

# WOMEN IN FILM & VIDEO WASHINGTON, DC

# WIFV NEWS

## February 2021

### President's Message



What to do, what to do?  
Looking ahead at  
WIFV's calendar of  
events for February,  
there are so many  
possibilities!

I could kick off the month  
by hearing from an  
independent filmmaker who wrote,  
directed, and starred in his very own action  
adventure film. Very cool. And not only did  
he make his film, he got distribution, too!  
And wait – that filmmaker is one of us! Our  
very own WIFV board member **Giuseppa  
Lucarelli** is going to be taking us behind  
the scenes of what it was REALLY like to  
make and distribute his film **CHECKMATE**.  
Yeah, I should sign up for that. (**Narrative  
Director Roundtable: CHECKMATE**, Feb  
1 @ 6:30 pm)

What's going on on Tuesday...hmm...looks  
like I could start my day by attending a  
virtual coffee, hanging out with WIFV  
members to chat about what's going on  
with their creative pursuits. I always meet  
someone new at these coffees, and it's  
interesting and inspiring to hear how other  
people are juggling priorities and moving  
toward their goals. Plus, it'll give me a  
much-needed dose of socialization! Yep, I'll  
do that one, too. (**Virtual Coffee**, Feb. 2 @  
9:30 am).

I see there's a WIFV program later that  
same day, featuring a panel of independent  
filmmakers who didn't wait for permission  
from some big studio or streamer to make  
their films. These determined folks found a  
way to tell their stories, on shoestring  
budgets with skeleton crews. The creative  
right side of my brain is happy just thinking  
about that. Definitely gonna sign up. (**DIY**

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### Roundtable Roundup

**Narrative Directors: Meet the Filmmaker  
CHECKMATE**  
Monday, **February 1**, 6:30 - 8:30 pm  
[RSVP here](#)

**Documentary: #Upstanders**  
Monday, **February 8**, 6:30 - 8:00 pm  
[RSVP here](#)

**Editors: Networking Coffee**  
Wednesday, **February 10**, 9:30 - 10:30 am  
[RSVP here](#)

**BIPOC: Happy Hour**  
Thursday, **February 18**, 4:00 - 5:00 pm

**Filmmaker Panel – ScriptDC**, Feb. 2 @ 6:30 pm)

At this point, I hear a voice. It's coming from inside my head.

“All this artistic creative stuff!” huffs the left side of my brain. “Fancy-schmancy. What about me?!”

Good news: on Wednesday, looks like there's a panel on business and tax issues affecting my filmmaking activities. Should I set up a corporate entity? Is what I'm doing a business or a hobby? What's the deal with 1099 contractors? And what about all those COVID tax relief provisions? Just the kind of thing the practical left side of my brain will enjoy. I'm in. (**Weds One: Tax Issues for Media Professionals**, Feb 3 @ 6:30 pm).

Three days, four events — and that's just the first week of the month!

WIFV members know that our organization offers the best bang for the membership buck in town. If you aren't looking at the WIFV calendar and picking and choosing among the great educational and networking events we offer each and every week, you are missing out on some fantastic opportunities.

Looking forward to seeing you at an upcoming WIFV event!

Respectfully,

**Cathie Saadeh**

**RSVP here**

**Reel Moms: Coffee**

Friday, **February 19**, 10:00 - 11:00 am

**RSVP here**

**Makeup/Hair**

Monday, **February 22**, 6:30-8:00 pm

Roundtables are free for WIFV Members. There is a \$10 fee for non-members. **You must pre-register to receive login links for online programs.**

## COVID-19 Resources

WIFV has been collecting (and suggesting) relief resources for freelancers, artists, and small businesses across the region. **Access them here.**

**Care for Creatives** provides pay-what-you-can mental health support to the DC creative and entrepreneurial community. Individuals who reach out to the CCSC are matched with a clinical intern to support them through a solution-oriented therapy approach. All services are confidential and will be provided via tele-health. Email [CCSCFoggyBottom@gwu.edu](mailto:CCSCFoggyBottom@gwu.edu) and the Care for Creatives team will follow up with more information.

## Submit Your News & Photos - We Want to Celebrate!

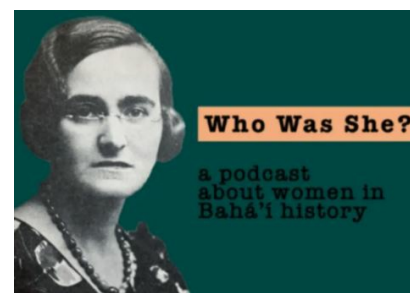
Deadline for Members in the News is the 10th of the month. Send an article (100 words or so) and a photograph or link to [director@wifv.org](mailto:director@wifv.org). **You can see past issues here.** Deadline for the monthly newsletter is the 20th of the month.

And we still welcome receiving photos of you at work - writing, filming, acting, being a stellar PA - [membership@wifv.org](mailto:membership@wifv.org) is where you should email them. Provide project name and photo credit.

## News You Can Use

### Who Was She? Podcast Launched

WIFV Board Member Tara Jabbari has launched **WHO WAS SHE?** a podcast about women throughout Baha'i history. **You can listen to the series trailer here.** The first season focuses on Lidia Zamenhof, an Esperantist, and Baha'i who traveled the world to teach languages in an effort to bring unity to humankind. **The first episode is titled *She Who Hopes* and is available for listening here.** The podcast is also available on **Apple**, **Amazon**, and **Spotify**. You can also find more information on our social media: **Instagram**, **Facebook**, **Pinterest**. Please share, subscribe, rate and review and I know you will be captivated as much as I have by Lidia's work, character and experiences!



**Tara Jabbari** is a digital media consultant and producer and WIFV Board Member. She worked as a producer, writer, editor, and marketer for independent documentaries, shorts and online media. She has began her first biographical podcast to share the stories of women throughout history.

## PAINTED CITY Broadcast and Streaming



PAINTED CITY, the award-winning documentary short by WIFV Member **Caitlin Carroll** and Brad Forder, had its broadcast premiere on Maryland Public Television! **The film is now available to stream directly on the MPT website.** WIFV is honored to serve as the fiscal sponsor for this film.

PAINTED CITY follows the journey of Dr. Perry Frank in her pursuit to save and preserve the memory of murals in Washington, DC. The film explores problems such as gentrification and new building development, which not only push locals out of the city, but destroy murals that provide input into the rich history of DC.

## Phillips Sweeping the Awards!

Seventeen weeks after entering her first film festival, first-time filmmaker **Robin Phillips** (aka narrator Christina di Marlo) has racked up 117 top BEST awards from 57 festivals around the world - more than half are IMDb-qualifying. Learn more at [Groundbreakerfilms.com](http://Groundbreakerfilms.com).

*Behind the Name SHAKESPEARE: Power, Lust, Scorn & Scandal* has won multiple BEST Of the Fest in areas of Documentary, Experimental, Feature, Historical, Sound Design/ Director/ Editing/ Original Concept, etc. [Watch the 3-minute trailer.](#)



The film answers the question, "Who really wrote Shakespeare?" and last November *Hollywood Weekly Magazine* featured her film on the cover of their first international edition, aimed at the UK (see above). "*Behind the Name SHAKESPEARE: Power, Lust, Scorn & Scandal* is a sensational experiment...This new investigation into the works of William Shakespeare...is therefore a film of impressive breadth, capable of reconciling the virtues of cinema and those of theater and uniting them with the depth of its story. Hopefully Robin Phillips will delve further into this wonderful cinematic quest." [Rome Prisma Awards review](#)

**Robin Phillips** is a Member of the National Press Club, Founding Member of the National Speakers Association, DC Chapter, International Documentary Assn, and a WIFV Corporate Supporter.

## Stowe Story Labs Spring Deadline - Feb 10



Our friends at [Stowe Story Labs](#) are approaching their regular deadline for all 2021 labs, retreat, fellowships, and partial scholarships on Feb. 10! This year there are twelve fellowships supporting artists through Stowe programming, and an array of wonderful programming specific for the growing alumni community of Stowe. [Learn more here.](#) You can apply now on [Submittable](#) or [Coverfly](#). We hope you will take the time to apply. Best of luck in the review process!

## Mediamakers Winter Party - So Cozy

So much fun networking with colleagues from WIFV,



The Actors' Center, Docs In Progress, TIVA, and other creatives. A trivia contest yielded prizes for **Joe Dzikiewicz, Hannah Shows, Debbi Mack, Erica Ginsberg, Annette King, Talaya Grimes, and Judy Meschel**. Prizes were donated by WIFV, **Three Seas, Inc.**, and Melissa Houghton. We are grateful to those who contributed to the WIFV Seed Fund for Documentary Filmmakers and started off 2021 as patrons of independent mediamakers.



## Upcoming Events

### Nordic Women in Film Series - 5 Films, Embassies, Panels



WIFV and WIFTI are delighted to be partnering with the Embassies of Finland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, and Iceland to present the following films and discussions starting February 3 at **3:00 pm** (coffee time in Scandinavia)! Registration opens the Friday before each screening on the WIFV calendar.

**February 3 - TOVE** directed by **Zaida Bergroth**

Discussing Boundless Art, Boundless Success

**February 10 - QUEEN OF HEARTS** directed by **May el-Toukhy**

Discussing Women Who Make Our Blood Boil

**February 17 - HOPE** directed by **Maria Sodahl**

Discussing Personal Stories & Big Budgets

**February 24 - LUCKY ONE** directed by **Mia Engberg**

Discussing The Gaze and what happens when women define their own reality

**March 3 - AND BREATHE NORMALLY** directed by **Isold Uggadottir**

Discussing Borders and Boundaries

### Tax Issues for Media Professionals - February 3

For tax purposes, are your media activities a hobby or a business? Should you set up a legal entity—and if so, what type? What are the tax consequences of working as a freelancer or as an employee?

Join WIFV for a practical presentation on business tax issues for media professionals, presented by three attorneys from the leading D.C. tax law firm of **Ivins, Phillips & Barker**. Our panel of experts will walk through the business tax issues that all creatives should know about, whether working as an independent contractor or an employee. The panel will cover tax fundamentals as well as some of the unique challenges of 2020 and beyond, such as COVID tax relief provisions. Will COVID relief affect your tax filings? How should unemployment payments be addressed on your tax return? We will leave plenty of time for Q&A.



**Wednesday, February 3 at 6:30 pm** [RSVP here](#). Panelist bios on registration page!

\$10 WIFV Members / \$20 Public This is an online webinar.

You will receive the login link with your registration confirmation.

This program is sponsored by **MediaCentral**, **OCTFME/202Creates**, and the **Virginia Film Office**.

### February Rocks for DIY Filmmakers

#### Filmmaker Panel - February 2

We are thrilled to present this panel of filmmakers who don't wait for permission to make what they want to see.



Join us and hear about the work of **Michele Remsen** (**TOSS IT**), **Annika Young** (AuhnReel Productions), **Kyle David Crosby** (**PICTRSHW Productions**), **Thomas Bloom** (**DrakeWise Productions LLC**). Bios on registration page!

**Tuesday, February 2 at 6:30 pm** [RSVP here](#).

\$15 WIFV Members and Students/ \$30 Public

This is an online webinar. You will receive the login link with your registration confirmation.

## How to Package an Indie Film - February 9

The most traveled route into financing a feature film is to know where your audience will watch it, who is making your type of film, what cast would respond to it, and what parts of it will be attractive to directing and production talent. NO ONE is going to finance a film based on the script alone that has no distribution or first look deal in place (unless you're John August, Catherine Hardwick, Diablo Cody or Aaron Sorkin of course.) Most distributors nowadays want to see attachments in order to greenlight the use of their marketing departments. This means knowing where your budget range fits within the new streaming, theatrical and pay TV paradigms. Producing an indie is a arduous labor of love... the more prepared you can be BEFORE approaching investors the better. Presented by **Steve Douglas-Craig** (SONY Screen Gems) and moderated by **Lauren Menkes, Esq.**

**Tuesday, February 9 at 6:30 pm** [RSVP here](#). Bios available on registration page.

\$15 WIFV Members and Students/ \$30 Public

This is an online webinar. You will receive the login link with your registration confirmation.

## Pre-Production and Finance for Indie Films

We are so excited you are thinking of making your own film! Where do you start? Join **Joanne Butcher** (Filmmaker Success), **Julie Lynn** (Mockingbird Pictures), and **Claudia Myers** (FORT BLISS, ABOVE THE SHADOWS), independent filmmakers who will share how they approach pre-production and financing. They will discuss both making it yourself and passing it forward to others. Bios on registration page.

**Tuesday, February 16 at 6:30 pm** [RSVP here](#).

\$15 WIFV Members and Students/ \$30 Public

This is an online webinar. You will receive the login link with your registration confirmation.



## Film Case Study: THE NEVER LIST

Join director/co-producer **Michelle Mower** and writer/co-producer **Ariadne Shaffer** as they discuss how they made **THE NEVER LIST** to be released in March (we promise).

Synopsis: After the sudden death of her best friend, a straight-A, obedient teen sets out to fulfill their secret list of outrageous acts they said they'd never do. Starring: Fivel Stewart, Keiko Agena, and Andrew Kai

**Thursday, February 18 at 6:30 pm** [RSVP here](#).

\$15 WIFV Members and Students/ \$30 Public

This is an online webinar. You will receive the login link with your registration confirmation.

## DIY Distribution - February 23

There are so many platforms today for you to distribute your films and as a filmmaker you need to be thinking about how you will reach your audience from the beginning of your process. **DeShauna Spencer** (kweliTV), **Amy Oden**, **Mike Kravinsky**, and **Michelle Alexandria** (Glass House Distribution) will share their distribution experiences to present a range of possibilities for you. Bios on registration page.

**Tuesday, February 23 at 6:30 pm** [RSVP here](#).

\$15 WIFV Members and Students/ \$30 Public

This is an online webinar. You will receive the login link with your registration confirmation.

All ScriptDC programs are sponsored by [Maryland Film Office](#), [OCTFME/202Creates](#), and [Virginia Film Office](#).

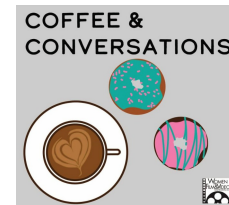


For those of you who don't want to face a conversation in the morning, WIFV will be hosting Happy Hours online. They are a chance to see new faces and discuss what's on your mind! Collaborations have already been formed. These are free, online events. You will receive the login with your registration confirmation.

Happy Hour, **Thursday, Feb. 11, 4:30 pm** [RSVP here](#).

BIPOC Happy Hour, **Thursday, Feb. 18, 4:00 pm** [RSVP here](#).

Happy Hour, **Thursday, Feb. 25 at 4:30 pm** [RSVP here](#).



The beverage will be in a cup at your house, but the conversation will be online! We look forward to conversing with you to hear how you are nurturing your creative soul. These are free, online events. You will receive the login credentials with your registration confirmation.

Coffee, **Tuesday, Feb 2, 9:30 am** [RSVP here](#).

Editors Coffee, **Wednesday, Feb 10, 9:30 am** [RSVP here](#)

Executive Member Coffee, **Friday, Feb 12, 9:00 am** [RSVP here](#).

Coffee, **Tuesday, Feb, 16, 9:30 am** [RSVP here](#).

Reel Moms Coffee, **Friday, Jan 19, 10:00 am** [RSVP here](#).

## Sundance Ignite Young Adult Discount

At [Sundance Ignite](#) we're devoted to supporting a new generation of filmmakers and fostering new audiences for independent storytelling. So we're thrilled to partner with Adobe to offer 18 to 25-year-olds a **Young Adult Discount** for the [2021 Sundance Film Festival](#) (Festival Dates: January 28 - February 3), along with **Ignite Day**, a free day of programming for emerging artists.



**The Young Adult Discount presented by Adobe is a 50% discount off any Sundance Film Festival passes and tickets of your choice.** Young Adult Discounts go on sale **Thursday, January 7** and can be purchased [here](#). Check out [this page](#) to learn more about options for passes and tickets. [Read more on the Sundance Ignite x Adobe](#)

## New & Renewing Members (Dec 30, 2020 - Jan 28, 2021)

Beth Adler  
Erika Agbi  
Meagan Arnold  
Margaret Avery  
Amanda Britt  
Sheila Brooks  
Sharon Burtner  
Cintia Cabib  
Claire Callahan  
Caitlin Carroll  
Frank Cervarich  
Nutan Chada  
Gloria Chan  
Denene Crabbs  
Gail Cronauer  
LeeAnn Dance  
Araceli De Leon  
Maxine Downs  
Robert Dozier III  
Renee Eastman  
Courtney Edwards  
Lynda Evjen  
Gianni Flowers

Nikkia Glover  
Grace Guggenheim  
Umit Gulsen  
Catherine Hand  
Adrienne Imbrigiotta  
Sallie Keena  
Aviva Kempner  
Brianna King  
Annette King  
Kurt Klaus  
Dorothy Kolb  
Lance Kramer  
Kiley Kraskouskas  
Abigail Kruger  
Lia Kvatum  
Lisa Laden  
Dave Lilling  
Amanda Mack  
Jennifer Marcano  
Alexis Matsui  
Tonya McMillion  
Marian Merewitz  
Emily Morrison  
Marilyn Munder  
Andrea Palombella

Virginia Quesada  
Matthew Radcliff  
Sheri Ratick Stroud  
Douglas Ryan  
Anne Saul  
Heidi Scott  
Hannah Shows  
Darryl Singletary  
Robin Smith  
Gus Soudah  
Chip Sovek  
Heather Taylor  
Sarah Teagle  
Ellen Touns  
Pamela Vines  
Ben Weinberg

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Send Stories to:  
director@wifv.org

### About WIFV

Women in Film & Video provides educational and networking opportunities for screen-based media makers, celebrates women's creative and technical achievements in media, and advocates for parity both in front of and behind the camera to ensure that all voices can be heard.

### Support Women In Film & Video Inc.

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