

December 2024

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## Roundtable Roundup

**Editors:** *Planning for 2025*  
**Mon, Dec 9, 6:30 pm** [RSVP here](#)

**Film Club:** *Holiday Movies!*  
**Mon, Dec 16, 7:30 pm** [RSVP here](#)

Roundtables are free for WIFV Members / \$15 for public

## Send Your News & Photos

The deadline for Members in the News is

## President's Message



Dear WIFV Members & Friends,

It is the most wonderful time of the year! I love the lights, decorations, and the non-stop holiday music on iHeart Radio, and the

cheesy holiday movies, and don't even get me started on all the delicious food.

But what I love most about the holiday season is the spirit of giving and gratefulness. It's as though a blanket of love wraps itself around all of us, or most of us. I do recognize that there are some Grinches and Scrooges in the world, but I'm trusting that their hearts will grow three sizes too big.

### Sweet Holiday Traditions

When I was growing up, our family's Christmas tradition was driving around to look at all the decorated houses, tobogganing with my Dad (I grew up in Michigan), then coming back home to drink hot chocolate and sing Christmas carols while my talented Mom played the piano. I remember those sweet traditions more than I remember opening presents on Christmas morning.

Thanksgiving was even more special because all of our extended family came together to eat delicious food, play games, laugh until our sides hurt, and often, make home movies. See, movie-making is in my DNA.

### Gratefulness

From gift giving to spending time with family and friends to watching heart-warming movies (like my favorite "It's a

the 10th of the month. Send an article (100 words or so) and a photograph or link to [director@wifv.org](mailto: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](mailto:director@wifv.org). Please provide a project name and a photo credit.



Wonderful Life”), the holidays give us a reason to take stock of the things we cherish most – and let people know we’re grateful for them.

I’m grateful for all of you WIFV members who, along with the staff, help make this organization so special with your gifts and talents.

#### Quality Time

WIFV has several fantastic programs in December, including **Film Club on December 16**. You are all invited to join us as we discuss our favorite holiday films and what makes them a classic.

#### A Gift for WIFV

*Giving Tuesday* is on December 3rd and as part of WIFV’s 45th Anniversary celebration, we are *giving* our supporters the opportunity to join us in preparing for The Next 45 years. Join us in our **\$45 for 45 campaign** – 45 people *giving* \$45 for our 45th anniversary.

I wish you the happiest of holidays!

**Connie**

## New and Renewing Members (Oct 24 - Nov 24, 2024)

Karen Allyn  
Wesley Bailey  
Sara Barger  
Madison Bischof  
Candice Bloch  
Donna Brant  
Alesha Brown  
Jillian Cardillo  
Felicia Barlow Clar  
Olayimika Cole  
Taren Coleman  
Meg Cormier  
Wm. David Crosson  
Deryl Davis  
Celia de la Vega  
Sali Dimond  
Susan Donnelly  
Doris Elias  
Tom Feliu  
Susan Fertig-Dykes  
Jacob Fisk

Lauren Fletcher  
Merilyn Francis  
Michael Frank  
Toni George  
Hadeel Ghaida  
Laetitia Giansily-Doyle  
Frances Hardin  
Amy Johanson  
Thaddeus Johnson  
Michelle A Jones  
Kiley Kraskouskas  
Ward LeHardy  
Matt LeClair  
Debbi Mack  
Sean McAll  
Leah Michaels  
Dawn Morgan Neary  
Anja Paul  
Rachel Peters  
Leslie Ralston-Rakow  
Shoshana Rosenbaum

Jean Rosolino  
Amelia Ross  
Jody Hassett Sanchez  
Chris Sciannella  
Phil Shapiro  
Gene Smith  
Adam Spector  
Kathleen Strouse  
Betty Sullivan  
Nancy Swenton  
Kimberly Townsend  
Ilana Trachtman  
Julia Vickers  
Wendy Wilkins  
Gerri L. Williams  
Mary Wright  
Andrew Yarrow  
Juliana Yellin

**Corporate Members:** Rocket Media Group  
TeamPeople

## News You Can Use



## Time to Update Your WIFV Member Profile

We love sharing what WIFV Members have been doing in the newsletter and Members in the News. Now it's time for you to update your member profile with your latest credits, etc.

It's easy, go to the [WIFV Website](#), Choose My WIFV (extreme right on the menu bar), login, and then choose Update My Profile. The info in your profile is available publicly in the [WIFV Directory](#). If you need some assistance, email [membership@wifv.org](mailto:membership@wifv.org).

## Congrats to Short Screenplay and Filmmaker Challenge Winners!



Actors pictured (L to R) John Judy, Marsha Rehns, Dolly Turner, Dawn Douglas, Jean Rosolino, John Aaron, Lisa Hodsoll, and Vinnie Simy

For the second year, as part of ScriptDC, we hosted a short screenplay contest for WIFV Members. Of the 23 submitted, 5 received a table reading by local actors (pictured above).

First Place - BAKING SODA by Natalie Caroline Mansfield; Second Place - MERCURY IN RETROGRADE by Jane Barbara; Finalists - LOU'S BLUES by Kayla Daily; EPILOGUE by Sunnye C. Durham, and GREEN SCHEME by Debbi Mack.



As part of the 45th Anniversary Celebrations WIFV hosted a Filmmaker Challenge for films of five minutes or less featuring women/girls in leadership positions. All the films included Barbie as a participant thanks to the donation received from PlayItForward by Mattel. Nine films were received and screened to attendees of ScriptDC. The Audience Winners are: CINDERELLA'S GIFT, LIFE AS A BARBIE, and STEP. The other films submitted were: TO CATCH A BARBIE KILLER, BARBIE'S MESSAGE IS FOR EVERYONE, THE SUMMIT: Women Have Always Led, BETTER DAYS AHEAD, BEAUTY IN A BOX, and I WILL BE PRESIDENT. [For a full list of cast and crew click here](#).

## This month on our MediaMaker Spotlight podcast

On December 8th, episode #087 - *"Making Films That Highlight Shared Humanity"* with host Sandra and guest **Monda Raquel Webb**. We'll hear a profile of Monda, former EVP of WIFV, winner of the 2024 Trailblazer Award from the African American Women in Cinema of New York City, and EVP and Festival Programming Coordinator for the Chesapeake Film Festival. She discusses her journey as an independent storyteller and her production company, Little Known Stories.

Then on December 22nd, episode #88 - "**September 5: Inside the Day of Terror That Changed Live TV**" with host Candice and guests **Ben Chaplin**, **Leonie Benesch**, and **Tim Fehlbaum**. Hear more about *September 5*, a film that takes audiences inside the ABC Sports live broadcast room during the 1972 terrorist attack at the Munich Summer Olympics. Actors Ben Chaplin and Leonie Benesch and director Tim Fehlbaum share insights about making a film that offers a unique perspective on a day that changed live news reporting forever.

The graphic is titled "Coming Up This Month..." and features two episode highlights. The left highlight is for episode #087, "Making Films That Highlight Shared Humanity," featuring Monda Raquel Webb. She is shown in a photo wearing a blue jacket over a white t-shirt that says "support female filmmakers". The right highlight is for episode #088, "September 5: Inside the Day of Terror That Changed Live TV," featuring Ben Chaplin, Leonie Benesch, and Tim Fehlbaum. The image for this episode shows a collage of film stills with the title "SEPTEMBER 5" in red. A "MediaMaker Spotlight" logo is in the top right corner. A camera icon is in the top left. The background is light blue with a yellow bar at the bottom containing the episode titles.

**Coming Up This Month...**

**#087**  
Dec 8

**Making Films That Highlight Shared Humanity**

Monda Raquel Webb

**#088**  
Dec 22

**September 5: Inside the Day of Terror That Changed Live TV**

Ben Chaplin, Leonie Benesch, and Tim Fehlbaum

And have you listened to last month's episodes yet?

#086: "**An Actor's Career Retrospective and Observations**" with host Tara and guest **Benjamin Byron Davis**. Here about the actor's experiences, including his recent role in *Borderlands*.

#085: "**Creating Visual Alchemy & Continuity Through VFX Editorial**" with host Candice and guest **Anedra Edwards**. Hear about the VFX editor's experiences, including her work on big projects such as *Marvel's Black Panther: Wakanda Forever*.

You can find MediaMaker Spotlight wherever you find your podcasts, including our video companion on [YouTube](#). Don't forget to subscribe to the show so you don't miss any episodes!

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**\$45 FOR 45**

## ON GIVING TUESDAY SUPPORT OUR MISSION WITH YOUR \$45 DONATION!

Each year, WIFV produces 200+ programs for mediamakers to share knowledge, network, and exchange ideas. These include:

- ▶ Educational Panels
- ▶ Workshops
- ▶ Screenings
- ▶ Seminars
- ▶ Happy Hours and Coffees



**Donate Now** ➡



[www.wifv.org/donate](http://www.wifv.org/donate)



## Upcoming Deadlines

WIFV is honored to provide a range of fellowships, sponsorships, and direct grants for its members. Start on your applications and enhance your professional development and network. All of these programs enhance the local narrative and documentary film infrastructure and strengthen the Mid-Atlantic as an independent film production hub.

### WIFV Mentorship Program Application Deadline - January 10

Applications are now being accepted from WIFV members seeking to be paired with an industry professional. You can apply for a mentorship for a specific project or for general career mentorship. [More info here](#). [Apply to be MENTORED by clicking here](#)

**Willing to serve as a Mentor?** We would also like to hear from you! [Let us know your interest in being a mentor here](#). Someone from the WIFV mentorship committee will follow-up with you. Mentorship engagements usually require one hour per month virtually via Zoom. The WIFV mentorship program has been tremendously effective in its first few years and the committee's goal for 2025 is to increase the number of mentorship pairings to serve even more WIFV members.

### WIFV Narrative Script Development Fellowship - Deadline February 10

Through the 9-month WIFV Narrative Script Development Fellowship accomplished film professionals will work with 4-6 Fellows to take scripts from page to production. The scripts become the basis of collaboration between the mentors and Fellows around how to move your script to screen. [Learn more about the Fellowship here](#). There is a \$50 application

fee.

## WIFV Documentary Development Fellowship - Deadline February 17

The WIFV Documentary Development Fellowship program, exclusively available to members of WIFV and members of Filmmakers with Disabilities-Documentary (FWD-DOC), is entering its second year. This program will give documentary filmmakers a safe space to learn about the ecosystem for indie docs during a nine-month program of 3-4 workshops/month to support fellows in taking a documentary idea from early stages to closer to production. [More info here](#). There is a \$50 application fee.

### Upcoming WIFV Events



#### Dec 4 - Filmmaker & Participant: How Does this Work?

You have a plan for your documentary. You will be the filmmaker. What happens when the story changes and you, as the "filmmaker," also becomes a participant? How does this change your relationship with the other participants and/or funders? How does this affect the community of care for participants? Can you still give yourself permission to explore traditional storytelling methods? **Set Hernandez** will

share their experience related to the making of unseen. [More info here](#).

**Wednesday, December 4, 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](#)

#### Coffee in Annapolis

**Tuesday, December 3, 8:00 am** [RSVP here](#)

49 West Coffeehouse, 49 West Street, Annapolis, MD

Organized by **Felicia Barlow Clar** and **Alison Bauer**

#### Coffee in Frederick

**Wednesday, December 4, 9:00 am** [RSVP here](#)

Le Luna Bakery & Cafe, 162 W Patrick St, Frederick, MD

Organized by **Jean Rosolino**

#### Executive Member Coffee

**Tuesday, December 10, 9:00 am** [RSVP here](#)

You will receive the login info for the zoom with your registration



#### LA/DC Gathering

**Thursday, December 12, Noon est/9:00 am pst** [RSVP here](#)

You will receive the login info for the zoom with your registration

#### Coffee in DC

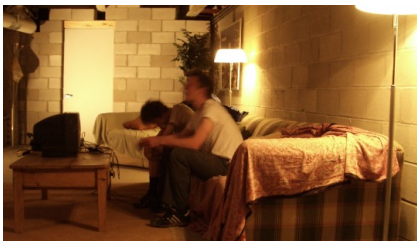
**Wednesday, December 18, 9:00 am** [RSVP here](#)

Le Pain Quotidien - Dupont. 2000 P St NW

#### Reel Moms Coffee

**Friday, December 20, 10:00 am** [RSVP here](#)

The two-minute film challenge theme is CELEBRATE.



## SECRET MALL APARTMENT Filmmaker Convo - Dec 10

You may be spending time in a mall this month, so we have a film that will give you a whole new perspective in what might be in your mall. Join director **Jeremy Workman** to hear how they discovered the story and made SECRET MALL APARTMENT!

Synopsis: In 2003, eight Rhode Islanders created a secret apartment inside a busy mall and lived there for four years, filming everything along the way. Far more than a prank, the secret apartment became a deeply meaningful place for all involved.

**Tuesday, December 10, 6:30-8:00 pm** [RSVP here](#) \$20 WIFV Members / \$35 Public  
You will receive the Zoom login information with your registration confirmation.

## HOLIDAY MOVIES - Dec 16

For our December 2024 selection, you may watch any of the following favorite holiday films of co-host Connie St. John, OR watch your personal favorite that's not on the list and come prepared to share why you love it so much.



### 12 Films for Christmas

- 1) It's a Wonderful Life (1946) (Prime Video)
- 2) Die Hard (1988) (Prime Video, Hulu)
- 3) Home Alone (1990) (Disney+)
- 4) While You Were Sleeping (1995) (Disney+, Paramount+)
- 5) A Christmas Story (1983) (Max)
- 6) The Santa Clause (1994) (Disney+)
- 7) Love Actually (2003) (Prime Video)
- 8) The Best Man Holiday (2013) (Prime Video)
- 9) Trading Places (1983) (For Rent on AppleTV, Amazon, YouTube)
- 10) Miracle on 34th Street (1947, 1994) (Disney+)
- 11) Last Holiday (2006) (Prime Video)
- 12) A Charlie Brown Christmas (1965) (AppleTV+)

**Watch the film(s) in advance of the Film Club Meeting** . Be prepared to share your likes, dislikes, and insights. We announce the next film at the end of each meeting. The Film Club is organized by **Connie St. John** and **Ericka Boston**.

**Monday, December 16, 7:30-8:30 pm** [RSVP here](#)

You will receive the Zoom login information with your registration confirmation.



## Archival Research & Licensing - Dec 17

In this session, **Amy Johanson** will share her experience with archival research and licensing and discuss best practices in sourcing, organization and clearance. Topics will include using materials from the National Archives and the Library of Congress, understanding public domain and establishing fair use. There will be plenty of time for discussion of projects and archival needs. [More info here](#). This presentation will not be recorded. It will be limited to 10 attendees for maximum interaction.

**Tuesday, December 17, 6:30-8:00 pm** [RSVP here](#) \$20 WIFV Members / \$35 Public



You will receive the Zoom login information with your registration confirmation.

## Save the Date

### Successful Freelancing - Jan 8

Are you considering leaving a full-time job to go freelance? Or you're new to freelancing and feel like "you don't know what you don't know"? Being a freelancer means you are a small business owner, and there's more to it than just waiting for the phone to ring, grabbing some gaff tape, and heading out the door. No matter what area you intend to freelance in, there are financial considerations, process considerations, and time management considerations. **Sharon Sobel** took her freelance leap in 2003, and hasn't looked back. She'll share what every freelancer should know before taking the freelance leap - it's not for everyone.



**Wednesday, January 8, 6:30-8:00 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](#)



### Winter Holiday Party - Jan 24

Come out of hibernation with good food and great company! Registration includes food, drink, and a chance to win a door prize. Registration closes at 4:00 pm on Tuesday, January 21.

**Friday, January 24, 6:30-8:00 pm** [RSVP here](#)

\$25 WIFV Members / \$45 Public

DCTV, 901 Newton Street, NE. Washington, DC

Right at the Red Line Metro! On-street parking

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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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