

WIFV NEWS



April 2020 Members in the News

Arlette Thomas-Fletcher, Alyscia Cunningham, Karen Cantor, Oriana Oppice, Robin Noonan-Price, Jane Barbara, Sheri Ratick-Stroud, Joe Dzikiewicz, Tracey Palmer Wood, Genise White, Linda D. Harris, Hannah Harmison, Judith Dwan Hallet, Jillian Chilingerian, Call for Articles

Thomas-Fletcher Nominated



Arlette Thomas-Fletcher has a short film/TV pilot selected for the **International Christian Film and Music Festival**. I have one song that is nominated for Best Performing Artist.

RETURN Wants to Know What You're Cooking!



Karen Cantor invites you to watch RETURN: Native American Women Reclaim Foodways for Health and Spirit and then share what you are cooking and

eating while at home on their [Facebook](#) page. **After all, physical separation does not require social isolation.**

In the words of lead character Roxanne Swentzell, "You haven't killed us yet; you haven't crushed us completely yet. Show them that you're not gone yet. Make it be a food revolution." Remember this revolution begins with you!

RETURN: Native American Women Reclaim Foodways for Health and Spirit, a film by Singing Wolf Documentaries, features charismatic Roxanne Swentzell - from Santa Clara Pueblo in New Mexico - whose efforts to reclaim ancient foodways are echoed across the continent by Tlingit, Muckleshoot, Oglala Sioux, Menominee, and Seneca women. At its heart, this film is about empowering people to overcome their current circumstances through eating as their ancestors did - nutritiously and locally. RETURN offers an approach to confronting the diabetes epidemic now rampant in Native American communities.

RETURN: Native American Women Reclaim Foodways for

Cunningham Wins!

WIFV member, **Alyscia Cunningham**, won "Best Documentary Short" for her film I AM MORE THAN MY HAIR at Through Women's Eyes International Film Festival. TWE took place March 6-8, 2020 in Sarasota, FL. The winning films are selected based on the audience votes. Cunningham's film was voted "Best Documentary Short" after screening on Sunday March 8th and was given an award of recognition.



To learn more about Alyscia and her film visit her website www.Alyscia.com.

GO GO, BOY Best Feel Good Prize

By Oriana Oppice



We have some very cool news to share, and since it's a good time to spread some cheer, here we go.... WE WON! We won Best Feel Good Film at the Ocean City Film Festival! As many of the film festivals have had to cancel for the foreseeable future, we were thrilled to get one last one in, and are so grateful to be recognized with this award.

Jane Barbara accepted the award for the film, then she and **Robin Noonan-Price** hit the red carpet for some post-festival fun!

Until next time, stay safe!! xx



Creativity Yields a New Soap

Health and Spirit is available for [purchase on their website](#), at [VisionMakerMedia.org](#), and for rent or purchase on Amazon.

Wonder Pictures Hat Trick

Rich West and **Sheri Ratick Stroud** of WONDER PICTURES, have won three prestigious Awards of Recognition from The Accolade Global Film Competition. The awards were given for their latest film HEROES' HONEYMOON and two older films, SPANISH LESSON and THE LAST PAPERBOY.

The Accolade recognizes film, television, videography and new media professionals who demonstrate exceptional achievement in craft and creativity, and those who produce standout entertainment or contribute to profound social change. Entries are judged by highly qualified professionals in the film and television industry.

In winning these Accolades, WONDER PICTURES joins the ranks of other high-profile winners of this internationally respected award including the Oscar winning production of THE LADY IN NUMBER SIX by Malcolm Clarke, the very talented Dave Bossert of Disney for his short doc, THE TUNES BEHIND THE TOONS, Hollywood industry veteran Ron Howard for WHEN YOU FIND ME and Highwire Films Australia for their popular ABC TV series *twentysomething*.



Rick Prickett, who chairs The Accolade Global Film Competition, had this to say about the latest winners, "The Accolade is not an easy award to win. Entries are received from

around the world from powerhouse companies to remarkable new talent. The Accolade helps set the standard for craft and creativity. The judges were pleased with the exceptional high quality of entries. The goal of The Accolade is to help winners achieve the recognition they deserve."

Harris' Jazzy New Life

Linda D. Harris is a singer-songwriter and a new WIFV member. She started this career in 2016 at age 60. Since then, she has performed locally in the DMV, New York, New Orleans, France, Italy, Sweden and Panama; produced and recorded 9 original songs and 4 music videos. And recently began a YouTube Show, "My Jazzy New Life," where she interviews local artists in the DMV. See some of her work here (very jazzy!).



Other episodes include interviews with [Maija Rejman](#), [Lanah Koelle](#), and [Hazel Mitchell-Bell](#)

Discovering Tunisian Cuisine with

By **Sheri Ratick-Stroud**

My friend, Rich West, called me and threw out an idea to do an on-line soap opera. Because we are in isolation we would record our parts individually in our homes and Rich would edit together. This is just a fun thing to keep us busy until the jobs start flowing again. So here is episode one of LOVE IS ONLY SIX FEET AWAY.....



The [Wonder Pictures YouTube channel](#) has more episodes!

Dzikiewicz Directs and Writes

THE TELL-TALE PLANT, Discordian Films' winning entry from the 2019 Baltimore 48 Hour Film Project, recently played at the Filmapalooza festival in Rotterdam, Netherlands with the other 48 Hour Film Project city winners. Directed by

WIFV member **Joe Dzikiewicz** and including the talents of WIFV members **Tracey Palmer Wood** and **Genise White** among others, THE TELL-

TALE PLANT is a story of obsession inspired by Baltimore's own Edgar Allen Poe.

CYBER, a TV pilot script written by Joe Dzikiewicz, was recently announced as a quarter-finalist in the ScreenCraft Animation Competition. CYBER is the story of hacker Callie Grant, a disabled college student who enters an animated world inside the internet to find the cyber-assassins who murdered her father and put her in a wheelchair. It was previously a quarter-finalist in the 2019 ScreenCraft Pilot Launch TV Script Contest.

Harmison's Script Gets Kudos

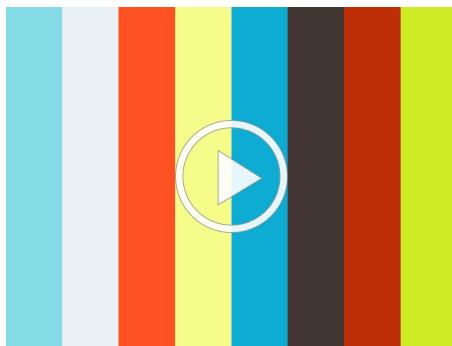


Hannah Harmison has been recognized as a [Quarterfinalist for the ScreenCraft Screenwriting Fellowship](#) for her script BLACKBURN WOODS. The script is her capstone project for GMU/Film and Video Studies program. At ScriptDC19, she pitched this 1-hr SciFi pilot to a literary manager at Circle of Confusion, who has provided feedback. "If I hadn't gotten involved with WIFV last September, this script would still be an idea in my head. My sincerest thanks to WIFV!" [You can see more about her work at her website](#).

OFFSCREEN with Jillian and Sophia

Judy Dwan Hallet

Watch this 19-minute video that Judy Hallet was asked to make for the Sarah Lawrence College alumni eNewsletter, preparing three recipes from her cookbook, *Discovering Tunisian Cuisine*. It starts with a short introduction explaining a little about her life as a filmmaker and how she got to write a cookbook on Tunisian cuisine. Then she goes downstairs and prepares three simple Tunisian salads. "I felt a little like Julia Child!"



The cookbook can be ordered from [Amazon](#) or the Hallet [website](#).

OFFSCREEN with Jillian and Sophia covers hard-hitting topics about the entertainment industry in a lighthearted, sassy, but analytical way. Hosts **Jillian Chilingarian** and Sophia Badalian cover topics such as men who "champion" women, nepotism, a streaming services' effect on the theatrical experience and independent production

companies versus mainstream studios. They discuss the film industry as well as the music industry and their similarities and differences when dealing with hard-hitting social issues. Hot topics of the week and ending each episode with their movie, television and music recommendations round out the podcasts. The podcast can be found on [Spotify](#), Apple Podcasts, [Anchor](#), and Google Play.



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About WIFV

WIFV supports women in the industry by promoting equal opportunities, encouraging professional development, serving as an information network, and educating the public about women's creative and technical achievements.



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