

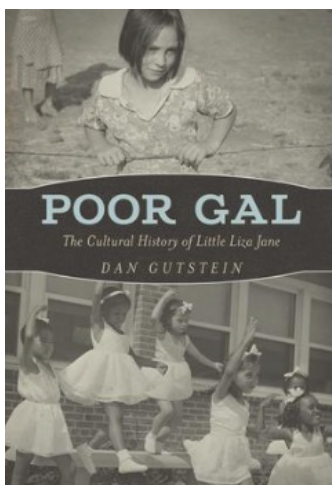
## WIFV People in the News - November 2024

Natasha Klauss Soleiman, Dan Gutstein, Cintia Cabib, Jackie Perez, Ben Howard, Rob Henninger, Laura Kroeger, CJ Crim, Claudia Myers, Laura Waters Hinson, Lena Louise Streitwieser, Mary Beth Warner, Bernhard Streitwieser, Nancy Breslin, Ricardo Preve, MacKenzie Galloway

### Klauss Soleiman at The Workshops

**Natasha Klauss Soleiman**, recipient of the 2022 WIFV Past Presidents Scholarship recently completed a week long editing bootcamp at the Maine Media Workshops in Rockport, Maine.

She found the experience to be incredibly gratifying and is truly appreciative of WIFV for having awarded her this unique professional advancement opportunity! WIFV Past Presidents fund this opportunity to advance the careers of mid-career professionals.



### Poor Gal Wins Special Recognition!

**Dan Gutstein's** book *Poor Gal: The Cultural History of Little Liza Jane* is the recipient of a 2024 Special Recognition Award in The Deems Taylor / Virgil Thomson Book Awards that are handed out annually by the ASCAP Foundation in New York. [Read press release here](#)

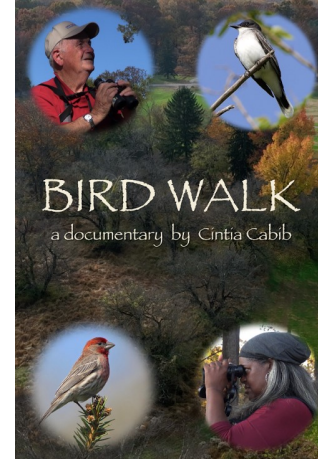
"I didn't know that the ASCAP Foundation was aware of *Poor Gal* and I -- as a "citizen musicologist" -- didn't know about these awards until a couple of days ago. I hope that the recognition will draw more attention to the excellent work done by University Press of Mississippi and also to the many (often anonymous) people who have touched "Liza Jane" songs over the past 160+ years."

Dan and his colleague Emily Cohen continue to work hard on a documentary film about "Little Liza Jane" and all other "Liza Jane" songs. WIFV is honored to serve as the fiscal sponsor for the upcoming documentary. [You can make a tax deductible donation here.](#)

### BIRD WALK Screens in Zurich - Nov 17

**Cintia Cabib's** documentary **BIRD WALK** will have its European premiere on November 17 at the Films for Future Festival, an environmental film festival held in Zurich, Switzerland. BIRD WALK features the birds and birders that have flocked to RedGate Park in Rockville, MD, where more than 160 bird species have been sighted, and follows the

grassroots campaign which helped preserve this defunct golf course as a public park. **Cintia has launched a GoFundMe campaign** to bring BIRD WALK to towns and cities throughout the US. The funding will be used to establish partnerships with environmental, educational, and community organizations so that they can use the film as an inspirational, educational, and conservation tool.



## Perez Has Multiple Firsts!

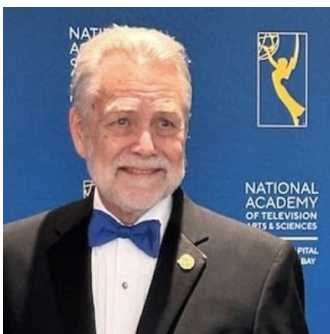
WIFV Documentary Development Fellow **Jackie Perez** ran her first 26.2 miles at the 49th Marine Corps Marathon on Oct. 27, 2024, earning the additional Semper Fidelis Challenge medal for completing the special 3-run series. In a year of firsts, from directing her first documentary LA TAMALERAS DE LOMA PARK to writing her first book **Sally Ride: Breaking Barriers and Defying Gravity**, the experience was a fitting metaphor for life as a creative filmmaker, a reminder that persistence, discipline, and believing in yourself can take you places you never thought possible.

## Howard Joins WETA Team

**Ben Howard** started a new position as Video Editor at WETA's Reading Universe website and YouTube channel on November 11th. Ben says, "I am extremely excited and looking forward to the work I will be doing, wholeheartedly. I'll also be doing editing work on several sister sites also run by WETA Learning & Interactive Media."



Reading Universe is a site that provides resources for the teachers of early readers. Of his new role, Ben says, "I cannot express how important I feel it is to aid these teachers in this monumentally crucial task. Reading opens doors and lets people expand their minds beyond anything they thought possible. I will proudly do everything I can to support these teachers and readers!"



## Henninger NCCBC Emmy

Henninger's Founder and CEO, **Rob Henninger**, was honored recently by the National Capital Chesapeake Bay Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. Henninger was inducted into the Gold Circle, an honor given to those who have devoted more than 50 years to a career in broadcasting and made an outstanding individual contribution to the National Capital Chesapeake Bay television community. **Visit Henninger Media here.**

## Kroeger Wins Best Drama from



## Final Draft Big Break Contest!

**Laura Kroeger's** feature screenplay **BIGGER IN TEXAS** won the Best Drama Feature Prize in the Final Draft Big Break screenwriting contest! She workshopped her winning script in WIFV's Narrative Script Development Fellowship in 2022, gaining insight and skills that completely transformed her story. Laura has also placed in other contests this year, including winning an Honorary Mention in the Hollywood Climate Summit Pitchfest, and several scripts ranking as quarterfinalists or semifinalists in AFF, RIFF, ScreenCraft, and PAGE screenwriting competitions.



## Watch RESISTERHOOD

If you or someone you know is suffering from election depression, then you need to join The Resisterhood. Be inspired by this award-winning documentary about the power of women, hope, and resistance during the first trump administration. The film is inspiring and instructional. It shows how ordinary Americans can stand up and protect our civil rights during these extraordinary times. The film, directed by **CJ Crim**, is available on [YouTube](#), [Amazon Prime](#), and [Tubi](#). [Watch the trailer here](#). We are in this together and together we will rise! WIFV was honored to include this film in the 45th Anniversary Panel - An Attack on Democracy - featuring the work of WIFV members making history by recording history.

## Members Win at Alexandria FF

The **Alexandria Film Festival** (AFF) concluded its 18th annual program with the announcement of 13 awards to films and filmmakers in this year's festival. Among those awards are the following WIFV Members:

- *Best of the Festival Award* - THE TEST directed by **Claudia Myers** and **Laura Waters Hinson**;
- *Best of the Region Award* - PENNIES directed by **Lena Louise Streitwieser**, written/co-produced by **Mary Beth Warner**, and co-produced by **Bernhard Streitwieser**;
- *Best Animated Film Award* - VELO LOVE produced by **Nancy Breslin**;
- *Best Achievement in Exploration of Contemporary Issues Award* - SOMETIME, SOMEWHERE directed by **Ricardo Preve**.



Pictured above is Claudia Myers in orange, Mary Beth Warner in gray, Nancy Breslin to right of Warner. Photo credit: sheri ratick stroud

## WIFV Member Interactive Timeline

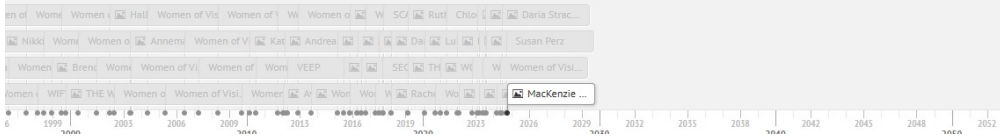
Please submit your items for consideration in the timeline [here](#). Your work is important and we want to document it as part of the WIFV 45th Anniversary Year!

# MACKENZIE GALLOWAY



berkeleybeacon.com/mackenzie-g...

WIFV Member MacKenzie Galloway hosted the Afrofuturist Femmes Film Festival to highlight films that fit into the Afrofuturism genre. Afrofuturism, according to the National Museum of African American History and Culture, is a cultural aesthetic and expression that reclaims Black identity and agency through art that looks to the past, while envisioning a liberated future. The Afrofuturist Femmes Film Festival was held in the Charles Sumner School—Galloway chose it as a venue because it was the first Black public school built in Washington, D.C., founded in 1972. Using film as a means for representation and education in the first Black school in the district is nothing short of poetic justice. Galloway knows the journey has not been an easy one, but just like the films she's screening today, she wants to look forward: "Unfortunately, a lot of Afrofuturist work hasn't been platformed, and that's what this festival is meant to do. I wanted to be able to give other filmmakers that opportunity, as a filmmaker myself," she said. "It's important for me to platform work that portrays Black people and people of the African Diaspora being normal people. Our stories are not one-fold."



## Thanks to the WIFV Sponsors





## News Deadline

The deadline to submit your information for the monthly Members in the News e-publication is the 10th of the month. Send your article (100 words or so) and a jpg-format photograph or link to your video project to [director@wifv.org](mailto:director@wifv.org).



## About WIFV

Women in Film & Video (WIFV) 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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