



# WIFV NEWS

May 2014

## President's Message



Dear WIFV,  
Happy spring! Okay, fine, lately it may not have felt like spring the past few weeks, but I have faith that warm weather of late is here to stay. And speaking of faith, I took a

leap of faith last month that you would step up and take part in WIFV's 31 for 31 Campaign. I send a sincere and hearty thank you to all who did. Your support allows us to augment and expand our programming and services to support media makers all over the DC region, programs like this month's [Wednesday One](#) featuring a discussion to unlock the keys to the castle of successful fundraising via Kickstarter. We know that money can often be a formidable barrier to getting your work out into the world. The session is designed to give you the insights you need to move your project to the next level.

As part of our 35th anniversary year, we are working expand our programming and bring new offerings to the WIFV community to help mentor and elevate the work of the amazing talent we have here in Washington. It's on that note, that I'm excited to announce a brand new initiative: **Spotlight on Screenwriters**. DC is home to an impressive pool of talented screenwriters, many of whom have struggled to get their work noticed on larger scale. The Spotlight on Screenwriters project aims to change that. The project features a spec catalog of curated, production-ready screenplays written by WIFV members. The submission process runs from now until July 30th. Once the catalogue is complete, WIFV will present the works to a select group of established producers for consideration.

[Full guidelines, including instructions for submitting your work for consideration can be found on our website.](#) I want to thank the Washington, DC Office of Motion Picture and Television Development, Interface Media Group, *Script Magazine*, and The Writers Store for the

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**KICKSTARTER:**  
**It's Not About the Money**

- ▶ Wednesday, May 7, 2014 @ 6:30 pm
- ▶ Presented by filmmakers Harriet Gordon & Peter Getzels with science researcher Ron Naveen.
- ▶ \$15 WIFV Members / \$30 public

**REGISTER: WIFV.org**

@WIFV\_DC  
WIFVDC

WIFV WED ONE

Find out what motivated seasoned filmmakers to turn to Kickstarter for funding their film *The Penguin Counters*. Learn the many tips that made them successful and much more! ...

generous support of this visionary program. Special thanks also goes to WIFV board member Monica Lee Bellais for all her work driving this project forward.

Spotlight on Screenwriters is poised to be a game changer for so many of the talented storytellers we have here in DC. If you have a story about how your connection with WIFV has helped move your career forward, we want to hear it! Whether it's information that got from fellow members via the listserv that gave you the key insight you needed to finish a project, the connection you made at a WIFV event that led to the perfect gig or a program you attended that changed the way you think about how you approach your work, we want to know.

Please send your testimonials to [membership@wifv.org](mailto:membership@wifv.org). Look out in the next few weeks for guidelines for how to submit your WIFV story via video. We plan to compile these messages as part of a larger *I am WIFV* viral campaign to illustrate the power of WIFV - 35 years strong and counting.

As always I am energized by your creativity, your passion and your good work and I am proud to be your President

Best,  
Erin

## Reload Happy Hour - DCWW, WIFV, DC PR Flacks, Color in Tech\*

**When:** Thursday, May 15, 6:30 to 8:30 pm

**Where:** Ozio DC, 2nd Floor  
1813 M St NW Washington, DC 20036  
(Dupont or Farragut North Metro)

[Register here](#)

Sponsored by Vocus- Demand Success!

## New Address for NEA

National Endowment for the Arts  
*Name of office/program*  
400 7th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20506

because it's not just about the money. This discussion will be moderated by WIFV President, Erin Essenmacher.

**Wednesday, May 7, 2014, 6:30 to 8:30 pm**  
Interface Media Group, 1233 20th St. NW, DC  
(Dupont Circle South)

\$15 WIFV Members/ \$30 Public

[RSVP here](#)

## Women Journalists in the Eye of the Storm

By Katherine Ronderos

Threats and violence against women journalists are on the rise in many regions of the world. In their work exposing injustices and bearing witness to human rights violations, women journalists are women human rights defenders and as such are in need of better security and protection mechanisms. [Full article here.](#)

## The Workflow Show NAB Recap

Whether you attended NAB 2014 or not, you'll want to listen to [Chesapeake Systems](#) latest episode of *The Workflow Show* to hear "our take" on what was notable at the Show and what was, well, not-so-much.

## Two Female Filmmakers Vying For Cannes' Top Award

**Naomi Kawase** and **Alice Rohrwacher** are

both in the running for the Palme d'Or, the top filmmaking award at the Cannes Film Festival in May. The past two years just one female director was up for the award, and in 2012, no females were nominated. A total of 15 of the 49 films to be featured this year are female-directed, up from just six last year. The only woman to win the Palme d'Or was Jane Campion for *The Piano* in 1993. [Full article here.](#)



FESTIVAL DE CANNES



## Lunatic Fringe Online

We premiered a fine cut at the Holiday Party! [Now you can see the final cut here.](#) Thanks to the crew and cast for their involvement with this

mentoring program.

## Spotlight on Screenwriters Announced

By Monica Lee Bellais, WIFV VP Strategic Partnerships

Washington, DC is the center of political power in the country, but it is also home to a community of highly skilled screenwriters. To draw attention to their talent and help get their work in front of major producers, Women in Film & Video (WIFV) is creating the **Spotlight on Screenwriters Spec-Catalog**. The catalog will feature production-ready screenplays written by WIFV members.



WIFV is launching this unprecedented project as part of its Annual ScriptDC filmmakers conference and in honor of its 35th Anniversary. This initiative is made possible in part with the generous support of the **Washington, DC Office of Motion Picture and Television Development**, **Interface Media Group**, **Script Magazine**, and **The Writers Store**.

#### Submission Requirements:

- Current WIFV member;
- Proof of WGA registration/ Proof of copyright;
- Completed feature length screenplay (90-125 pages);
- Signed WIFV waiver that the writer has done everything possible to protect original work;
- Signed 2% agreement from screenwriter;
- Selected screenwriters-bio, one-sheet, logline, short synopsis for each screenplay selected.

Up to three screenplays may be submitted. Producers will contact writers through WIFV. WIFV will email producers a copy of the requested screenplay. If the producer is interested after reading the screenplay, WIFV will facilitate the introduction.

Note-Submissions can only be sent by current WIFV members. To submit a screenplay, please provide the \$20.00 submission fee via the website (choose your preferred deadline date - May 30, June 30, or July 30) or send a check to the WIFV office. Email questions or your screenplays in PDF format to Melissa Houghton- [director@wifv.org](mailto:director@wifv.org).

**Workshops** will be offered on May 15 (Protecting Screenplays); June 19 (Format Tips); July 17 (Subplots); August 14 (Loglines, One-Sheets & Bios); September 11 (Writing/Publishing Journey); October 16 (Getting the Most from ScriptDC). There is a \$20 flat fee for each workshop. You can register through the WIFV calendar!

## Personal Finance Series Starts May 20



WIFV is delighted to announce a series of personal finance topics to provide freelancers, contractors and small business owners the info they need to protect their assets, invest for the long term, prepare for retirement and estate planning. WIFV Board Members Judy Meschel and Kathy Dismukes are working closely with Laurie O'Toole, Financial Advisor/Associate Vice President of Ameriprise Financial Services to ensure that the information provided is the information you need! The workshops are free of charge and will feature a variety of financial planning experts. All programs will be held at Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc., 7500 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, MD.

May 20, 8:30 to 10:00 am - Learning from the Lessons of Time;  
June 12, 6:30 to 8:30 pm - Help Protect Your Assets, Your Family and Your Future;  
June 18, 8:30 to 10:00 am - Securing Your Retirement: Transforming Social Security into a Winning Retirement Strategy.

Other topics to be covered in the coming months include Strong Women, Powerful Financial Strategies; From Solo-K's to SEPs - Retirement Plan Options for the Freelance Professional; The Financially Confident Woman; Year-End Tax Planning; Are We There Yet?; and Advanced Strategies for (max)Wealth Transfer. Dates and registration info will be available soon!

## Women in Cinema Panel at AIM



Top: Nell Minow; Bottom: Kimberly Skyrme, Tia Dae, Erin Essenmacher

Kevin Sampson, film critic and host of **Picture Lock** which airs on **Arlington Independent Media (AIM)**, recently moderated a Women in Cinema Panel in honor of Women's History Month. On the panel were Kimberly Skyrme, casting director and Chair of **WIFTI**; **Tia Dae**, actress/singer in the upcoming film *Thick*; **Erin Essenmacher**, independent producer and President of **WIFV**; and Nell Minow, attorney and film critic known as the **Movie Mom**.

The contributions of women from the earliest days of film were acknowledged, then the moderated questions and discussion turned to the state of women in the film business today. Each of the panelists weighed in on what they've seen and learned from their perspective in the business. Current industry statistics and latest hit movies starring and/or directed and produced by women were featured. Questions from the audience were taken next, and those led to conversations on specific steps that all of us can take to move women's films forward from here on out. Suggestions such as directly contributing to women's films on Kickstarter and Indiegogo, to announcements of new film funds started by women were made.

The panel, which was taped to air on AIM, can be seen in full or heard on the web.

## WIFV Media Job Fair

By Rana Koll-Mandel

"If you're in the media business in DC- you shouldn't miss out and the networking is great, too!"

---Marie, 2014 Media Job Fair Attendee



**pepco**

EDISON PLACE  
**GALLERY**

On a beautiful and sunny Saturday afternoon on April 12, the 16th annual Women In Film and Video Job Fair took place at the Pepco Edison Place Gallery, a new, roomy and airy space conveniently located at 702 8th Street, NW in DC, near the Gallery Place metro stop from noon to 4 pm. One attendee said, "The new space, logistics and light streaming into the large windows is much better than last year's." The 2014 WIFV event introduced a brand new, more fair-minded logistics system which was put into place to help avoid room congestion and long waiting lines. By the end of the event, the new entrance and exit system was pronounced an unqualified success.

Job seekers seeking positions such as Web Designers, Front-end Web Developers, User-experience designers, Interactive Art Directors, Project Managers, Print/Graphics Designer, Editors, Videographers, Production Assistants, Associate Producers, Sales/Account Executives, Programming Personnel, Producers, Associate Producers, Facility Assistants, Project Managers, in Digital and Social Media, etc., were divided into pre-registered guests and onsite registrants. Only those who were pre-registered received a booklet with employer information, a list of positions open in advance of the event and were sent two different articles on how to prepare for the job fair. Pre-registrants were allowed access to the exhibitors from noon to 2 pm. Those who came and registered onsite starting at 1:30 pm were given access between 2 pm and 3:30 pm.

In the end, 244 attendees (177 were non-members; 15 joined onsite or since) had spoken with 18 vendors: ABC7/News Channel 8, Artisan - New York LLC, Atmosphere Inc., C-Span, Double R Productions, GVI, Henninger Media Services, Interface Media Group, Kimberly Skyrme Casting, Maslow Media Group, National Association of Corporate Directors, PBS, RHED Pixel, Sapling



Pictures, Team People LLC, Tess Wald Productions, WHUT, and Yoh, A Day Zimmerman Company. By days end, two job offers were extended. We know several people have been interviewed since the Job Fair but we have not yet heard from the exhibitors on how many candidates they have actually hired. "Typically at least 10% of attendees get a job after attending the WIFV Job Fair," said Executive Director, Melissa Houghton, who also stated, " I think our numbers may be a bit higher this year!" One former member/ job seeker stated, "attending this event also gave me the opportunity to rejoin WIFV".

Feedback from attendees and vendors was constructive.

Rosemary Reed, President of Double R

Productions said "I just hired someone on the spot and she's starting on Tuesday!" All vendors agreed that the candidates were well-prepared and engaged in their efforts and some even said the event "feels productive for all involved." Alexis Williams of Team People said she came with specific open positions to fill and "feels confident that she has many well-qualified candidates to fill those specific jobs." One woman said that even though, "she thinks the system of printing out resumes is old-fashioned and she was hopeful that a newer approach may be considered for next year", she still attended the Job Fair "to see and meet potential hiring managers and follow-up with them online as opposed to expecting them to follow-up with her."



Anne Thompson and Rosemary Reed  
Credit: Diane Williams

Rana Koll-Mandel is the Founder of We R 1 Communications, a company specializing in communications and PR for film festivals and filmmakers.

## Supporter Spotlight - Yoh

Supporter Spotlight recognizes the work and contributions to the industry of WIFV's supporters. As a 501(c)3 charitable organization, WIFV relies on financial support from companies, individuals, foundations, and government entities. This month we focus our Spotlight on **Yoh, a Day & Zimmerman Company**. To find out how your company can help WIFV, please contact Melissa Houghton at [director@wifv.org](mailto:director@wifv.org)

### WHY THE WIFV JOB FAIR IS MY FAVORITE

By Ken Nice, Program Manager

I've been in the staffing industry for almost 25 years (I started when I was 4) and it all started when I went to a staffing company in Los Angeles to work as a temp. The owner hired me on the spot to work in his office at the front desk. You never know where a door is going to be opened to you. All you have to do is walk through it.



I now work for Yoh, a Day & Zimmerman Company. Yoh is the nation's first technical staffing firm. Founded in 1940, the company operates from 75 locations throughout North America and is headquartered in Philadelphia, PA. Yoh specializes in aerospace and defense, engineering, government, health care, life sciences, information technology, and telecommunications. Yoh has become a critically important partner to media companies like Discovery Communications, NBCUniversal, TV One, PBS, Univision, Harpo, CCTV, and others.

The WIFV Media Job Fair is my favorite event of the year and it gets better every year. It's a great opportunity to step out from behind the computer and meet a vast and diverse group of qualified and interesting candidates. I enjoy hearing their enthusiasm for the media and entertainment space. At the WIFV Job Fair this month, we collected many, many resumes. We did not have any specific open positions in mind, but we are hoping that we will be able to make connections for the great candidates that we met. Last year, we were able to place a few people in temp to perm positions at one of our media clients and we are hoping to better that mark this year. It's all about timing.

WIFV does an outstanding job of getting the word out and provides a great resource for highlighting the industry in Washington. The Job Fair also provides a chance for local media companies to share space and network with each other. All in all, it's a win/win situation. I eagerly await April 2015 and

the next WIFV Job Fair.



**Deliciously  
healthy.**



## Order Naked Pizza, Raise Dough for WIFV

By Kathy Dismukes, WIFV Vice President, Development

Want to enjoy a deliciously gourmet pizza and support WIFV in the process? Just order Naked Pizza anytime in May using the code **WIFV**, and they'll donate 20% of your order total (not valid with other offers) to Women in Film & Video! You can order online, over the phone, or in the store, for pickup or delivery.

Naked Pizza is known for its wholesome 10-grain crust and assortment of natural and nutritious topping options. They use the best ingredients available to bring you a hot, fresh, and deliciously low-calorie pizza. You can complement your meal with a crisp and freshly made Caesar, Spinach, or Greek salad. Gluten-free and vegan-friendly menu options are available.

Why did Naked Pizza select WIFV? Here's what Kelli Schramm of Naked Pizza has to say:

"Naked Pizza wants to show people that we are more than just a healthier pizza eatery but that we also want to have a positive impact on our community. We believe that supporting local nonprofits, schools, and churches is one of the best ways to show how much we care. We proudly support Women in Film & Video's work to provide people with the tools and resources to further their dreams and feed their passion. We are very excited to be working together, and we wish WIFV the best of luck with this FUN-raiser!"

Order anytime in May, and Naked Pizza donates 20% of your check to WIFV!

**When:** May 1st through May 30th

**Where:** All Naked Pizza DC locations:

**Reston:** 1675-M Reston Pkwy (Home Depot CTR) (703)435-5001

**McLean:** 1363 Chain Bridge Rd. (703)760-0010

**Bethesda:** 4914 Del Ray Ave. (301)215-9899

**Ballston:** 933 N. Quincy St. (703)248-0990

**Pentagon Row:** 1101 S. Joyce St. (703)412-3777

**How:** Use code **WIFV** when ordering

**Thanks, Naked Pizza!**

## Community Cinema Wraps Season

Community Cinema [DC] wraps up the 2013-2014 season with ***The New Black***, a Women & Girls Lead film. It's also a story that takes place right in our back yard -- Maryland. Centering on the historic fight to win marriage equality in Maryland, *The New Black* takes viewers into the pews, onto the streets, and provides a seat at the kitchen table as it looks at how the African American community grapples with the divisive gay rights issue. [Watch a preview](#). The film broadcasts on *Independent Lens* Sunday, June 15 at 10/9c. RSVP for free screenings.

Sunday, May 18 - 3 PM

Washington DC Jewish Community Center  
1529 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036

[Reserve your seat on Eventbrite](#)

Tuesday, May 20 - 7 PM

Hill Center at the Old Naval Hospital  
921 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, Washington, DC 20003

[Visit hillcenterdc.org for reservations and information](#)

Sunday, June 22 - 5 PM  
Busboys and Poets  
2021-14th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009  
[Reserve your seat on Eventbrite](#)

## 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/news](http://www.wifv.org/news) 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.

## WIFTI Summit, May 16-18, 2014



Women In Film and Television International Summit: Pittsburgh, PA, USA - May 2014

Women In Film and Media Pittsburgh (WIFM) will host to the 2014 Women In Film and Television International (WIFTI) Summit May 16-18, 2014. The Summit will draw hundreds of women from WIFTI's 40 chapters located across the globe to discuss filmmaking issues and attend panel discussions, screenings, the Opal Awards, and other events. [Registration available here.](#)

[Programs continue to be added to the schedule.](#)

## New and Renewing Members

The following joined or renewed their WIFV membership (March 26 - April 30).

Brenda R. Adams  
Brittany A. Alexander  
Nara Allen  
Chris Arnold  
Brendan Baggitt  
Donald Barnett  
Felicia Barr  
Michael Barrett  
Wendi Berman  
Thomas L. Bindley, Jr.  
Luis Blandon  
Victoria Buksbazen  
Yvonne Harris Burnley  
Rebecca Bustamante  
Karen Carbone  
Lauren Cardillo  
Gayle Converse  
Katherine G. Culpepper  
Hugh Drescher  
Maisie Dunbar  
Edward Engel

Abbie Hamilton  
Rich Harrington  
Dana Hayes  
Joy Haynes  
Meagan Healey  
Marc Himes  
Robert E. Jackson  
Bonnie Johnson  
Susan Kain  
Lauren Kelly Kendrick  
Adam Krell  
Michelle L. Kim  
Hilary Linder  
Lois Lipman  
Shannon Livingston  
Monique Lyons  
Nancy E. Mantelli  
Joseph McGloin  
Susanna Michelsen  
Nell Minow  
Bjorn Munson

Barbara Quesada  
Kathryn Raaker  
Tiffany Rogers  
Carla Sandy  
Alex Schor  
Lisa Scott  
Hillary Shea  
Sandrine Silverman  
Darryl Singletary, Sr.  
Fatima Smith  
David Smolar  
Sara Snyder  
Kristen Southerland  
Dan Steinmetz  
Bryan Streaty  
Susan Stolov  
Dixie Vereen  
Cid Collins Walker  
Flora Wallace  
Chrysta Camille West  
Sean Wheeler

Erin Essenmacher  
Michelle Farrell  
Lisa Feit  
Akidah Felder  
Craig Gildner  
Cameron Goodman  
Scott L. Gordon  
Lauren Grant  
Jonathan Gruber

Matthew Nagy  
Alexander Nerska  
Lauryn Nwankpa  
Maureen Offutt  
Susan Perla  
John Picklap

Sarah Wides  
Diane C. Williams  
Gillian Willman  
Jasmine L. Worrell

**Corporate Members:**  
Sandy Audio Visual  
Word Wizards, Inc.

### 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

Women in Film & Video  
3628 12th Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20017  
202-429-9438  
[director@wifv.org](mailto:director@wifv.org)  
[www.wifv.org](http://www.wifv.org)

### Send Stories to:

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



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

You are 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!