



WIFV NEWS

May 2017 Members in the News

Edited by Flo Dwek

Featuring Karen Ryan, Brian Wilbur Grundstrom, Dave Lilling, Carol Flaisher, Rouane Itani, Tommy Lawrence, E. Samantha Cheng, Liz Norton, Melissa Rogers, Eurah Lee, Call for Members in the News Articles and Awards Info!

Ryan Jumpstarts Long-standing Career



After a successful 14-year run producing docs and videos for clients in the Washington, DC area, **Karen Ryan**, President and Sr. Producer of the Ryan Group, started to wonder what came next. A little bit of pondering later, Karen knew she had to do something to jumpstart her career and make it exciting again. So she began actively

networking again and looking at video projects differently. She checked out what graphics were trending, how companies were using virtual reality to fundraise, and what type of storytelling hit her emotionally. Karen's introspection and reassessment is now paying off in both business and personal satisfaction. "I re-launched my [website](#), partnered with videographers and editors, and bought a Sony FS-7," she explains. "We just finished the launch of the American Nurses Association's [Healthy Nurse Healthy Nation campaign](#) and will continue to produce for them." Karen is also working more closely with friends and WIFV members, including **Pauline Steinhorn**, who has given her some great assignments for UMUC. "Pauline's guidance has always made my creative vision better," Karen notes. "And I'm also thankful to **Cari Weiss** and **Bonnie Erbe** of TO THE CONTRARY, who have let me produce half-hour documentaries. The latest is on H1 B visas can be seen [here](#). I'm truly

Grundstrom Premieres *Children of Zeus*

Children of Zeus is an incredibly exciting new commission by American Composer Brian Wilbur Grundstrom. It is comprised of five movements, each one focusing on one of Zeus's children. Grundstrom has masterfully set to music text about these Greek gods and goddesses, capturing their spirits and personalities in this epic new work for orchestra and choir. From the lush, mysterious harmonies of Dionysus to the loud and militaristic Ares. From the beautiful melody of Aphrodite and the cynicism of Hercules, to the almost hypnotic refrain of Apollo. *Children of Zeus* is a magnificent new work that will keep you engaged, entertained, and educated from first note to last. - Maestro Jeffrey Sean Dokken



Dokken and Grundstrom

Kudos to **Brian Wilbur Grundstrom** on his world premiere of *Children of Zeus*. This is a co-commission with the

Symphony Orchestra of Northern Virginia (Alexandria, VA), St. Maries Choral Arts in Great Mills, MD and CoroAllegro in Wilmington, DE - with a performance in each of these respective cities. The award-winning composer only took

excited again!" To share in Karen's excitement and possibly jumpstart your own career, contact kryan@karenryangroup.com or call 202-309-5535.

Lilling Covers March for Science

Have you attended a march on the National Mall lately? You may have seen **Dave Lilling** and his crew from Metro Teleproductions (MTI) hard at work. On April 22, they worked with cooleffect.org on the March for Science at the Mall. MTI covered several events live with the LiveU500 and network extender. John Murphy served as lead cameraman; Tony Winthrop was the ENG cameraman; and David Goldstein was the field producer on site. MTI not only covered the "teach-in" and speeches on the Mall, but the entire 13-block march, from 15th and Constitution to 3rd and Constitution, using the LiveU technology. In another recent effort, Dave's company produced THE BAYOU: DC's KILLER JOINT, which aired on MPT, WETA, and Virginia Public TV stations, along with 70 other PBS stations. For more information, contact Dave Lilling at dave@mtitv.com or at 301-608-9077 or 301-370-5898.



Itani Works on IRC Video Series



Fluent in Arabic, French and English, and trained as an interpreter and a voice over narrator, **Rouane Itani** serves as a producer and communications consultant on international and multi-lingual productions for the U.S. Department of State and the

World Bank. Recently, Rouane worked on interpreting, translating and subtitling a video series for Syrian refugees in Arabic and English for the International Rescue Committee (IRC). She also teaches Arabic and French at Berlitz. Rouane's short documentary, MADAME PARLIAMENTARIAN, which she directed and

about six months to complete this 45-minute piece in five movements (Hercules, Aphrodite, Ares, Dionysus and Apollo) for full orchestra and chorus. Take a few minutes to watch and listen to the first of these three concerts from the Baby Grand concert hall in Wilmington, DE on April 29th [here](#).

Brian says he can't wait to hear *Children of Zeus* again with full orchestra on June 3 at 7:00 pm at the Masonic Temple in Alexandria, VA and on June 4 at 3:30 pm in Great Mills, MD. He hopes to see his friends and colleagues from WIFV there as well. To learn more about the concert or to purchase tickets, please visit his [website](#). For more information about the composition or other aspects of composing, contact Brian at brian@brianwilbur.com or at 917-952-7957.

Flaisher in Bethesda Magazine



Congrats to WIFV Member **Carole Flaisher**, who was featured prominently in the March/April issue of *Bethesda Magazine*. "The movie location manager talks about finding a house for WEDDING CRASHERS, the

power of name-dropping, and memorable moments on the set," notes *Bethesda Magazine's* editors.

You can view the captivating article and interview by Steve Goldstein [here](#).

Lawrence Completing SEA OF HOPE

Tommy Lawrence has been working with True Blue Films on a feature documentary version of SEA OF HOPE, which premiered on National Geographic Channel in January. The doc will focus on efforts to preserve ocean ecosystems to help combat climate change and overfishing. It features Dr. Sylvia Earle, Dr. E. O. Wilson, Max Kennedy and President Obama. A summer release is planned. Tommy has also



completed in 2015, spotlights the shortage of women in the Lebanese parliament. The original English language version of the film is available for streaming [here](#).

She is currently making the switch from Final Cut Pro to Adobe Premiere and welcomes project inquiries via her [LinkedIn](#) or email at ritani@aflama.com.

Heritage Series Nominated for Emmy

E. Samantha Cheng, Executive Producer of the Heritage Series, is delighted to announce that The San Francisco/Northern California Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts (NATAS) has nominated the Heritage Series' 2016 APA



Olympic Legacy public service campaign for an EMMY Award in that category. The campaign won gold in the same category in the 2015 and 2016 DC TIVA Awards. Launched in 2013 by Heritage Series, APA Legacy highlights Asian Pacific Americans and their contributions to U.S. history during Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. Heritage Series, based in Silver Spring, MD, is dedicated to producing educational programs that inspire and provoke thought and is owned by Cheng and Charles G. Crawford, former broadcast professionals. For more information, sneak a peak at the APA Legacy Public Service Campaign at their [website](#). Like them on Facebook or follow them on Twitter at @APALegacy. You can reach Samantha at e.samantha.cheng@gmail.com or at 240-621-7076.

Lee at Double R Productions and WIFV



by **Eurah Lee**

"Six months ago, I was a recent graduate looking for an opportunity where I could continue my professional growth. I understood that the video industry held a position just for me,

spent a great deal of time setting up and managing the Earth Conservation Corps Eagle Camera. "It's basically a live stream from the nest of eagle parents, Liberty and Justice," Tommy explains, "who recently hatched one eaglet, Spirit. This past December I went up in a bucket truck 110 feet into an oak tree to install the camera! Today, it has over 500,000 views. Spirit is growing very quickly and will fledge the nest sometime in mid-June." Tune in [here](#). Tommy plans to continue working with the Eagle Camera, but is also looking at installing a few Osprey Cameras and helping track them to South America during their yearly migration. To find out more, contact Tommy at tommylawrence7@gmail.com or at 443-506-1920.

Stone Soup Finishes



BREAKTHROUGH

Liz Norton, founder of Stone Soup Films, is happy to announce the completion of their first feature documentary, BREAKTHROUGH, about a contest to re-invent public school. Stone Soup followed three Washington, DC schools for over two years to uncover the process of school innovation from the ground up. Directed by Liz Norton, and co-produced by **Melissa Rogers**, the film was screened for over 200 supporters and friends at Columbia Heights Educational Campus in April. Nearly 90 local industry volunteers helped with the production. It will now travel to festivals and educational conferences nationwide. You can watch the trailer and get more information on the film [here](#).

Additionally, Stone Soup Films hosted, for the first time, a series of short films on the environment in celebration of Earth Day at Landmark E Street cinemas. By screening more than an hour of content on organizations such as the Anacostia Watershed Trust, Dumbarton Oaks Conservancy, Potomac Riverkeepers, Casey Trees, Groundwork DC and others, they not only highlighted the incredible work these local groups are doing but showed the audience many ways to engage and volunteer with these organizations. For more

however I also understood that I actually had to go out and look for it. Last December, I signed up for the Government Video Expo knowing that I wasn't attending for the equipment, but for the people. That's when I met Melissa Houghton. 30 minutes later I became a WIFV member, following our ListServ religiously. Four months down the road, I happened to come across a posting from the infamous Rosemary Reed at Double R Productions, 'ISO a temp PA.' Now, we all know that a WIFV member in search of something usually finds it within the first 30 minutes of posting. Luckily, I was one of the first 20 applicants to reply to Rosemary and we set-up an interview. We talked about yoga, travel, the need for cultural diversity, and oh, why I was qualified for the position. Next thing you know, I'm sitting here in my office realizing how grateful I am to have become a full-time Production Assistant for Double R Productions. And yes, I'm contributing greatly to our cultural diversity. So, thank you, WIFV, for all that you do."

information about Stone Soup go to their [website](#) or call 202-337-1070. Check out their films [here](#).

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

Thank you!

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!**



We value your your reviews throughout the year. 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.](#)

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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.



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