



June 2015 Members in the News

Featuring Karen Whitehead, Emily Wathen, Susanne Coates, Pauline Steinhorn, Dara Padwo-Audick, Citygate Films, Flo Stone, Edie Meyers, Towne Group, Tanya Spann Roche, Thomas Mason, E. Samantha Cheng, Studio Unknown, Chris Palmer, Aviva Kempner, Capital Post Productions, Anne Montague/Rosies Project, Martha Barnes/American History Film Project, Call for Members in the News Articles, Call for Awards Info!

Recording the Prom and New Friendships

WIFV Members **Karen Whitehead**, **Emily Wathen** (Carolyn's First Decade Fund Recipient 2015), and **Susanne Coates** teamed up in May to document a unique experience for Maryland teens who attend a full-time special education program run by the Kennedy Krieger Institute for children on the autism spectrum. Whitehead, whose teen son attends the program, partnered with regular high school students and staff to film preparations leading up to this special prom experience and catch on camera for the first time, the close bonds that have formed in recent months between the volunteer teens and students from the Kennedy Krieger school.

Whitehead says she hopes the footage she is crafting into a short documentary, will be available for advocacy efforts



Credit: Jabin Botsford/The Washington Post

to support future partnership s like this one. "It was incredibly moving and revealing to follow these

teenagers just for one afternoon and evening to tell the Prom story. We witnessed teenagers hugely impacted by autism learning to be social, dressing up, dancing and interacting like you would expect any other 'normal' teen. For them it was a huge leap aided by an inspired group of our region's high schoolers who wanted to make a difference. We even got some very personal video diaries to incorporate into the final version.

Thanks to the sensitive and beautifully crafted filming by Emily and Susanne with two 5D cameras, the kids accepted us easily and we captured something I know

Steinhorn-led Team Wins Telly!

Pauline Steinhorn served as Executive Producer and Dara Padwo-Audick directed *UMUC Moments: Yolanda Body*. The result is a Telly! The spot is part of UMUC's Moments campaign featuring UMUC graduates talking about how their education made a difference in their lives.



The Moments campaign commercial featuring Joey Price won a CASE Award. It was produced by Pauline Steinhorn and directed by Stephen Menick. [You can see it here.](#)

Citygate Films Receives Telly Award

Last year, we at Citygate Films had the privilege of meeting an extraordinary family whose two children are both special because of a rare genetic disease that will shorten their lives. It's a full-time task to care for their children and this couple only gets a break because of the amazing Jill's House organization that provides respite care for families with special needs children. Our film about this organization, "The Gift of Rest," just won a Telly Award in the branded content category for nonprofit organizations.

We're actually more excited for Jill's House than for ourselves. We really want more people to find out about this great organization!

as a parent of a child with autism I thought I would never see."

A feature on the prom, published in *The Washington Post*, is available [here](#).

Stone Receives Rachel Carson Award



The National Audubon Society presented Flo Stone, Founder and President Emerita of the Environmental Film Festival in the Nation's Capital, with the Rachel Carson Award at The Plaza Hotel in New York City on May 20. The prestigious Audubon award, presented at the Society's 12th

annual Women in Conservation Luncheon, recognizes visionary women whose dedication, talent and energy have advanced positive change in environmental and conservation locally and on a global scale. The Award was also presented to Warrie Price, Founder and President, The Battery Conservancy.

Founded in 1993, the Environmental Film Festival is the largest and longest-running environmental film festival in the country and a major collaborative cultural event in the Washington, D.C. area. Each March, the Festival presents a diverse selection of high-quality environmental films chosen to provide fresh perspectives on global, national and local environmental issues. Documentaries, narratives, animations, and shorts are shown, as well as archival, experimental, and children's films. The Festival also presents a growing number of year-round programs that complement the main Festival's offerings.

The 2015 Festival screened 173 films, including 98 Washington, D.C., U.S. and world premieres, from 31 countries at 55 venues across the city to an audience of over 30,000. A record 125 filmmakers and over 100 guest speakers, including environmental experts, national decision makers and thought leaders, participated in post-screening discussions, further enriching the Festival experience. The Festival's [website](#), serves as a global resource for environmental film throughout the year. The 2016 Festival will take place from March 15-26.

Mason Play Being Read June 30

Thomas Mason is currently Playwright-in-Residence for Live Garra Theatre in Silver Spring, Maryland. They will do a staged reading of his new play, ***Saturday The Child Was Lost***, on Tuesday June 30, 2015. Synopsis: Psychologist Dr. Edmond Clark, a passionate advocate for underserved youth enlists the help of



Star Crash Celebrates Telly June 27



Star Crash® - The Women's Sci Fi series produced by **Edie Meyers** has won a People's Telly Bronze Award for 2015. The latest episode "The Aura - Part II" is currently airing on the world wide web by Arlington Independent Media (AIM), as well as being broadcast by DCTV, the Manhattan Neighborhood Network in New York City and People TV in Atlanta, Georgia. The show has been on the air since 1995 and continues to be produced at AIM studios

They are going to be having a Telly Award Party at Arlington Independent Media, 2701-C Wilson Blvd, in Arlington, VA on June 27, 2015 starting at 7 pm. **You're invited!** [Learn more on their Facebook page.](#)

Towne Group Earns 3 Emmy Nominations

For the eighth year in succession, Towne Group's video production unit has been honored with multiple Emmy® nominations from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences National Capital Chesapeake Bay Chapter. The three nominated productions fall under the category of 'Community/Public Services (PSAs) and were created under the auspices of the American Forces Radio and TV Service.

Roche Edits Way to Emmy Nomination

Tanya Spann Roche was nominated for an Emmy Award for editing the MPT show *Maryland Farm & Harvest*. The show got four nominations total, including Editor, Program (Non-News), and Magazine Program.

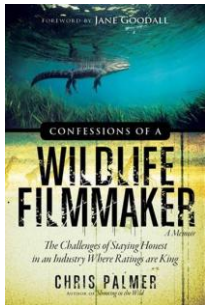


Cheng Doc Screens in San Francisco

The **Dalip Singh Saund: His Life, His Legacy** documentary short has been selected to show at the ALA (American Library Association) Conference, Moscone Center, San Francisco, CA Sunday, June 28, 2015. The film was produced by Samantha Cheng

Douglas Greene, a talented black teenager from a tough neighborhood in an uphill battle to save Abrial Crawford, the rebellious daughter of wealthy white parents from total self-destruction. Call the Box Office at (855) 575-4834 or visit livegarratheatre.org for details.

Mason is also working on a screenplay *The Russian Witch* about a tough New York detective Harold Bloom, who is trying to help a beautiful female Russian émigré find her younger brother whose ESP powers he had as a child have started to come back with frightening results. *The Russian Witch* was part of the script critiques at ScriptDC last year.



Palmer Book Talk July 12

Chris Palmer will be speaking at Politics & Prose in DC at 5 pm on Sunday, July 12 and you are invited.

His new book, *Confessions of a Wildlife Filmmaker*, has generated much attention and many positive comments. [Reviews and interviews can be found here.](#)

Studio Unknown Reaching New Audiences

Last year, **Studio Unknown** had the privilege of working on ABC's *The Quest*. Finally, this incredible fantasy/reality hybrid show is available for all to see on Netflix. Studio Unknown provided the sound design, FX editing, Foley and creature vocals for this fantastic show. Get ready for an amazing adventure and join [The Quest Army on Facebook](#) to show your love.

Studio Unknown provided a full audio post package including sound editorial, sound design, Foley and a 5.1 theatrical mix for *Unbranded* that recently had its world premiere at the 22nd Annual Hot Docs Festival in Toronto, where it took home the Audience Award. As if that wasn't enough, the film just took home another Audience Award from the Mountain Film Festival in Telluride, Colorado! You can learn more about their work [here](#).

Aviva Kempner's *Rosenwald* Opens August 14 Special Screening July 14 at NAACP National Convention

Award-winning filmmaker **Aviva Kempner's** (*Yoo Hoo*, *Mrs. Goldberg*, *The Life and Times of Hank Greenberg*) new documentary, *Rosenwald*, will open August 14th at the Landmark's Sunshine Cinema in New York City and will follow with openings in Los Angeles, Washington D.C., Boston, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Chicago and other major markets in the immediate weeks to follow as it begins its national rollout. Kempner's past films have focused on untold stories of Jewish heroes.



Aviva Kempner's *Rosenwald* is the incredible story of Julius Rosenwald, who never finished high school, but rose to become the President of Sears. Influenced by the writings of the educator Booker T. Washington, this Jewish philanthropist joined forces with African American communities during the Jim Crow South to build over 5,300 schools during the early part of the 20th century.

Rosenwald has been chosen to screen at the 106th NAACP National Convention in Philadelphia on July 14th. Founded in 1909, the NAACP is the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization. Julius Rosenwald was an early supporter of the NAACP. Aviva Kempner and Julian Bond will make a presentation after the screening.

The film will also screen at the National Trust for Historical Preservations' Rosenwald School Annual Meeting in Durham, North Carolina in June. Once home to the largest number of Rosenwald Schools, North Carolina is rich with Rosenwald School restoration and rehabilitation activities. Major international Jewish film festivals including Toronto and Boston will showcase the film prior to its theatrical release.

Rosenwald won the 2015 Lipscomb Ecumenical Prize at the Nashville Film Festival, which is awarded to directors who have succeeded in portraying actions or human experiences sensitizing viewers to spiritual, human or social values.

Rosenwald sheds light on this silent partner of the Pre-Civil Rights Movement. Rosenwald awarded fellowship grants to a who's who of African American intellectuals and artists including: Marian Anderson, James Baldwin, the father

and uncle of civil rights leader Julian Bond, Ralph Bunche, W. E. B. DuBois, Katherine Dunham, Ralph Ellison, Langston Hughes, Zora Neale Hurston, Gordon Parks, Jacob Lawrence and Augusta Savage along with Woody Guthrie.

Inspired by the Jewish ideals of *tzedakah* (charity) and *tikkun olam* (repairing the world) and a deep concern over racial inequality in America, Julius Rosenwald used his wealth to become one of America's most effective philanthropists. Because of his modesty, Rosenwald's philanthropy and social activism are not well known today. He gave away \$62 million in his lifetime.

The list of prominent alumni and educators who attended the Rosenwald Schools include the ancestors of Loretta Lynch (US Attorney General), Tony Award winning playwright George Wolfe, poet Maya Angelou, U.S. Representative John Lewis, Anita Hill and Pulitzer Prize winner Eugene Robinson.

Capital Post Production Deliver *Passionality* and *StarTalk*



Chip Sovek, co-owner of Capital Post Production (CPP) in Fairfax, announces the launch of *Passionality*, a new web video series hosted by author, speaker and passionality expert, Alaina Love. CPP serves as the production base for the program with Sovek overseeing the audio design/mix and Bob Tyskowski handling the directing, editing and grading for the series.

Passionality features diverse individuals, who at some pivotal moment in their life used their passions to make a difference. Love worked with a research team from the University of Michigan to develop an online tool called the Passion Profiler, which identifies

and measures passion. Using knowledge of each guest's passions, Love helps viewers understand the power of passion to transform, engage and inspire. The episodes feature a range of topics from overcoming identity loss, to reinventing yourself as an empty nester, to using your passions to find a new and more fulfilling job. Executive producers of the show are Alaina Love, her business partner, Marc Cugnon, and Tyskowski. [You can see episodes here.](#)

What do actor George Takei, entrepreneur Arianna Huffington and former President Jimmy Carter have in common with a sound designer from Fairfax, Virginia? Along with host and renowned astrophysicist Neil DeGrasse Tyson, they bring life to *StarTalk*, National Geographic Channel's first-ever late night talk series.

Frank Scheuring, sound designer/mixer at Capital Post Production is given one day to design, mix and deliver each 60-minute program. Scheuring says the schedule is made possible by the advanced technology in Capital Post Production's Fairlight suites, including isotope Advanced, a state-of-the-art noise reduction tool.

Aside from technology, it helps to have passion for the project. "I love the show," said Scheuring, "it's informational and entertaining, and I had a real fan-boy moment when Christopher Nolan was the guest. I'm a big *Interstellar* and *Batman* fan."

StarTalk, brings celebrities, scientists and comedians together to discuss topics ranging from the environment, to space travel and extraterrestrial life. Produced by Drew Pulley for National Geographic Studios, the series builds on Tyson's popular radio show and podcast. *StarTalk*, airs Mondays at 11 p.m. EST, on the National Geographic Channel. [You can learn more here.](#)

About Capital Post Production

Capital Post Production is a boutique post production facility offering closed captioning; video digitizing, compression and editing; ISDN recording; studio recording; sound design; sound editing; sound mixing; and location sound recording services. The facility is convenient to the Capital Beltway, at 8315 Lee Highway in Fairfax, Virginia. Call 703-712-8757, or visit www.CapitalPostProduction.com.



Thanks! Plain and Simple Helps Organize Rosie Events on 2 Continents

In one short month, the Dutch held three events for America's Rosie the Riveters, and three WIFV members were involved!

First, the Embassy of the Netherlands held an event in DC to thank women who had served during World War II as "Rosies the Riveters" working in defense plants and factories in a variety of jobs. Fourteen Rosies were celebrated by nearly 100 guests. The event would not have happened or been recorded without WIFV Members Anne Montague, Founding Director of Thanks! Plain and Simple, which has created the model Rosie the Riveter program, Tijah Bumgarner (videographer), and Kelsey Dewalt (intern). Montague coordinated the event with the Embassy, DC Dutch, and Hugo Keesing.



Anna Hess, Anne Montague, Crena Anderson, and June Robbins at National Liberation Museum

May 6-10, three Rosies and Montague were hosted by the National Liberation Museum 1944-45 in Groesbeek, Netherlands, where staff and volunteers held a program for Rosies and arranged their stay at the famous Spiker Hotel. Many of the bombers made by the Rosies to defeat the Axis powers were converted into supply planes immediately following the war and delivered food to the starving Dutch population.

On June 1, four Rosies and Montague were invited to meet with the King and Queen of the Netherlands at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington Cemetery where the Dutch again expressed their thanks for the American efforts to end the war.

Rosie, Anna Hess, attended each event. She said, "These experiences put a face on the people and place I worked to defend, with millions of other women, during World War II.

I don't see how Anne does what she does, but it makes a huge difference to me to know people really understand the struggle for freedom. The Dutch have a 'Can Do' attitude, they do the job, and they do it right!"

To find out how you can get involved in this oral history and civic engagement project, email Anne Montague at thanksplainandsimple@earthlink.net.

Student historical research exhibited at AHFP

The **American History Film Project** (AHFP) presented four films at its recent festival in Annandale. Participating in the exhibition via Skype from Chicago was Mary Hilbrink of Cary, Illinois. Mary, a rising 7th grader, introduced her film on the origin of the Baby Ruth and Butterfinger chocolate factory and headquarters in Cary.

Ty Kvanvig, Teven Marshall and Lexi Rice of Mullen, Nebraska are three 7th grade students in the World History class of Mullen resident Kelly Garcia. Ty and Teven's video is a how-to guide to constructing a sod house in the fashion of plains pioneers. Lexi Rice's video is an interview concerning an infamous local crime that spurred a national investigation.

Rahel Tecele, an Annandale High School senior, filmed an interview with historian Nikki McDonald of Pittsville, VA who was one of the first students to attend Annandale High School when it opened in the 1950s and the town was still rural. Her interview will be edited by AHS student Bailey Oliver.

According to **Martha Barnes**, the founder of AHFP, the American History Film Project is a national organization that seeks to help students develop a yearning to learn by providing a creative outlet to showcase the finest films made by students about their respective locations. The goal of the project is to teach students that they are an integral part of their community and history.

[Here is the link to Martha's AHFP YouTube site which features the student works.](#) We encourage your members to click a thumbs up on their favorite submission.

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 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



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 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

Women in Film & Video
4000 Albemarle Street NW, Suite 305
Washington, DC 20016
202-429-9438
director@wifv.org
www.wifv.org

Send Stories to:

director@wifv.org

