOOK BY ITS COVER** (2020), aired on Maryland Public Television, and was nominated for a regional Emmy.



Screening at Regional Festivals this Fall

A quest for redemption is unfolding in Washington, D.C. Thanks to forward-looking "Second Chance" legislation, three men who were sentenced in their youth to life in prison have the chance to plead for release. Follow their stories in this new doc by Director/Producer **Wynette Yao** and Cinematographer/Editor **Travis Edwards**. [Read more here.](#)

Upcoming WIFV Events



Filmmaker Challenge

Your challenge, should you choose to accept it, is to create a short film (5 minutes or less) using your Barbie doll. courtesy of Mattel who is celebrating 2024 as the Year of Women in Film! If you register and didn't attend the 45th Anniversary Celebration to get your Barbie, we have Barbies on hand for you to choose as the star of your film. [Register for the Challenge here](#).

Short Films Must:

- Feature at least one (1) Barbie doll
- Be 5 minutes or less
- Feature women or girls who are in charge or in leadership roles
- Include recognizable visuals (or a line of dialogue) that references the mid-Atlantic Region.

Short Films Can:

- Be Live Action or Animated as long as they include the Barbie doll
- Feature other human or non-human characters
- Be any genre

Additional Information: Only one short film submission is allowed per team.

Submission Information:

- Submission fee is \$45 and includes one Barbie. Registration deadline is October 11. [Register here](#).
- Deadline for all film submissions is November 8.
- Submission instructions will be in your registration confirmation.

Screening & Prizes:

- All completed shorts that meet the requirements will be screened at ScriptDC (November 16-17).
- Audience will vote for their favorite short film.
- Grand Prize: Real Mattel Video Barbie Doll & \$45 Gift Card
- 2nd Place Prize: \$45 Gift Card

Remember: Story is Queen! Write a great story first. Rewrite it. Make it tight.

For more information, call 202-429-9438 or email Melissa Houghton (director@wifv.org)

Maximizing the Power of LinkedIn October 2

LinkedIn has emerged as the go-to platform for professionals looking to expand their professional network. With over 1B million users worldwide, LinkedIn offers a unique opportunity to connect with like-minded professionals, industry leaders, and, in the film industry: potential investors. In this session, we will take a deep dive into the power of networking + personal brand on LinkedIn. You'll receive top-tips on how to use this platform to build valuable connections and grow your professional film network. We'll also discuss the resources available for Creators on LinkedIn. This program is presented by **Lori Davidson**, Manager, LinkedIn Marketing Solutions.



Wednesday, October 2, 6:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

FREE for WIFV Executive Members (must be logged in and use discount code)

\$20 for WIFV Members (must be logged in) and Students / \$35 for public

You will receive login information with your registration confirmation.

Event sponsored by [Interface Media Group](#), [202Creates](#), [OCTFME](#), and [Maryland Film Office](#)



NSDF: Pitch Decks - October 3

The **Deck** is your number one marketing material/door opener for your film. Nailing it is key to getting the meeting or getting your script read. In this session, we are going to look at several different decks that have been used with great success and explore what to include and the secrets to Decks that convert. The program will be presented by **Sara Elizabeth Timmins** of Life Out Loud Films.

Thursday, October 3, 6:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

\$20 WIFV Members / \$35 Public

Login instructions will be in your registration confirmation

The WIFV Narrative Script Development and Documentary Fellowships are supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. To find out more about how National Endowment for the Arts grants impact individuals and communities, visit www.arts.gov. Additional support was received from [OCTFME/202 Creates](#) and the Gem Star Foundation.

Coffee in Annapolis

Tuesday, October 1, 8:00 am [RSVP here](#)

49 West Coffeehouse, 49 West Street, Annapolis, MD
Organized by **Felicia Barlow Clar** and **Laura Seltzer-Duny**

Executive Member Coffee

Tuesday, October 8, 9:00 am [RSVP here](#)

You will receive login info for the zoom with your registration

Coffee in Frederick

Wednesday, October 9, 9:00 am [RSVP here](#)

Le Luna Bakery & Cafe, 162 W Patrick St, Frederick, MD
Organized by **Jean Rosolino**

Reel Moms Coffee

Friday, October 18, 10:00 am [RSVP here](#)

The two-minute film challenge theme is AT PEACE.

Organized by **Alyscia Cunningham**. Info on how to share your short will be provided with the login info with your registration.



TIGERS ARE NOT AFRAID - Oct 21

A dark fairy tale about a gang of five children trying to survive the horrific violence of the cartels and the ghosts created every day by the drug war. The film was written/directed by Issa López. It is available on AMC+, AppleTV, and for rent on Amazon.

The WIFV Film Club is open to all and is a great way to build connections with fellow members of the film community. We meet on the third Monday of each month. **Make sure you watch the film in advance of the discussion.** We announce the next film at the end

of each meeting. The Film Club is organized by **Connie St. John** and **Ericka Boston**.

Monday, October 21, 7:30-8:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

You will receive the Zoom login information with your registration confirmation.
Be prepared to share your likes, dislikes, and insights.

Just How Does Distribution via PBS Work? - Oct 22

Learn how an independent filmmaker or small production company can navigate the public broadcasting system (PBS) to distribute their film. National distribution and station-by-station distribution will be discussed. Public Broadcasting experts will share their insights into scheduling, funding, station relations, and identify the challenges to having a one-off program broadcast by the network available to 99% of American households at no cost or cable subscription. We will also discuss the commissioning and acquisition processes at public broadcasting system stations and PBS.

Presenters:

Kate Pearson, Senior Managing Director, Programming & Acquisitions, Maryland Public Television

Robyn DeShields, Founder, De Shields Associates

Wednesday, October 22, 6:30 pm [RSVP here](#) \$20 WIFV Members/ \$35 Public

You will receive login information with your registration confirmation.

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In-Person Master Classes, Nov 15-17

We know you have a script you want to make, but you may not be sure of where to start. We can help. **This year we are featuring one-day and two-day master classes as well as some individual workshops and Production**

Assistant Training. Class size is limited to allow for

engagement and project attention. **ScriptDC** is the premier conference for Mid-Atlantic filmmakers where writers, directors, producers, editors, and talent connect with accomplished industry professionals. **It will be held at the Martin Luther King Jr Memorial Library**, 901 G Street NW, Washington, DC.



Media Mixer on November 15 from 5:30-6:30 pm.

The **WIFV Short Screenplay Competition** will take place Friday 6:30-8:00 pm.

In the months following the in-person master classes in November, we will be featuring webinars on a variety of topics of interest to your full producing and post teams.

Two-day Master Classes and Speakers (All Day Saturday and Sunday)

- 1) Character Development with Marilyn R. Atlas featuring Dating Your Character and Dirtying Your Character, writing, and feedback sessions
- 2) Directing Actors and Directing Through the Lens with Connie St. John and Monda Raquel Webb featuring on-set experiences on Sunday

One-Day Master Classes and Speakers

- 1) Impact for Policy Change and in Communities with Suzanne Peters and Change Content (Saturday)
- 2) Producing Sports Docs with Kayona Ebony Brown (Sunday)
- 3) Global Horror with May Santiago AND Writing/Producing Horror with Alyscia Cunningham and Mark Ricche (Sunday)

Individual Workshops

- 1) The ABCs of Producing Documentary with Nina Gilden Seavey (Saturday 10:00 am-12:30 pm)
- 2) Color Correction in DaVinci Resolve with Matt McDonell (Saturday 2:00-5:00 pm)
- 3) Having a Special Effects Strategy with Robert Lodge (Sunday 10:00 am-12:30 pm)
- 4) Sound Supporting Story (Sunday 2:00-5:00 pm)

Production Assistant Training is Friday evening and all day Saturday . It starts right after the Media Mixer on Friday from 5:00-6:30 pm.

More info and register here. **Early Bird Pricing is in effect until October 10**.

Resources

WIFV has been collecting (and suggesting) relief resources for freelancers, artists, and small businesses across the region. [Access them here](#).

Care for Creatives provides pay-what-you-can mental health support to the DC creative and entrepreneurial community. Individuals who reach out to the CCSC are matched with a clinical intern to support them through a solution-oriented therapy approach. All services are confidential and will be provided via telehealth.

Email CCSCFoggyBottom@gwu.edu and the Care for Creatives team will follow up with more information.

Thanks to Our Sponsors



Send Stories to:
director@wifv.org



About WIFV

Women in Film & Video provides educational and networking opportunities for screen-based media makers, celebrates women's creative and technical achievements in media, and advocates for parity both in front of and behind the camera to ensure that all voices can be heard.



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