



# WIFV NEWS

## Summer 2012 Members in the News Edited by Flo Dwek



### Magafan Documents Bonobos

It's been a busy spring for Irene Magafan who graduated from AU with a MFA in Film & Electronic Media and had her thesis film,

*The Bonobo Connection*, as a finalist at the International Wildlife Film Festival in Missoula, MT. Ashley Judd, a huge animal advocate, narrated the film. Nick Clooney narrated the promo, which won three TIVA Peer Awards last fall including a Peer Gold. Irene is featured in a Voice of America story on bonobo science and a few clips from the film were included. See it [here](#). The VOA story has been picked up by a Persian broadcaster. NBC4 and Wendy Reiger have also produced a story. Irene is getting ready to start a crowdfunding campaign to raise more funds for post production work. *Send your congrats to [images@showbizvo.com](mailto:images@showbizvo.com)*

### Pagán Awarded Arts Residency!

Mark Pagán, writer/director and educational program director at New Community for Children in Washington, DC, was awarded an arts residency by New York Mills Regional Cultural Center for the fall of 2012. The residency was awarded for a narrative film proposal based on Mark's short film, *Raymond & Lina*, and four years of interviews following women who were raised strictly by paternal figures. While in Minnesota, Pagán will be working on drafts for an upcoming feature film and editing future video installation pieces. He quips that he also hopes to



### Forest Shines at UMD

Kudos to Angela Forest, an intrepid second-year graduate student working towards a Master of Library Science degree at the University of Maryland. Forest puts in long hours creating and



managing video and Web content at the University, but is also involved in several other video projects.

Recently, she provided craft services, lighting and set design support as a production assistant on the local, independent feature, *Ultrasonic*, which played in selected theaters nationwide this summer. Forest is also busy producing two instructional videos for the University of Maryland's Graduate Student Life department. To top it off, she plans to present a paper on the challenges of cataloging and archiving video in a high-definition production environment during the October 2012 Archiving the Arts Symposium in New York City. For more information, contact Forest at 240-997-3995 or at [forestangela9@gmail.com](mailto:forestangela9@gmail.com)

### Yuhas Producing for Educators

Carmen Yuhas is a Video Production Manager at ASCD, a non-profit educational leadership organization that provides resources to educators in the US and around the globe. (Their website boasts 150,000 members in more than 145 countries!) "Our members are professional



educators from all levels and subject areas--superintendents, supervisors, principals, teachers, professors of education, and school board members," Yuhas explains. She manages, schedules and assigns all efforts under Multimedia Projects, including products for purchase and videos for ASCD websites. Her advertising and production industry background have been a plus in making things run smoothly. "I've worked at ad agencies such as Ogilvy and Mather and Bozell in Chicago as well as a Trailer Advertising agency in Los Angeles," Yuhas notes, "but working here in Washington has been a truly rewarding experience." To learn more, contact Yuhas at 703-578-9600 or at

"nail the Midwestern accent and finally have an accurate reference point for when he makes his Fargo jokes." Pagán continues to direct the improv ensemble, Commonwealth, while directing independent theater productions and video essays. He will leave his job as an educational program director in the fall to pursue directing and writing fulltime. For more information, contact Mark at 202-262-1681 or at [markpagan@gmail.com](mailto:markpagan@gmail.com).



### DeShields Marketing to Public TV

Robyn DeShields, founder of DeShields Associates, Inc. in Silver Spring, MD, is a Station Relations consultant. "I have one of the most unique jobs in all of public television," De Shields says. "In fact, there are only eight other Station Relations consultants in the entire country." The core of her job is to market programs to public television stations for producers. Because PubTV stations design their own schedules using programs from several sources (PBS, APT, NETA) it is vital that a producer have a Station Relations advocate to secure airdates for their programs on stations nationwide. "Each day comes with challenges and rewards," notes DeShields. "Sometimes the most rewarding days are those I don't get paid for. I love the days when I have a conversation with a producer about how public television really works - and they get it." You may contact DeShields at 301-388-2492 or at [robyn@deshieldsassociates.com](mailto:robyn@deshieldsassociates.com)

[cyuhas@ascd.org](mailto:cyuhas@ascd.org).



### Dinner With Eastward Films

Jacob Bulgarino, co-owner and founder of Eastward Films, has been hard at work finishing up post production on a documentary, *Degaje*, about the reforestation and new housing initiatives in rural Haitian communities. Additionally, he is in pre-production on an independent feature directed by George Katt and written by Jenna St. John, titled *Dinner With the Alchemist*. The film is being produced by Eastward Films and will start principal photography in Harper's Ferry and New Orleans in October. Eastward Films is a collection of storytellers and visual artists, balancing commercial and artistic cinema. For more information, visit them on Facebook at [facebook.com/eastwardfilms](https://facebook.com/eastwardfilms), on the web at [eastwardfilms.com](http://eastwardfilms.com); or call 757-822-8801.

### Willis DCShorts Screenplay Finalist

Heidi Willis is a finalist in the DC Shorts Screenwriting competition being held this September. "Thanks to WIFV, I attended last year in conjunction with ScriptDC and saw how awesome it could be. I'm proud to say that I'm one of three female finalists and one of two DC writers. How cool is that?" The audience decides who will receive a cash prize to produce their film. Be at the DC Shorts Screenplay Competition on September 14 and support one of our own. Registration open at [www.dcshorts.com](http://www.dcshorts.com) soon!



## Double R Hosts Screening for 25th Anniversary

"We all had a great time at *The Contradictions of Fair Hope* DC Premiere! For those of you who attended, we're grateful you shared this wonderful evening with Double R Productions. We hope you enjoy this sizzle reel our intern team shot and edited. For those of you who couldn't attend, it's a recap of what you missed. Thank you to all for celebrating Double R's 25th anniversary with us."

[Click here to view the reel](#)  
[www.doublerproductions.com](http://www.doublerproductions.com)

## Sapling Pictures Promotes *Mythbusters* and *Lincoln*

Discovery Channel and Sapling Pictures teamed for a rigorous cross-promotional campaign supporting the network's popular series, *Mythbusters*, and new 20th Century Fox release, *Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter*. The campaign includes tune-ins, vignettes and identification spots that merge the lighthearted character of the series with the dramatic themes of the film.

The Sapling Pictures production team, led by CEO and Executive Producer Keith Jodoin, scripted and edited the spots, and provided graphic design and audio mixing services. Jodoin described the creative process as "totally engrossing." "Our challenge," he said, "was to merge the two brands in an engaging and believable way. This was no small task, since we're talking about a film that depicts Abraham Lincoln as a vampire-hunting action hero. Everyone had fun with it."

The work represents the company's latest cross-promotional partnership with Discovery Channel. In 2011, Sapling Pictures produced a series of tie-in spots promoting *Mythbusters* and *Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol*.

Sapling Pictures is an award-winning digital media and branding company, producing fact- and fiction-based content of all lengths and genres, across all media. They offer pre-production, production and post-production services, including stereoscopic 3D. Sapling Pictures was founded in 1998 and is based in Fairfax, VA.

[www.saplingpictures.com](http://www.saplingpictures.com)

## Barrett: Too Many Projects, Too Little Time

Michael Barrett is a free-lance documentary filmmaker who can't seem to complete just one project at a time. His top priority, at the moment, is to complete a film about people with mobility disabilities who are seeking accessible homes. "It's hard to believe, but I'm trying to complete two other projects at the same time." It's Barrett's ardent hope to finish one film about a therapeutic horse riding facility and one on the Civil Rights Division of the Justice Department, where he worked for 34 years. Oh, and by the way, he is also working on two other efforts. The first is a film about Sylvia Beach, who published James Joyce's *Ulysses* from her bookshop in Paris, Shakespeare & Co. "My great aunt," he says, "was one of her best friends late in life and I met her outside of Paris in 1959." The second is a film about the Princeton Triangle Show, an annual student musical comedy that travels around the country to perform in front of alumni groups. Barrett is the local producer for the show and notes that "my father performed in it and was a song writer when Josh Logan and Jimmy Stewart were there as well!" The show celebrates its 125th anniversary in 2016. *Anyone out there interested in helping Michael? Contact him at [Michael@tigerpawprod.com](mailto:Michael@tigerpawprod.com) or 703-795-0109.*



## Williams and WIFV Crew Producing Video Quiz



Producer/writer/director Diane Williams, Marcia French, Chaz Pando (photo by Grace Kim)

Thanks to a lot of great volunteers, cast and crew had a wonderful day of shooting Diane Williams' 'When Was the War of 1812?' video quiz at the Dumbarton House in Georgetown on July 22. Returning WIFV member Julie Allen is coproducing with Williams and secured a great crew of both experienced filmmakers and avid learners. Screenwriter Jane Barbara coproduced and was quiz contestant wrangler. If you Google Dolley Madison, you'll see what an amazing job DC hairstylist Kari Douglas did on Williams' actor/cousin Marcia French from Los Angeles, who played Dolley. And thanks to another WIFV member, director Andre Tittle, who secured some great actors for the WIFV Web Series directing class - Williams found Chaz Pando, who played the Madisons' slave, Paul Jennings. Chaz and Marcia meshed perfectly in their roles. Williams is now writing a script for voice overs and coordinating the delightful quiz clips. This project was partially funded by a grant from the Humanities Council of Washington, DC. *For more information, contact Williams at 703-303-2526 or [dianewms@aol.com](mailto:dianewms@aol.com)*

## Cooking at Stone Soup Films

When Liz Norton founded Stone Soup Films in 2008, she had a hunch there may be a few other filmmakers out there who would be willing to donate their skills to help out local nonprofits. This past June, Stone Soup signed up its 300th volunteer! "These amazing shooters, editors, producers, composers, grant writers, animators, audio techs and photographers," Norton says, "are all giving back their impressive talents to benefit our community." By the end of 2012, Stone Soup will have partnered with more than 20 organizations to develop and advance their communications strategy. They produce and donate short promotional films to worthy groups in DC who otherwise would never have been able to afford this critical marketing tool. Currently Norton and her team are in production on seven films: Hope House, Compass DC, Environmental Film Festival, Reach Inc, Washington Area Women's Foundation and Critical Exposure. *Interested in volunteering with them? Go to <http://www.stonesoupfilms.org/contact/volunteer-with-us>*



## Members stage theatrical docudrama at American Century Theater

WIFV members Paige Gold, Emily Morrison and Abby Sternberg have all been involved with The American Century Theater's Marathon '33, a theatrical docudrama featuring music, vaudeville comedy and nearly continuous dance. Marathon '33 (as in 1933) recreates the nearly-forgotten phenomenon of the Depression-era dance marathons, which were brutal precursors of today's TV reality shows. It was written by Hollywood star June Havoc, "Baby June" of the musical Gypsy and the younger sister of Gypsy Rose Lee, and is closely based on real events and people described in her autobiography. Paige is managing director of the American Century Theater, Emily is its publicity director, and Abby shot the show's video trailer. *[Here's a link to a Marathon '33 trailer:](#) [Marathon '33 runs during August.](#) [More information is available here.](#)*

## Curtis Headed to Slovakia for State Department Training



Erin Curtis works as the Assistant Internet Broadcast Manager for CO.NX-a digital diplomacy team with the Bureau of International Information Programs (IIP) at the U.S. Department of State. Their mission, she explains, is to "connect the world through live virtual engagement." Under a network broadcast model, CO.NX produces daily programming from its headquarters at the U.S. Department of State in Washington, D.C., supplemented by a growing number of embassy and organizational affiliates worldwide. "Our programs," Curtis says, "attempt to follow the global wave of trending topics as well as the more evergreen issues that impact us all. On a Monday we're covering media literacy in language with a studio guest from Al-Arabiyya; on a Tuesday we're live from Rio+20." This Fall CO.NX will lead its first ever intermediate level streaming media and broadcast training for locally employed U.S. Embassy staff in the European region. As part of

the team sent out from D.C. to their training location in Bratislava, Slovakia, Curtis and her teammates will host classes designed to increase the overall production capacity of their embassy affiliates, including multi-camera broadcasts, graphical overlays, lighting, sound mixing and visual aesthetics. *To learn more, contact Curtis at 803-269-3241 or at [curtise@state.gov](mailto:curtise@state.gov).*



## 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  
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)

