

July 2020

FEATURING Kristin Reiber Harris, Mia Brabham, Aviva Kempner, Jay Schlossberg, May-Mei Lee, Ott House Audio, Carletta S. Hurt, Interface Media Group, Your Production Photos Wanted, Martha Karl, C Grace Productions, Sonya Dunn, and Kamilah Thurmon

Harris Reveals What's in Her Toolkit for NYWIFT Blog



WIFV and NYWIFT Member **Kristin Reiber Harris** is an artist, animator and educator with a passion for sharing the treasures and insights of the natural world. During her 30 year career she has

created over 100 educational animated shorts. Her interstitials have been broadcast on HBO Family and HBO Latino and her films have been screened in film festivals all over the country. Her latest film **CityBIRDS**, is about finding friends when you move. In addition to teaching and creating animation for children and families, Kristin provides animation workshops to help students learn to animate their own experiences in nature. She's currently in production on the animated short *CityTREES* and *NatureNuggets*, educational resources to accompany her *Anim8Nature* series of short films.

Kristin shared with NYWIFT what's in her animation toolkit, and how she's staying centered while sheltering in place during COVID-19. [Read full article here.](#)

Kristin was also recently featured in the NYWIFT Women Crush Wednesday podcast. [You can listen here.](#)

Brabham's Debut Book



Writer, YouTuber, and NBA Host **Mia Brabham's** new and first book, *Note to Self*, is out now. In this collection of personal thoughts-turned-quotes,

Brabham explores life's questions and makes bold observations. The punchy yet soulful musings are whimsical and self-effacing; self-deprecating and kind. They're raw, they're tough love, they're tender affection. They were written with intense honesty, or at least her version of it, because who was ever going to read them? This little book of ponderings is the perfect gift for anyone with an affinity for words and wisdom who is ready to become more of themselves. [You can buy your copy at BYMIABRABHAM.COM.](#)

Doc & Current Events Collide

Aviva Kempner, in production of *IMAGINING THE INDIAN: The Fight Against Native American Mascoting* ([more info and trailer here](#)), is finding herself in the press given the current call for a local football team to change their name. You can read the [Pittsburgh article here](#) and the [article in Deadspin here.](#)

Schlossberg on RealTalk

As various

Lee's CLUB QUARANTINE

During stay-at-home orders, **May-Mei Lee**

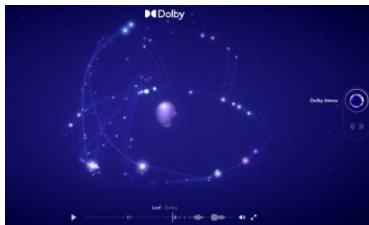


countries and states in the US begin taking steps on the road back to content production, *Realscreen's* virtual video roundtable, *RealTalk*, returns with an episode exploring what the new protocols will look like, and how they will impact the production industry going forward.

Joining *Realscreen* editor and content director Barry Walsh for this episode: Rhett Bachner, co-founder and executive producer at B17 Entertainment, an Industrial Media company; David Brady, CEO of Cream Productions; Thalia Mavros, filmmaker, founder and CEO, The Front; and **Jay Schlossberg**, president and owner, **Media Central**.

You can listen to the *RealTalk* segment [here](#) (the podcast is at the bottom of the page).

Ott House Dolby Certified



Cheryl Ottenritter reports that Ott House Audio is back to being the only Certified Dolby Atmos Suite in the DC Metro Area. With their move last year, they rebuilt a newer better mix suite that just finished its intensive certification process!

If you don't fully understand how awesome immersive sound is yet, here is a really cool visualizer video from ATMOS that explains the difference between stereo sound & Atmos surround sound. Click the image above to watch and hear the sound move (use headphones, a surround sound system or a soundbar!)

IMG Sizzle: Let's Talk About Water



The Global Institute for Water Security, based at

wrote and directed *Club Quarantine*. The short film was shot via Zoom with actors logging on simultaneously in multiple cities and countries. With many forced to stay home, people attempted to connect in unexpected, virtual ways from happy hours to birthday parties to clubbing. This film attempted to capture a moment specific to this period. **The film can be found [here](#)** or just below!



Hurt Produces with Rowell



Member and Past Board President, **Carletta S. Hurt**, is a producer on the lifestyle reality series, **TRASH VS TREASURE**,

premiering on the streaming service Urban Media Channel (UMC) on July 16, 2020. The show's creator and host, **Victoria Rowell**, was recently featured on **People.com** talking about the series. TRASH vs TREASURE is about flipping a single space on a micro-budget and revaluating what is in plain sight.

This is the second project Hurt (left, above) has produced with Victoria Rowell (right) and Days Ferry Productions.

ISO: Production Photos!

WIFV is seeking photos of you working on set. As we refresh the website and close our 40th Anniversary this

University of Saskatchewan, Canada held their 1st Virtual Film Festival for their annual **Let's Talk About Water** film festival. **Interface Media Group** helped kick-off this year's Virtual Theatre, by welcoming viewers through six, 3-minute introductions, including: short films, feature-length films, and two separate film competitions (the Youth Prize and the International Prize). Think "dinner and a movie" via a Live Streaming event over 6 weeks. Felt like the real deal!

Services: In-studio shoot w/Camera Op & Audio engineer. Editing.

Karl in THESPIAN, Season 2

Martha Karl can be seen in Season 2 of Baltimore made THESPIAN on Amazon Prime. She plays Sheila, the Landlord. (So, why do we find Sheila jumping on her tenant's bed?)



year, we want to have production photos handy to keep the stories moving forward and show more positive, inclusive images of independent media makers. Please send jpg format photos

with photo credit to membership@wifv.org. Thanks to Anne Saul for sharing the photo of Lily focusing for her production!

Submit Your Article

The deadline to submit your information for the monthly Members in the News e-publication is the 10th of the month. Send your article (100 words or so) and a jpg-format photograph or link to your video project to director@wifv.org. **You can see past issues here.**

C Grace Productions Keeps Up with Equine Promotions During COVID

C Grace Productions, LLC has, with equestrian friends and clients, continued to thrive throughout the COVID-19 challenge. Since the Michigan quarantine began in mid-March, **Bill and Charlotte Rinderknecht** maintained equine relationships online and produced marketing and keepsake videos for them, some of which are at the links below. Fortunately, the Michigan Horse Expo also provided opportunities JUST before the Michigan quarantine went into effect.



Working from their home base in Kentwood, MI, a suburb of Grand Rapids, they used recently archived footage and captured new videos via social distancing measures to support the following equestrian promotions:

- 1) CELTIC FLING - BREYERFEST 2020, on behalf of **WillowWind Stable**, located in Charlotte, MI. **Watch the 5-minute short on their Breyer Model Gypsy Vanner**, Faugh-a-Ballaugh (aka, Cheesecake), which was accepted for this year's BreyerFest promotion. They also produced a series of videos about horses for sale for the Stable.
- 2) Supporting the Friesian Community, C Grace produced promotional and sales videos for the FRIESIAN CONNECTION OPEN HOUSE, located in Dorr, MI. **You can see them here.** C Grace also produced work for the Black Pearl Friesians in Rockton, IL - **see their Facebook page here.** For the **Firestar Friesians** in Pickney, MI, you can watch Huron FireStar, a two-year-old colt, **go through his paces here.**

The best part of the business? The relationships that are developed over time. C Grace appreciates all their wonderful friends in the Midwest and around the country who have been part of an amazing equestrian journey! **C Grace Productions** is a veteran-owned multimedia company providing horse owners, riders, trainers, health care providers, and other horse lovers with media production.

Dunn Joins AMPAS Short Film/Animation Branch



Alum **Sonya Dunn** receives an invitation from the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences ("Academy") to join the Short Film and Animation Branch. The Academy is known around the world for its annual Academy Awards, now officially and popularly known as "The Oscars."

"I am honored and overwhelmed on being acknowledged for my current body of works in films and the initiatives I have championed over the years for creatives including more opportunities for people of color, veterans, and women."

Dunn is a transmedia storyteller with experience in developing content for traditional, digital, and emerging media platforms. Her directorial debut short film, *THE BEDROOM*, was selected and screened at the 2013 Cannes Film Festival. It received official selections in other film festivals including Pan African Film Festival. Dunn has produced seven narrative short films, four short documentaries, and been a series producer of three web series.

Dunn is the host/producer of two radio shows (*MilitaryHomeLife* and *The Sonya Dunn Show*) that airs in the major market of Washington, DC on DC Radio 96.3 FM HD4. Currently, she is working on a transmedia project about Washington DC sister cities. The project is comprised of podcasts, short films, and a docuseries on their culture and history through the eyes of the creatives from various countries.

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences extended invitations to artists and executives who have distinguished themselves by their contributions to theatrical motion pictures. Those who accept the invitations will be the only additions to the Academy's membership in 2020. "The Academy is delighted to welcome these distinguished fellow travelers in the motion picture arts and sciences. We have always embraced extraordinary talent that reflects the rich variety of our global film community, and never more so than now," said Academy President David Rubin.

The Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences is a professional honorary organization with the stated goal of advancing the arts and sciences of motion pictures.

Thurmon Documents The Davis Center

Kamilah Thurmon along with her small business, Gen2Gen Media, was awarded a DC Oral History Collaborative grant. HumanitiesDC, DC Public Library, and the Historical Society of Washington, DC created an initiative through the DC Oral History Collaborative to document and preserve the history, stories and memories of DC residents. Within her grantee experience, she was trained to document the oral history of The Davis Center, a longstanding arts and education center of excellence offering a broad spectrum of traditional and modern dance and individual youth character development. Gen2Gen Media was able to complete seven transparent and rich interviews from a collective group of DC notables, such as Councilman Brandon Todd and former Associate Judge Mary Terrell, who gave voice and reflection on the Center's 50-year history, legacy, and service to the Ward 4 community. With these interviews, Kamilah crafted a short documentary in honor of the Center's legacy (see below).

Kamilah is an established storyteller who is passionate about creating content that captures the hearts of people from all walks of life and encourages viewers to become inspired. As a small-business owner and successful television production and programming producer, Kamilah is eager to make positive and lasting contributions to her community and the bigger worlds of film, preservation, and representation. Through diverse platforms over the last 10 years, she's contributed to and developed popular television shows on major networks, individualized legacy projects as a part of her business, and created a local history preservation film.



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