

WIFV NEWS

September 2016 President's Message



Keri Williams, Rebecca Bustamante, Monica Lee Bellais

The most important part of your equipment is yourself: your mobile body, your imaginative mind, and your freedom to use both.

Make sure you do use them. These words of Maya Deren (1917-1961), an experimental filmmaker famous for both her stream of consciousness, expressionistic films and her entrepreneurial approach to filmmaking, are both inspirational and challenging. It's the delicate process of balancing independent, creative vision with financial realities that Women in Film & Video strives to support. But what makes WIFV unique?

According to **Keri Williams**, WIFV board member, it's our ability to connect, support, and encourage one another, both virtually and faceto-face. Ms. Williams will invite you to a film screening, reach out to students at local universities, post info about the event on the ListServ, and bring everyone together to meet the directors. As Ms. Williams puts it, *My Plus 1 is WIFV. My Plus 1 is 1,000 people.*

This sense of community and connections is not only powerful in an immediate sense, but also reaches back to the 1970s, to WIFV's founding members. Most of the founders are still very involved in the organization. You can meet them at happy hours, Women of Vision events, and our annual membership events. They provide strategic guidance, encouragement, and support to the WIFV board of directors, advisory committee, and staff - all with the goal of

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Roundtable Round-Up

Documentary Roundtable - Fiscal Sponsorship September 12, 2016, 6:30 to 8:30 pm Interface Media Group, 1233 20th St, NW RSVP here

Animation Roundtable - Virtual Reality September 14, 2016, 6:30 to 8:30 pm Interface Media Group, 1233 20th St, NW RSVP here

Screenwriters Roundtable - First Five Pages September 26, 2016, 6:30 to 8:30 pm Interface Media Group, 1233 20th St, NW RSVP here

Talent Roundtable - Objective, Obstacle, Tactic September 29, 2016, 6:30 to 8:30 pm Interface Media Group, 1233 20th St, NW RSVP here improving and sustaining this organization for future media makers in the DC metro area.

As Ms. Deren said, *It's a terrible pain to be a filmmaker, because you not only have the creative problems, but you have financial problems that they (other artists) don't have. You have technical problems that they don't have. You have machines that are breaking down in a way that paintbrushes don't break down . . . And if you are a filmmaker, it's because there is something in the sheer medium that seems to be able to make some sort of statement that you particularly want to make, and which no other medium to you seems capable of making in the same way.*

Make your statement at these signature WIFV events in September:

- WIFV Members' Coffee hosted at Bean Rush Cafe in Annapolis, Maryland, on Tuesday, September 20, 8:30 to 10 am.
- WIFV Open House hosted at the Discovery Communications Building in Silver Spring, Maryland, on Thursday, September 22.
- An Evening with Christine Vachon, co-hosted with the GMU Film and Video Studies Department, at GMU's Johnson Center Cinema, in Fairfax, Virginia, on Wednesday, September 28. WIFV is honored to present a Women of Vision Award to Ms. Vachon in celebration of her achievements in media.

Changing media one story at a time, **Rebecca**



Dutch Treat RSVP here

WIFV Member

Coffee Tuesday, September 20, 2016 8:30 - 10:00 am Bean Rush Cafe Annapolis 112A Annapolis Street

WIFV Open House

Thursday, September 22, 2016 6:30 to 8:30 pm Discovery Communications Building 1 Discovery Place, Silver Spring, MD 20910 Entrance is on Wayne Avenue Free registration here

Every Fall, WIFV welcomes its members back from the summer with an Open House. It's a chance to catch up with your colleagues, meet WIFV Board Members, and prepare to jump into the busy season ahead.

Thanks to our event sponsor



Bring a Member, Get a Month

We encourage you to introduce your colleagues to WIFV at the Open House. They will get a taste of the resources, connections, and advocacy we offer and how we are invested in each others' success!

For every new member who joins between now and October 31 because of your introduction, and for every renewal you encourage, we will add a month to your membership! Make sure your name is on the referral line of their application. When your colleague joins at the Open House, we'll waive their one-time processing fee, give you both an extra door prize ticket, and give you both free admission to an upcoming Wednesday One.

Film Financing Master Class

Join WIFV for a master class on film financing that discusses the options beyond crowdfunding, grants, and credit cards. **Ari Pinchot** of Crystal City Entertainment and **Marina Martins** of Pigmental Studios will share their experiences in securing equity investors and organizing a film fund for their projects. This is a class to provide you with a road map of options as you explore your next film production.

Monday, September 19, 2016, 6:30 to 8:30 pm Interface Media Group, 1233 20th Street, NW \$15 WIFV Members & students / \$30 Public **Register here**

This WIFV Master Class is supported by the Gem Star Foundation and Interface Media Group.



Story Movements: Exclusive Discount for WIFV

The Center for Media & Social Impact at AU is offering WIFV members an exclusive registration discount to Story Movements. **Enter discount code WIFV20 to save 20%**.

Be inspired this September: Join CMSI for lightning talks, networking and creative thinking on storyled movements for social change. Story Movements is the expanded relaunch of the long-running Media That Matters conference, which has brought together thought-leaders in media and social change for more than a decade in the nation's capital.

The agenda includes social justice warriors, civil rights experts, investigative journalists and documentary film mavens. These incredible world-changing speakers have never been in one place at one time -- see who they are!

Story Movements: September 15 & 16, 2016

REGISTER here

What's Up? Docs!

What's Up? Docs! - hosted by The Documentary Center at GW - is a new, thought-provoking monthly series of documentaries curated in a way that only one of the top university documentary programs in the nation can offer. Each screening is followed by a Q&A with a noted author, scholar, film critic, film director, or documentary forward-thinker who will lead a discussion that will go beyond what a film is about to what it means in the larger historical and social context.



Our inaugural fall season, **Roots: Films That Defined the Documentary Form**, focuses on four films that defined the documentary form:

HEARTS AND MINDS (9/8) with Special Guest Linda Dittmar, Author of *From Hanoi to Hollywood: The Vietnam War in American Film*

PRIMARY (10/13) with Special Guest Emmy and Peabody Award-winning political documentary filmmaker Prof. Paul Stekler

GIMME SHELTER (11/10) with Special Guest Music Critic Mark Jenkins **THE TIMES OF HARVEY MILK** (12/8) (LGBTQ) with a Special Guest TBA Films are screened from 7:00 - 9:30 p.m. every second Thursday at The George Washington University Cloyd Heck Marvin Center Amphitheater (third floor) located at 800 21st Street NW, Washington, D.C.

Both season passes and individual tickets are now on-sale! **Members of WIFV receive a special discount rate on admission to this one of a kind crash course in non-fiction film**. Simply enter "docs" (without quotation marks) where directed when purchasing in order to receive your discount. **Purchase your seasons pass and individual tickets now!**



Supporter Spotlight: Barbizon Capitol Discounts

What began with light bulbs and toy trains is now a fully integrated, specialized lighting company that services television, film, theatre, houses of worship, and architainment facilities across the globe. Reflecting on Barbizon's 60+ years of business, President and CEO Jonathan Resnick says, "My father and Sid set out with a simple vision of how to take care of the customer. Despite tremendous technological change in the lighting industry, it's this vision we still adhere to each and every day."

Barbizon Capitol's 30th Birthday Bash!

Saturday, September 10th 10am-3pm here in Alexandria! Let us know you're coming!

Special WIFV Discounts

WIFV members get **15% off their purchase of expendables** at Barbizon Capitol. Get **5% off the purchase of lighting fixtures every time you shop** at Barbizon Capitol. Discounts do not apply to service or installations. They are only applicable for purchases at Barbizon Capitol. To claim the discounts, all a member has to do is mention they are with WIFV before placing an order.

This offer is valid through May 31, 2017. www.barbizon.com

Ramona Diaz Receives Documentary Inspiration Award

Docs In Progress will honor filmmaker **Ramona Diaz** at their Documentary Inspiration Awards on Thursday, October 20 in Washington DC. The evening will include a master class conversation with Diaz about her career, her approach to documentary filmmaking, and her thoughts on what it means to be a woman and a person of color navigating today's documentary film industry. Following this conversation, we will screen and discuss IMELDA, the film which put Diaz on the map.



Diaz is an award-winning Baltimore-based director whose films

include DON'T STOP BELIEVIN': EVERY MAN'S JOURNEY, THE LEARNING, and IMELDA. She has also been Executive Producer of several acclaimed films by emerging documentary filmmakers, including DON'T GIVE UP TOMORROW and NOTOWN. Her upcoming film MOTHERLAND will take us into the heart of the planet's busiest maternity hospital. Diaz' films have screened at Sundance, Tribeca, Silverdocs (now AFI DOCS), IDFA, and many other top film festivals, and have been featured on both of PBS' flagship documentary series *P.O.V.* and *Independent Lens*. She is Artist in Residence at Towson University.

Docs In Progress already partners with WIFV on the Documentary Roundtable and is pleased to offer WIFV members a special discount on tickets to this event. WIFV members can get \$10 off regular or VIP tickets to the Documentary Inspiration Awards by using Promo Code DIAWIFV. With the discount, tickets are \$25 through September 16, \$30 from September 17-October 16. After October 17, all tickets are \$50. WIFV members can attend both the awards and the VIP reception with Diaz for \$115. Tickets for both the awards and the VIP Reception are available only through Docs In Progress at docsinprogress.org/dia16



Now in its second year, the Documentary Inspiration Awards are given annually to individuals whose work and contributions to the field are an inspiration to the documentary community. Last year, the awards went to Oscar-nominated filmmakers Marshall Curry and Matthew Hamachek. All proceeds from this event support Docs In Progress, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization which gives individuals the tools to tell stories through documentary film to educate, inspire, and transform the way people view their world.



Spotlight on Screenwriters -Volume 3

WIFV is delighted to announce that **Spotlight on Screenwriters, Volume 3** is in production! In the last two years, 78 screenplays were introduced to highlyrespected, award-winning producers, directors, and financiers. Full screenplays have been requested!

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

September 8 - Production Companies October 6 - Lights * Camera * Action! \$20 WIFV Members / \$25 public RSVP at www.wifv.org

CONTACTS

Monica Lee Bellais, Spotlight on Screenwriters Founder / Editor MonicaLeeBellais.Spotlight@gmail.com Hillary Shea, Spotlight on Screenwriters Assistant Editor HillaryShea.Spotlight@gmail.com

New and Renewing Members

The following joined or renewed their WIFV membership (July 12 - August 31).

Terra Allgaier Joanne Atay Lauren Attard Laura Ballou Maria Barnes Charles Barnett Susan Barocas Monica Lee Bellais Claudia Bolanos Ericka Boston Susan Branch Smith Nancy Breslin Jessica Camacho Philip Cloutier Randi Cohen Coblenz Ashleigh Coffelt **Regina Davis Moss** Matt DeVries Steve Dorst Marie Dyak Wendy Faunce Lisa Fierstein Janet Fitzgerald Karyn Folan **Rob Forman** Cheryle Franceschi Mary Frost Carmella Gioio Catherine Hand **Tess Higgins**

About WIFV

WIFV supports professionals in the media industry by promoting equal opportunities, encouraging professional development, serving as an information network, and educating the public about women's creative and technical achievements. Jacqueline Ho Stephanie House Carletta Hurt Lauren Hyland Diana Ingraham Carmen Jackman Keisha Jackson David Jaffe Michi Jones Terry Jones Manan Singh Katohora Katherine Kingsland Lauren Knapp Lois Lipman Rachel Longman Mohamed Mansour Carolyn Marie Joseph Martin Thomas Mason, Jr. Frank McEvoy Alyssa Michek Anne Montague Leigh Moslev Matthew Naslanic Patti North Andrea Passafiume Anna Bain Pugh Kay Ross Virginia Ryker Adele Schmidt

Send Stories to:

Women in Film & Video 4000 Albemarle Street, NW Suite 305 Washington, DC 20016 202-429-9438 <u>director@wifv.org</u> www.wifv.org Scott Snider Sharon Sobel Gus Soudah Brenda Spevak Christie Starley Wagner Christy Steele MJ Stemp Jessica Stephenson David Stern Maggie Stogner Betty Sullivan Sarah Teagle Rachel Torgoff Maura Ugarte Susanne Unger Paul Warner Yisrael Welcher **Diane Williams** Judy Wong Marlena Wright Wynette Yao Rita Zanin Karen Zill

Corporate Members:

The Actors' Center Docs in Progress The Maslow Media Group

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WIFV is grateful for the annual support of these companies and our corporate members.

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