



WIFV NEWS

November 2013 Members in the News

Thank You WIFV Supporters!

In this month of Thanksgiving we are very grateful to the many individuals and companies who support our mission. Did you know that in addition to membership dues WIFV relies donations throughout the year to make our professional development programs and community outreach initiatives possible? Please consider joining the group below-include WIFV in your year-end giving plans. Thank you!

Anonymous
Elizabeth Andrade
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Arla Bowers
Devon Brown
Lillian Brown
Rebecca Bustamante
Callaway Golf Foundation
Sandy Cannon-Brown
Felicia Barlow Clar
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Jennifer Cortner
Cypress Trust Company
Christopher Daley
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Amy DeLouise
Katherine Dismukes
Double R Productions
Virginia Durrin
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Erin Essenmacher
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Erica Ginsberg
Mimi Polk Gitlin
Paige Gold
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Judith Dwan Hallet
Frances Hardin

Nelson Schwartz Producing KenCen Events



Former WIFV President and Woman of Vision, Bonnie Nelson Schwartz is producing *LEGACY AND LIFE*, a concert presented by the Choral Arts Society of Washington and the Washington Performing Arts Society at the John F.

Kennedy Center on November 10. Images celebrating the life and legacy of President John F. Kennedy are set to the Verdi *Requiem*. [Tickets are available here.](#)

Schwartz is also producing *A CONCERT AGAINST HATE* with the National Symphony Orchestra at the John F. Kennedy Center on November 14. The stories of those who have fought against hatred, racism and bigotry are told by performers Charles Dutton, Omar Epps, Harvey Keitel and Gabrielle Union. This is an invitation only event.

Duquette in *Killing Kennedy* Airing Nov 10

Joe Duquette had the opportunity to attend a private screening of *KILLING KENNEDY*. "It looks great - the film is riveting and it was great to work with Will Rothhaar who is playing Lee Harvey Oswald - he is a person who will be hitting the radar very soon big time. He's been working for years but this role will catapult him. I think our scene looks pretty good."



Duquette plays the Consul of the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City who refuses to grant Oswald a visa. "What a blessing to be involved with this film at this particular time."

The movie airs Sunday, November 10 on the National Geographic Channel at 8pm. Watch it if you can...
[Congratulate Joe at joedeeee@aol.com](mailto:joedeeee@aol.com)

Carolyn Marie Makes Them Beautiful!

Shellee Haynesworth
 Valerie Holland
 Melissa Houghton
 Xin Huang
 Jan Lisa Huttner
 Anna Jhirad
 Brian Jimenez
 Amy Johanson
 Cathy Kades
 Isobel and John Kalafarski
 Clara Kelly
 Gail Kerr
 Betty Kotcher
 Jennifer Lawson
 Mary Leahy
 Hillarey Kirsner Leonard
 Jennifer Lester
 Lois Lipman
 Sandra Markrich-Brennan
 Mary May
 Judith Paine McBrien
 Rhonda McDaniel
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 Andrea Palombella
 Brian and Mary Pascale
 Roberta Pieczenik
 Rosemary Reed
 Elise M. Reeder
 Royal Kennedy Rogers
 Loughton Sargeant
 Barb Scheeler
 Dicey Scroggins
 Nneka Scroggins
 Una Small
 Laura Smith
 Robin Smith
 Judith Snyderman
 Pauline Steinhorn
 Daphne Strahan
 Flo Stone
 Sheri Ratick Stroud
 Trader Joes
 Vicki Warren
 Synde White
 Karen Whitehead
 Diane Williams
 Keri D. Williams
 Howard Wilson
 Catherine Wyler



Carolyn Marie is working as makeup artist for the C-Span original series, **FIRST LADIES, INFLUENCE & IMAGE**. The show is on C-Span live each Monday night from 9 to 10:30 p.m. This is the second season for the series that has gone from Martha Washington and will finish with First Lady Michelle Obama. The series runs through February 10, 2014.

Carolyn has stayed busy all summer providing makeup services for Double R Productions on Capitol Hill for several weeks, Melissa Leebaert for a feature article in *Bethesda Magazine*, and in September was the makeup artist for Penny Marshall for the sold-out screening of her 1992 hit, *A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN*. She specializes in airbrush makeup for high definition filming. Carolyn loves it when WIFV members reach out and hire other WIFV members. *Email her at Carolyn@makeupbizz.com.*

Cannon-Brown Receives AU-CEF Award



Sandy Cannon-Brown has just been named the first recipient of the Senior Scholar Award at the Center for Environmental Filmmaking. Sandy is the President of VideoTakes, Inc., an associate director of the Center, a Past President of WIFV, and a Women of Vision Award recipient.

The goal of the Senior Scholars program is to recognize and honor distinguished professionals whose work exemplifies the Center's mission to train students to produce films and new media that focus attention on the need to conserve the environment in a way that is effective as well as ethically sound, educationally powerful, and entertaining. Sandy serves as a role model for emerging environmental filmmakers, mentors countless students and young professionals, builds Center partnerships with media and non-profit organizations, and works with students on films for the Center and its partners.

She currently is working on a film about oysters in the Chesapeake Bay and will show a sneak preview of the film on November 19 in the Wechsler Theater as part of Center's 9th Annual Fall Film Series. *Send your congratulations to scbrown@videotakes.com*

Brooks Receives Top 100 MBE Award

Sheila Brooks of SRB Communications has been selected to receive the distinguished 2013 Top 100 Minority Business Enterprise Award. The Top 100 MBE® ceremony is designed to acknowledge and pay tribute to outstanding women and minority business owners in

Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Delaware and the District of Columbia. The Top 100 MBE® Award is given to enterprising women and minority entrepreneurs that drive the region's economy through their innovation, sacrifices, and dedication, and job creation. These business owners are living their dreams and making significant contributions to their clients, professions, industries and communities.

Women in Film & Video Honored as 2013 Top-Rated Nonprofit

By Kathy Dismukes, VP of Development

For the second year in a row, WIFV has been honored with a Top-Rated Award by GreatNonprofits, the leading online provider of user reviews about nonprofit organizations. The Top-Rated Nonprofit award is based on the large number of positive reviews that WIFV received—reviews written by volunteers, members, and supporters. Here are a few examples:



"I cannot say enough positive things about WIFV. I joined the organization as a neophyte in the film world and quickly found a wonderful, supportive and talented community in WIFV. I recommend this organization to every filmmaker I meet and attend as many of their valuable events as my schedule allows. Their dedication to the profession is remarkable and both men and women will find helpful resources through WIFV."

"Their ScriptDC event was amazing. Direct access to people who can help me realize my dreams. And done with spirit, verve and fun."

"This is a group of very positive folks whose chief endeavor is to support women to the nth degree in their cinematic endeavors. They are so positive (and it comes from the top!) you just want to do your very best when working with them and you get a lot more in return, and I'm a guy..."

Perla Ni, CEO of GreatNonprofits, said "People with direct experience with WIFV have voted that the organization is making a real difference." Being on the Top-Rated list gives WIFV members, funders, and volunteers more confidence that WIFV is a credible organization, and this award is a form of recognition by the community. GreatNonprofits calculates that reviews on their site influence 30 million donation decisions a year. [Please add your feedback about WIFV to GreatNonprofits.](#)

11th Annual Kids World Film Festival a Smash!

By Kathy Dismukes, VP of Development



Launched in 2002, the WIFV's Kids World Film Festival is a two-part program that introduces hundreds of DC area fifth and sixth graders, an especially vulnerable demographic, to the concept of viewing media with a critical eye. The first part is a media literacy course which WIFV developed in consultation with two humanities scholars and the DC Schools and which is delivered by WIFV volunteers in the selected schools' classrooms.

The second part allows the students to use their new skills at a film festival created just for them. WIFV reviews approximately 100 films made for children from around the globe and selects those that best communicate concepts like conflict resolution, tolerance, and diversity (whether in English, a foreign language with subtitles or with no words at all).

The students watch the films then participate in a Q&A to explore its characters, point of view, and messages. The course and the screening together give students valuable lessons that they can use to counteract the prevalent messages they constantly receive from mainstream media.

This year's festival took place on October 29 at the Inter-American Development Bank's Cultural Center, and the schools that participated were Greenbriar East Elementary (Fairfax, VA), Howard University Middle School of Mathematics and Science (DC), Oyster-Adams Bilingual School (DC), and Elise Whitlow Stokes Charter School (DC). A total of about 150 students from the four schools attended, and showing school pride was part of the fun.



The kids watched a total of eight short films from Hungary, Canada, Sweden, France, Ireland, and the US. Themes ranged from exposing stereotypes, to following your dreams no matter what your background, to being the new kid in school and getting bullied. The students loved the films and clearly understood what was going on despite seeing films in another language or without dialogue.

After each film, WIFV president Erin Essenmacher led a short discussion, making observations or asking questions along the way to help the kids formulate their thoughts and tune into the more subtle messages that camera work or editing might have conveyed. When asked to raise their hands to have a microphone passed to them so they could ask their questions, eager hands shot up around the auditorium.



When it came to voting for their favorites, many students chose all eight films. One was overhead to say the festival was much better than she expected and that she liked that the questions weren't just straight out of the program. Another remarked, "It makes you want to go to places you've never seen." The festival is hit with parents as well. Brian Stuart, parent of a student at Oyster-Adams, said "The kids were obviously and thoroughly engaged by the diverse selection of films." Teachers and school leadership were also thrilled with the experience. Perhaps Della Kidd, Assistant Principal at Greenbriar East, said it best when she remarked, "Everyone has a story and every story has a message. The key is to ask questions and look at things through different lenses." She added, "I rarely join field trips but for this one I cleared the calendar."

Structure Productions Hits the Ground Running

Newly established DC-based Boutique Production Company Has Big Ambitions

Washington DC's Structure Productions might be the new kid on the television production block, but the recently launched media company is already generating plenty of buzz among network executives, producers, and industry players on both coasts. Developed under the umbrella the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), Structure Productions benefits from the NAHB's long-standing relationships with clients such as HGTV and DIY. Specializing in non-fiction, docu-series, and reality programming, the company produces original, dynamic, cost effective content that appeals to a variety of audiences.

Executive Producer Jeff Bankert says the versatile upstart offers clients the best of both worlds. "We are a small, personalized, customer service oriented company with big talent and even bigger ideas and imaginations. There are no limits to what we can do."

Headquartered in downtown Washington DC, Structure Productions works with a broad spectrum of broadcast, digital, and corporate clients. They are a full-service, one-stop shop with top of the line talent, multiplatform editing suites, an in house studio, and green screen facilities. *For more information on Structure Productions, please visit our website, structure-productions.com or contact Jen Locke at StructureProds@gmail.com.*





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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