



# WIFV NEWS

## February 2016 Members in the News

Featuring Vanina Harel, Tonya Fitzpatrick, Caroline Bock, Chuck Pena, Monda Webb, Wayne Barbin, Jonathan Gruber, Irene Magafan, Tanya Spann Roche, Nina Gilden Seavey, Jim Lewis, Heather Taylor, 31 for 31 Request for Nominations, Call for Submissions to Gallery of WIFV Member Work, WIFV/TIVA/CINE Holiday Party, Call for Members in the News Articles, Call for Awards Info!

### Harel & Currimjee Doc Nears Finish



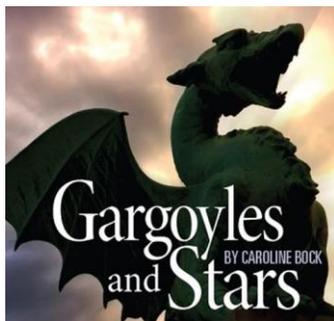
Vanina Harel and Zara Currimjee are happy to share that **VEY NOU LAGON** was featured

in **Sevenseas**, an international marine & travel magazine. [You can read the article here.](#)

They will be recording the original music for VEV NOU LAGON in February and will have the final cut of the film ready in March. They can't wait to share the final product with you! VEV NOU LAGON is fiscally sponsored by WIFV.

### Bock Gets Blue Ribbon

Caroline Bock's short story, **GARGOYLES AND STARS** was the first place winner of the *The Writer Magazine's* 2016 short story prize, judged by Colum McCann. Her winning short story is published in the March 2016 issue and you can [read it here](#). She is planning to write a short film screenplay based on her story.



### World Footprints Receives Gold Award



WIFV member **Tonya Fitzpatrick** and her husband **Ian** are pleased to announce that their radio show, **World Footprints** has received a GOLD Award in the 2015 annual North American Travel Journalist Association competition in the Travel Broadcast category for its show "A Tour of American History through Fort Monroe". Tonya and Ian were also finalists in the nature photography category.

### Fairfax Public Access Getting Great Press

Fairfax Public Access (FPA) and its executive director, **Chuck Peña**, are featured, along with Arlington Independent Media and its executive director Paul LeValley, in a two-page spread (pages 18 & 19) on public access television in the February 2016 issue of *Northern Virginia Magazine*. [Read it here.](#)

FPA and Chuck Peña were also featured in the February 9, 2016 *Connections Newspaper* article on the special series of movies and documentaries acquired by Chuck to air throughout the month of February, in recognition of Black History Month on the Fairfax County-based cable network. [See the article here.](#)

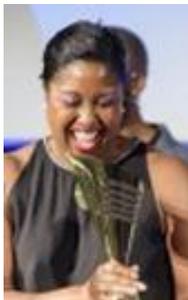
### Barbin & Pixeldust Team for GMHC Video



**Wayne Barbin** is working with **Pixeldust Studios** on the first legacy video for GMHC, the world's first and leading provider of HIV/AIDS care, prevention and advocacy. The video will be used at a variety of events over the next two years and live on the organization's website. GMHC's offices are in NYC, where Wayne is based. He did all pre-pro and production for the project. The video is currently in post at Pixeldust's offices in Bethesda.

## Webb's ZOO Reaps Awards and Screenings

"I'm honored and stoked to have experienced a banner first year with my first film, ZOO (Volkerschau)" writes **Monda Webb**. She has every reason to be stoked given the film has been in 10 festivals and 2 showcases. [See the trailer here.](#)



Festival awards include:

- *Excellence Award: International Film Festival for Women - Zero Discrimination - Social Issues - Jakarta, Indonesia*
- *Audience Award: The South Carolina Cultural Film Festival, North Charleston, South Carolina*
- *Merit Award: Best of Shorts - Women Filmmakers, San Diego, CA*
- *Audience Award: Baltimore International Black Film Festival, Baltimore, MD*
- *Best Short: Mt. Vernon Film Festival, Mt. Vernon, NY*
- *Most Socially Conscious: Urban Mediamakers Film Festival, Norcross, GA*
- *Best Script: I Filmmakers International Festival, Marbella, Spain (Chosen from 1,223 submissions, 70 countries, 100 films screened)*

The film is receiving critical assessments including [Thoughtful Blog on How Humans Ended up in Zoos](#)

## Roche Edits 40th Episode!



In February, **Tanya Spann Roche** completed post-production on her 40th episode of MARYLAND FARM & HARVEST for Maryland Public Television (MPT). She has been the online editor

since the show began in 2013, and the MPT crew is starting production on its fourth season, which will premiere in November 2016. For her work on MARYLAND FARM & HARVEST, Tanya was nominated for a 2015 Emmy Award in the editing category, one of four nominations for the show. MARYLAND FARM & HARVEST puts a human face of farming for Marylanders to learn more about their state's number one industry, telling the stories of the folks who feed us, and airing every Tuesday at 7 pm on MPT.

[Episodes from the first three seasons are available here.](#) Tanya edits for the show over several weeks in the fall, continuing to freelance the rest of the time as a producer, writer and editor for numerous other broadcast, government, non-profit, corporate and PR

## Gruber's Film Screens in March

MIRIAM BEERMAN: EXPRESSING THE CHAOS

Dir. **Jonathan Gruber** (53 min, USA, 2015)

Mid-Atlantic Premiere

Wednesday, March 2, 6:30 pm - Bethesda Row Cinema

Thursday, March 3, 6:15 pm - DCJCC

[Tickets here.](#)

At 90, Miriam Beerman is a survivor. This groundbreaking artist and Potomac, MD resident has overcome personal tragedy to inspire friends, family, peers, patrons and students about how to remain defiant, creative and strong. Miriam has struggled with her artistic demons to create haunting images that evoke the suffering of generations of victims. The film is a memorable profile of an artist who has elevated her empathy for the plight of the world's cast-offs into powerful portrayals of dignity.



## Magafan Joins WWF



**Irene Magafan** has accepted a full time position at the World Wildlife Fund as the Video Asset Coordinator and Editor in the Creative Solutions department. "I am humbled to be working with such an amazing team of people who all share a passion for wildlife conservation, environment and storytelling in a very creative space. This is a wonderful organization to work for and I am very excited to be a part of it."

## Call for Submissions - WIFV Member Gallery

We are calling on all members: from directors and producers to makeup artists and sound recordists to submit their best work. If you can get it onto YouTube, you may submit it!

### Submission requirements:

- \* You must be a current WIFV member in good standing;
- \* Submissions must not exceed three minutes;
- \* Videos may contain a combination of moving images and still photos of your work or the best three minutes of your film/project;
- \* Submissions may be from any year;
- \* Submissions must currently be housed on a YouTube channel;
- \* Your submissions may not contain copyrighted material that does not belong to you;
- \* One entry per person (please select your best work and send us only one link).

### Submitting your video:

**WIFV members who wish to showcase their work should email a YouTube video link here** no later than 5 pm on **March 1, 2016**. In the email, include your full name, the title of your video and a caption explaining the work in 150 words or less for use on YouTube.

If your video is selected, we will email you a web button that you can

clients.

## Call for 31 for 31 Nominations

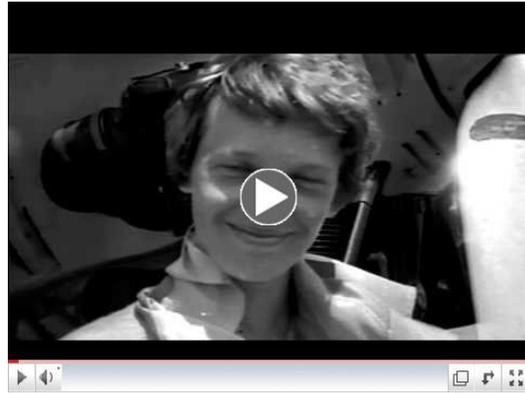
Every March for the past four years WIFV has recognized the work of a member every day during the month as our way of celebrating Women's History Month. The \$31 for 31 Campaign is an important way to celebrate our own trailblazers and to raise donations for WIFV programs. We've started our list and we're checking it twice, but we'd like your input. **You can see past honorees here.**

If you have a colleague you would like to nominate to be included in the 31 for 31 Campaign, send their name and couple of sentences supporting your choice to [director@wifv.org](mailto:director@wifv.org). Members may self-nominate!



**Don't hold back.** The WIFV Board has decided that any contributions received as part of this Campaign will benefit the Documentary Seed Fund as we are getting ready to announce our Call for Applications! You can celebrate colleagues, draw attention to an important funding need, and get a surprise every morning learning about another WIFV Member. **Send your nominations by February 16 to [director@wifv.org](mailto:director@wifv.org)**

add to your website or use on social media to highlight that your work is featured. Look for that web button to be emailed during the week of March 20. **See who is already in the WIFV Gallery of Member Work here.**



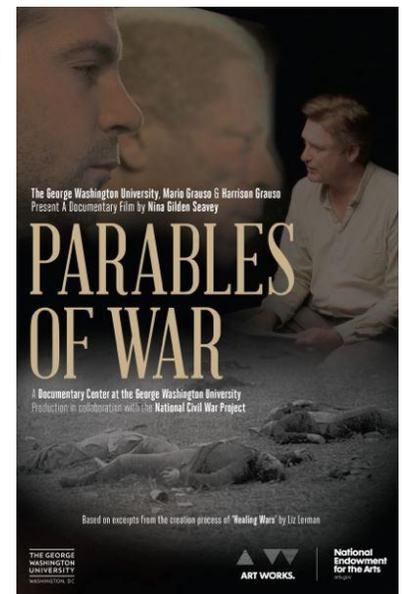
## Documentary Center's PARABLES OF WAR Acquired by Gravitass Ventures

The George Washington University's Documentary Center announced that Gravitass Ventures acquired its PARABLES OF WAR documentary film. The Los Angeles-based distribution company now acquired commercial and educational rights in North America, United Kingdom and Ireland.

Directed by **Nina Gilden Seavey**, director of the Documentary Center, and produced by Barbara Porter, **PARABLES OF WAR** explores the impact of war and its rehabilitative aftermath. PARABLES OF WAR is based on excerpts from the creation process of Liz Lerman's theatrical dance performance, *Healing Wars*. *Healing Wars* cast members who appear in PARABLES OF WAR are: Director and Choreographer Liz Lerman, actor Bill Pullman, former Lance Corporal Joshua Bleill (USMC), and dancers Keith A. Thompson, Tamara Hurwitz-Pullman, and Marjani Forté-Saunders.

"We're excited to collaborate with the Documentary Center to bring this powerful story to audiences across the country and abroad," said Michael Lange, acquisitions manager for Gravitass Ventures. "We look forward to the conversation it will inspire."

PARABLES OF WAR has played in film festivals, was theatrically released in June 2015 at the IFC Center in New York, and has won numerous awards including "Best Documentary Short" at the Los Angeles Independent Film Festival Awards and the "Best Documentary Short Film" at the Atlas Awards.



"Everyone has some kind of personal relationship to war," said Nina Gilden Seavey, director of the Documentary Center. "We are thrilled that Gravitas Ventures is paving the way for viewers across North America and Europe to engage in our emotional, thought-provoking, conversation-driving film."

Commenting on the intersection of her art delivered on film, Ms. Lerman, *Healing Wars* producer, noted, "We live in a moment when artists are moving across borders to tell the stories of our time. Having a filmmaker in our midst as we built the performance *Healing Wars* was so encouraging: another artist taking note of the subject and the process. *PARABLES OF WAR* shines its lens on a very particular part of our work, making it possible for audiences to see art in action."

*PARABLES OF WAR* was a project of the [National Civil War Project](#) and was produced with a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. Gravitas Ventures plans to launch the film in May 2016.

#### *About the George Washington University Documentary Center*

For 25 years, the Documentary Center at the George Washington University has been committed to teaching documentary film production and to creating non-fiction films for domestic and international audiences. Inaugurated in 1990, the Documentary Center has been ranked one of the top 10 schools for documentary filmmaking and is one of the few educational centers in the nation that focuses exclusively on non-fiction film. The Documentary Center is a chartered center housed within the [School of Media and Public Affairs](#) at GW.

#### *About Gravitas Ventures*

Gravitas Ventures specializes in the aggregation of entertainment content by connecting independent filmmakers, producers and distribution companies with leading cable, satellite, telco and online distribution partners. In the last five years, Gravitas has released more than 2,000 films on Video on Demand (VOD). Through its relationships with studios and VOD operators, Gravitas can distribute a film into over 100 million North American and 1 billion worldwide homes.

## Lewis Receives Harry Kolcum News & Communications Award



**Jim Lewis** and CBS News Reporter Peter King were the proud recipients of the 2015 Harry Kolcum News and Communications Award presented by the National Space Club, Florida Committee. These awards for excellence in telling the space story not only on Florida's Space Coast, but throughout the world.

CBS Radio News Reporter Peter King has reported on NASA for two decades plus other milestones in space such as the Columbia accident in 2003, the construction of the International Space Station and John Glenn's return to space in 1998.

Mr. Lewis began his career as a local radio broadcaster covering the final Apollo missions, Skylab and the Apollo Soyuz Test Program. He formed Communications Concepts, Inc. (CCI) in 1978 to enable better worldwide coverage from the Cape of NASA, military and commercial space activities. Jim has led countless productions related to space that range from history documentaries to providing live satellite coverage of launches from Cape Canaveral for the major aerospace companies - all the while Jim and his team at CCI embraced new technology that would improve the quality of their product.

Mr. Lewis' passion for spaceflight and commitment to the local space community has been evident throughout his career, whether it was as chairman of the local tourist development council or as president of the Missile, Space and Range Pioneers. In presenting the Kolcum Award to Mr. Lewis, Jim Banke stated "Add it all up through the years and it's fair to say that millions of people have been exposed to the space story thanks to Jim's efforts. Because he embodies the very best qualities of a professional communicator, whose expertise, talent and devotion is so important in helping sustain public interest in our space program, the National Space Club Florida Committee is proud to present Jim Lewis with the 2015 Harry Kolcum News and Communications Award."

The award is named in honor of Harry Kolcum, the former managing editor of "Aviation Week and Space Technology" who was Cape Canaveral bureau chief from 1980 to 1993. He passed away in 1994 and was a founding member of the National Space Club Florida.

## BREAKING THROUGH THE CLOUDS Extends Across PBS

WIFV member **Heather Taylor**'s documentary BREAKING THROUGH THE CLOUDS: The First Women's National Air Derby will air March 4th and 5th on PBS World in more than 30 states as part of a two-day nation-wide event. Over 60% of the country will be participating with additional stations being added daily. In addition to PBS World, BREAKING THROUGH THE CLOUDS will continue to air on local PBS stations throughout the year. Some known airdates include KFYI in Indianapolis (Feb 21), KLRN in San Antonio, TX (Mar 3), and KPTS in Wichita, Kansas (Mar 17). The documentary has been viewed in nearly 75% of the US, reaching more than 70 million homes, including nine of the top ten markets.



BREAKING THROUGH THE CLOUDS is the inspiring true story of 20 women who raced across the country in the First Women's National Air Derby. Amelia Earhart, Pancho Barnes, and Louise Thaden are just some of the courageous women who competed in this historical race from California to Ohio in the summer of 1929. Heather researched the story behind the Derby for more than 10 years. She produced BREAKING THROUGH THE CLOUDS to inspire others to find their passion, no matter how unconventional, just as the women of the derby did. The women who flew this race continue to be role models today for what is possible. [More information and an extended version of the film are available on DVD here.](#)

## Scholarships & Prizes Awarded at Holiday Party



Top Left: Ahsante Bean, Tanya Hutchins, Stacy Mills  
Top Right: Carolyn McCulley, Michal Carr  
Bottom Left: Susan Barocas, Kathleen Gardner  
Bottom Right: Michelle Delino, Kennedy Wright, Rhonda McDaniel, Rona Fitzgerald, Zohar Rom, Peter Roof

In case you the WIFV/TIVA/CINE Holiday Party hosted at the beautiful Harman Center for the Arts, here's a recap of the amazing WIFV members who received awards:

The recipient of the **WIFV Liesel Flashenberg Award for Outstanding Community Service** is **Carletta Hurt**. Carletta was recognized at the White House recently as DC High School Counselor of the Year and WIFV recognized Carletta for her volunteer service on behalf of teenage girls through a variety of programs. Thank you to everyone who participated in this award nomination process.

This year's **Carolyn's First Decade Fund Scholarship** was awarded to **Kathleen Gardner**. This fund was established in memory of Carolyn Projansky and Kathleen will receive mentoring and a stipend for professional development workshops. **Susan Barocas**, former WIFV board member, currently serves on the CINE board and presented Kathleen with her WIFV scholarship on Saturday.

The **Randy Goldman Career Development Scholarship**, valued at \$2500 in scholarship and stipends for study at the Maine Media Workshops, is for mid-career professionals. This year, WIFV Past Presidents are honored to present the scholarship to **Carolyn McCulley**. This award was presented to Carolyn by **Michal Carr**, Past President and Advisory Committee Chair.

Please congratulate your fellow WIFV members on these well-deserved recognition. These awards are made possible by program revenue and generous donations from WIFV Past Presidents and other individuals. We are so proud of the work that all of our members do!

WIFV-donated door prize winners were **Oxana Holtman**, **Tanya Hutchins**, **Jennifer Berman**, and **Brad Minardi**.



Top Left: Rebecca Bustamante and Brian Grundstrom  
Top Right: Linda Robbins and Fouzia Najar  
Bottom Left: Erica Ginsberg, Brad Minardi, Ellen Kessel  
Bottom Right: What a party! All photos by Thomas Fant

## Tell YOUR WIFV Story

WIFV is honored to be recognized again as a Top-Rated organization by Great Nonprofits. Less than 1% of eligible nonprofits received this distinction. Because of the reviews WIFV has received, we've been a Top-Rated nonprofit since 2012. Your review makes a difference!

Please tell Great Nonprofits about an experience you've had at a WIFV program, an interaction you've had with a speaker or fellow member, or just what WIFV means to you. [Click here to go straight to the WIFV page on their site.](#)



## Call for WIFV Members in the News Articles

What's the best way to brag about your accomplishments? With a Members in the News article, of course. Not only can you include a photo and your website, it is archived at [wifv.org](http://wifv.org) and adds to your SEO. Submit your paragraph, jpg photo, and any links to [director@wifv.org](mailto:director@wifv.org) by the 5th of the month.

## Call for Award Info

If you have won an award, screened at a film festival, or received a major grant, please let me know so we can share your success. Send the info to [director@wifv.org](mailto:director@wifv.org)



WIFV is grateful for the annual support of these [companies](#) and our [corporate members](#).

Just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in Women in Film & Video. Don't forget to add [director@wifv.org](mailto:director@wifv.org) to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

## 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.



## Contact Us

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

## Send Stories to

[director@wifv.org](mailto:director@wifv.org)



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