



WIFV NEWS

January 2016



President's Message

A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away . . . a movie was released and buzz focused on the plot, cinematography, and caliber of acting. Not on

how well an actress has aged. From *The New York Times* to CNN, Carrie Fisher's physical appearance in the latest STAR WARS installment has gotten more than its share of media attention. STAR WARS: THE FORCE AWAKENS features Fisher as a mature General Leia commanding military forces, no longer a princess-slave in a bikini. In a classic response to the body-shaming, Fisher tweeted, "Please stop debating about whether OR not I aged well. It hurts all 3 of my feelings." Harrison Ford and Mark Hamill were not subjected to the same media scrutiny, or ageism.

The film added \$22.9 million on New Year's Eve to a total \$652 million haul, according to *Variety*. Apparently, looks aren't everything.

Daisy Ridley also portrays a strong female in the film as Rey, a young woman who fights the dark force with Skywalker-like finesse. The London-based actress has already signed off to star in Episode VIII, which begins filming this month, and Episode IX, but she's already picking up other films along the way. In the fantasy film SCRAWL, she plays Hannah, a mysterious girl who intermingles with a group of comic book lovers. In 2016, she'll also lend her voice to a dubbed release of 1991's ONLY YESTERDAY.

"We're lucky in the UK that we have fantastic actresses who work often and hone their craft, moving between film, television, and theatre," said BAFTA chief executive Amanda Berry in a recent interview with *The Guardian*. "The more we see Helen Mirren, Judi Dench and Maggie Smith make films, the more it inspires the next generation of talent, also reminding the directors, writers and producers that this talent exists. I'm seeing much stronger self-belief - women saying, "Yes, we can do that."

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Diversity in Media Panel

Skim through the *Women and Hollywood Blog* or Black Twitter and you'll find no shortage of critique of the sad state of diversity in Hollywood. But the gender gap, age discrimination and unequal representation in media are more than just trendy buzz words. They are the making of the next movement to see changes in how we create, manage, and secure media.

We see the stats all the time, but what would diversity in media really look like? What's the forecast for the future? What are the opportunities in this region?

Our Diversity in Media panel will discuss the state of diversity in media, some of the emerging people, projects and trends that are breaking barriers and new outlets for diverse works.

Start 2016 with a program to reframe the discussion and build new coalitions for change.



Panelists:

Nikki Strong, Voice of America and Sirius XM
Tanya Hutchins, IAWA, NABJ member
Montre' Aza Missouri, Howard University

January 6, 2016, 6:30 to 8:30 pm
Interface Media Group, 1233 20th Street NW

Although slow to change, Hollywood also has some strong female leads in these releases:

- JOY - Jennifer Lawrence stars as the woman who rises to become the founder and owner of a powerful business dynasty.
- OUR BRAND IS CRISIS - Sandra Bullock portrays a political strategist in Bolivia; based on the 2005 documentary by Rachel Boynton.
- TRIPLE 9 - Kate Winslet plays a mob leader in a film about corrupt cops and criminals who plan a heist.
- TRUMBO - Helen Mirren brings her usual aplomb to the role of Hollywood gossip columnist Hedda Hopper in this saga about blacklisted screenwriter Dalton Trumbo, played by Bryan Cranston.
- GHOSTBUSTERS - A gender remix of the 80s comedy, Melissa McCarthy, Kristen Wiig, Kate McKinnon and Leslie Jones take on the roles originally played by Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd, Harold Ramis and Ernie Hudson.
- THE GIRL ON THE TRAIN - Still in production, Emily Blunt and Rebecca Ferguson star in this haunting film based on Paula Hawkins' bestselling novel. Anticipated December 2016 release.

Changing media one story at a time,
Rebecca

\$15 WIFV Members / \$30 Public

[RSVP here](#)

Roundtable Round-Up

Narrative Directors Roundtable - *Talent*

Auditions and Rehearsal Workshop

January 4, 6:00 to 9:30 pm

Interface Media Group, 1233 20th Street NW

[RSVP here](#)

Documentary Roundtable - *Cynthia Kane, Al*

Jazeera America Documentary Division January

11, 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Interface Media Group, 1233 20th Street NW

[RSVP here](#)

Screenwriters Roundtable

January 25, 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Interface Media Group, 1233 20th Street NW

[RSVP here](#)

Makeup & Hair Roundtable

January 25, 2016, 6:30 to 8:00 pm

Interface Media Group, 1233 20th Street NW

Talent Roundtable - *Brenna McDonough: Self-*

Tape Auditions

January 28, 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Interface Media Group, 1233 20th Street, NW

[RSVP here](#)

Stuntwomen: The Untold Hollywood Story

Join author Mollie Gregory as she talks about her new book, *Stuntwomen: The Untold Hollywood Story*, and reveals the history of their work since the silent era of movies. We'll also get a contemporary view of their work when we are joined by four stuntwomen from the region (see below) who will reveal best practices about working stunts into your projects. They may even have time to demonstrate their skills. Books will be available for purchase (at a special WIFV discount) and for signing by Ms. Gregory. Thanks to Rick Kain for coordinating the panelists! [Bios available here.](#)

They put their lives on the line, breaking through windows, jumping off buildings, running through fires, hanging from planes, crashing cars. And they do it in bikinis, tight pants, shorts, and gowns! They're stuntwomen in the movies and on TV, and no one's written a book about them. Until now.



L to R: Gina Limbrick, Karen Carbone, Ilyana Eberhardt, and Kym Washington

Tuesday, January 12, 2016, 6:30 to 8:30 pm
Interface Media Group, 1233 20th Street, NW (Dupont Circle South Metro)
\$15 WIFV Members/\$30 Public
[RSVP here](#)



Mollie Gregory began her career as a documentary filmmaker. She wrote a book about her experiences, and it changed her life. She became an author of fiction and non-fiction books, a sought-after speaker, particularly on the role and treatment of women in Hollywood, and an officer in several national and international groups. *Stuntwomen* is getting reviewed widely and here are a just a few!

Washington Post review [here](#)
New Republic review [here](#)
LA Times review [here](#)
Variety article by Mollie Gregory [here](#)

WIFV/TIVA Holiday Party - January 22



Revive your spirits and get energized at the WIFV / TIVA Holiday Party on Friday, January 22. This is a night you don't want to miss. Celebrate the New Year with friends, food, door prizes, and networking.

Let the laughter ring!
Friday, January 22, 2016, 6:30 to 8:30 pm
Harman Center for the Arts, 610 F Street, NW (Gallery Place Metro)
\$35 WIFV / TIVA Members/\$50 Public; special student member pricing
[RSVP here](#)
Online registration closes January 18 and the walk-in ticket prices are higher, so make your reservation soon!

Supporter Spotlight: Barbizon Lighting

Supporter Spotlight recognizes the work and contributions to the industry of WIFV's supporters. As a 501(c)3 community benefit organization, WIFV relies on financial support from companies, individuals, foundations, and government entities. To find out how your company can support Women in Film & Video, please contact Melissa Houghton at director@wifv.org.



Throughout our history, **Barbizon Lighting** has been at the forefront of television and film technology. In our early days we were instrumental in introducing tungsten-halogen lamps to the entertainment industry. Today, we are helping our customers stay on the leading edge by offering efficient lighting solutions that feature the latest in LED lighting fixtures. To compliment these power efficient lighting heads, we are helping our clients implement "dimmer-less" studios designed around distributed data and power relay systems.

As always, Barbizon continues to offer more traditional lighting, rigging and expendable items for the TV and film world. We also offer products such as curtains, track, rigging hardware, chroma-key effects, and hard or soft cycloramas from manufacturers across the industry. Whether you're looking for replacement lamps, diffusion, or for the latest in energy efficient LED lighting, Barbizon is the best source to meet your needs in the Video, Broadcast and Film industry.



Barbizon Capitol is conveniently located in Alexandria, VA and is easily accessible from all around the DMV area. If you need demos of gear or someone to come out to your space to make recommendations let us know. We look forward to working with you on all your lighting needs! To get in touch with us please email capitolsales@barbizon.com or call us at 703-750-3900.

WIFV/New England Announces Flicks4Chicks

The **New England Chapter of Women in Film and Video**, will celebrate its 36th anniversary with an exciting film contest - Flicks4Chicks, sponsored in collaboration with Harvard Square Script Writers. Flicks4Chicks will be the first contest held as part of the film festival Different Faces, Different Voices. This international competition will challenge teams of filmmakers to create a unique short (ten minutes or less in length) featuring a female as its major character.



The Flicks4Chicks contest will open for sign-ups on February 14, 2016 via Film Freeway. Its goal? To inspire original fictional stories that delve into the realities of a wide variety of women and girls (of differing races, ethnicities and ages) as they embrace their own destinies, taking charge of their lives as fully realized human beings, and not simply as Hollywood caricatures or sidelined shadows.

Each team will be given a list of dramatic "situations" to choose from and will have a period of one month from the contest start date of April 1, 2016 to complete and submit their project. **Active members of any and all Women in Film chapters will have \$25.00 off the submission fee of \$100.00.**

Crew may come from anywhere in the world but must complete their film in English (or with English subtitles) and must have a female in at least one of the following creative roles: producer; director; director of photography; writer; editor.

The screenings/festival will be held in Cambridge, MA in late June with major awards and prizes offered. The producers of these films will retain full ownership as the festival organizers hope that they will then submit and share these stories around the world. Watch for details to follow.

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 www.wifv.org and adds to your SEO.

Submit your paragraph, jpg photo, and any links to 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

New and Renewing Members

The following joined or renewed their WIFV membership (December 1 - December 31).

Rachel Aeschliman
Ahsante Bean
Candyce Beatty
Alison Beck
Katie Camosy
Jeff Carpenter
Carol Dalrymple
Nakiah Elbert

George Kennedy
Lauren Klein
Shannon Lawrence
Dessa Little
Brian Mac Ian
Elizabeth Martins
Laura McCann
Molly Moses

Brian Pascale
Yvette Rector
Douglas Ryan
Leonard Schmitz
Katie Sheridan
Nailah Sims
Kamilah Thurmon
Brent Velasco

Tim Flaherty
Tanny Hinline
Julia Hoppock

Tani Murphy
Elisabeth Noone
Karen Nutini

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.

Contact Us

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Send stories to:
director@wifv.org

Support Women In Film & Video Inc.

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Amazon donates.

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