

WOMEN IN FILM & VIDEO WASHINGTON, DC

WIFV NEWS

April 2021

Board Member Message



By way of introduction, my name is **sheri ratick stroud**. I'm a Virginia-based producer, actor, and director. I'm also a proud WIFV Board Member, and am currently serving as the Chair of WIFV's Development Committee.

I'm delighted to guest write this month's President's Message!

I don't know about you, but I hear things like this all the time about WIFV:

"Probably the **best value non-profit** I have come in contact with. It helps people connect with other professionals, gives filmmakers a first test-audience with film pros, a safe space to vent ideas and talk about projects, exchange war stories etc. Management of WIFV is unbelievably diligent and responsive and always a great source of information on latest industry developments and best practices. **WIFV is the school after film school.**"

Thank you WIFV member **Araceli de Leon** for that great tribute!

As you might imagine, WIFV's work is made possible by the support of not only individual members, but by businesses throughout the mid-Atlantic region. As a 501(c)(3) community benefit organization, WIFV relies on contributions from sponsors to fund our programming, outreach, and educational activities. Without our sponsors' generous support, WIFV could not fulfill its mission.

As Chair of the Development Committee, I lead a group of dedicated WIFV members who continually seek out individuals and

In This Issue

1. Roundtable Roundup
2. COVID-19 Resources / Care for Creatives
3. Submit YOUR News
4. Fleming Documents Checkers Club
5. REMOTELY LEARNING Streaming
6. Romero's TV Pilot Rediscovered
7. Annapolis Film Fest Starts April 8
8. DC Web Fest April 9 - 10
9. Deadlines for Direct Support of Member Careers and Projects
10. Run for the WIFV Board
11. Pajama Party & THE WOMEN - 3/25
12. SWAN Day - March 27
13. Recruit a Member / Plant a Seed
14. Healthy & Safe Travel - April 7
15. *When Women Invented Television* Book Club - April 15
16. Film Case Study: George Romero's Lost Pilot - April 29
17. Coffees and Happy Hours
18. New & Renewing Members



Roundtable Roundup

Narrative Directors: *EXCESSIVE FORCE*
work-in-progress
Monday, **April 5**, 6:30 - 8:00 pm
[RSVP here](#)

Documentary: *What Does a Producer Do?*
Monday, **April 12**, 6:30 - 8:00 pm

business to provide additional support to WIFV. It's an easy thing for us to do, as we are dedicated to WIFV. Like Araceli, we believe that WIFV is the best value non-profit...the film school after film school. We hope you feel the same way.

Being a WIFV supporter has many benefits. Depending on the level of support, an individual or business can enjoy benefits such as being recognized as a sponsor of specific WIFV events, having its logo featured on the WIFV website, and receiving individual WIFV memberships to share with colleagues -- just to name a few! You can see some of our current sponsors listed at the bottom of this newsletter, as well as on our website on the Sponsors and Corporate Supporters pages.

With that in mind, I'd like to turn to you, our membership, for help. Many of you have connections in the mid-Atlantic media business community. We would love for you to share this great opportunity with them and invite them to support our amazing organization as a WIFV sponsor. Or, you can simply pass on their name and email/phone to Melissa or me, and we will do the rest.

With your help and our outreach, WIFV will be able to continue our important work.

Thank you,

sheri ratick stroud

Board Member, Chair, Development
Committee
itsme-sheri@cox.net

[RSVP here](#)

BIPOC: Happy Hour

Thursday, **April 15**, 4:00 - 5:00 pm

[RSVP here](#)

Reel Moms (all caregivers welcome)

Friday, **April 16**, 10:00 - 11:00 am

[RSVP here](#)

Makeup/Hair

Monday, **April 19**, 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Registration will open soon

Screenwriters: 5-Page Script Reads

Monday, **April 26**, 6:30 - 8:00 pm

[RSVP here](#)

Co-presented by The Actors' Center

[RSVP here](#)

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 and the Care for Creatives team will follow up with more information.

Submit Your News & Photos

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. [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 is where you should email them. Provide project name and photo credit.

News You Can Use

Fleming Documented DC Checkers Club

Several years ago, **Peggy Fleming** documented the DC Checkers Club and its members located. The Club, located for years in the Shaw neighborhood, was



recently asked to vacate the space and it may be the end of the club. We are so glad Peggy is sharing the film with you in this newsletter! [Here's a recent article from the Post.](#)

Hechinger Report & Sanchez's REMOTELY LEARNING

REMOTELY LEARNING from director **Jody Hassett Sanchez** offers an intimate look at family dynamics and the extraordinary demands placed on mothers during the pandemic. Filmed almost entirely on mobile phones by three moms in Texas, North Carolina and Massachusetts, the film captures who succeeds and who doesn't when families "do school" from home for a year. The film is being released by *The Hechinger Report*, a national nonprofit newsroom that reports on one topic: education. [You can read the article and see REMOTELY LEARNING here.](#)



Jody decided to make the 16 minute documentary last March, when the headlines were focused on the looming health crisis. As the mother of an 11-year-old boy and a former ABC education producer, she says she could almost predict what was coming if schools didn't re-open after spring break. She found three terrific moms willing to share their lives during this stressful time. One sends her kids to a charter school, another's is in public school and the third homeschools her nine children. The film captures the stress, frustration, boredom and occasional bright spots of their past year. She just finished filming in early March 2021.

Filmmaking in the time of COVID prompted Jody to consider new ways to be inclusive and creative in her filmmaking. She says that when she asked Thalia, a Haitian immigrant entrepreneur, Francine, who is living below the poverty line and Alyssa, an Orthodox Christian, to make this film with her, "It was a much bigger request than asking them to trust me to convey their stories truthfully. I was asking them to be my co-collaborators, to film their daily lives and bring their POV to the film. I gave them all filming lessons via zoom and by early summer, they were all shooting like pros!" All three are all credited in the film and will be listed as DP's on IMDB. [Jody shared her tips on filming with phones in a blog for WIFV that you can read here.](#)

George A. Romero's Lost TV Pilot Resurrected

A TV pilot created by the legendary filmmaker **George A. Romero** (1940-2017) is finally receiving distribution nearly 22 years after the project first wrapped production. On April 3, 2021, **Cryptic Pictures Distribution**, in association with Image 987, will be releasing IRON CITY ASSKICKERS (1998) on DVD and vintage VHS. (For more information, please visit: [Cryptic Pictures / ICAK.](#)) WIFV is honored to present a Film Case Study on this journey on April 29. [Register here.](#)

Directed by George A. Romero and filmed in his trademark unapologetic style, the pilot centered on the untamed and unregulated amateur wrestling circuit of the late 1990s. Created long before the attitude era of professional wrestling embraced the moniker 'sports entertainment', and filmed nearly 15 years after the airing of John Stossel's 20/20 TV special which debated the profession's authenticity, this male soap opera explores the sensationalism behind the business and foreshadows the television genre now referred to as Reality TV.

The pilot will find its final home in the [Cryptic Pictures](#) company archives, now housed at the [University of Pittsburgh Library System's Horror Studies Collection](#). [Cryptic Pictures LLC](#) is a U.S.-based, award winning film production company.

Annapolis Film Festival, April 8-18



This year's festival has expanded to 10 days for its virtual presentation to allow for a better user experience this year," says Lee Anderson, Festival Director and Co-founder. "And because of that we have been able to program more films this year."

This year's program contains over 100 films (23 feature-length narrative films; 16 feature-length documentaries; 66 short films). The films come from 35 countries: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bhutan, Brazil, Canada, Cuba, Czech Rep., Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, India, Iran, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Macedonia, Malta, Mauritania, Nigeria, Norway, Palestine, Romania, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Spain, Taiwan, Turkey, UK, and USA. [Get passes here](#)

"This year's opening night film MARVELOUS AND THE BLACK HOLE brings a bit of magic to our program (literally)," says Patti White, Festival Director and Co-founder. With heart and humor, it tells the story of a rebellious teenage girl (played by Miya Cech from the current TV show THE ASTRONAUTS) dealing with the loss of her mother and then bonding with an eccentric magician ("Marvelous Margot" played by Rhea Perlman, the Emmy-winning actress from the classic TV show CHEERS) who helps her to reconnect with life and joy. It's a story of being lost and found.

DC Web Fest, April 9-10

The Ninth Annual DC Web Fest aims to immerse its guests in a 2-bit, video-game style virtual world while promoting the best in independently-produced digital media. With the theme "See Problems as Possibilities" and set for April 9th and 10th, the virtual event will showcase the best of independent digital media as well as meaningful discussions with top experts in the industry.



Keep up with all festival details at www.dcwebfest.org and [@dcwebfest](#) across Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter.

Upcoming WIFV Direct Support Deadlines

These opportunities are available to WIFV members only.

1) The **Past Presidents' Mid-Career Development Scholarship***, funded by past WIFV Presidents, enables creatives with a vision for their career paths and a need for additional focus and study in a particular field of interest to continue their professional development with a course at the Maine Media Workshops. Applicants must have at least 12 years experience as a media professional. **The deadline for the 2021 applications is April 19**. [More info here](#). [The required application cover sheet is here](#).

2) The WIFV Board of Directors is pleased to offer a **fiscal sponsorship** program to support the film and media projects of its members. It is one way WIFV strives to support the Mid-Atlantic filmmaking community. The WIFV Fiscal Sponsorship Program is a financial and legal system where our 501(c)(3) nonprofit status allows us to provide limited financial and legal oversight for a project initiated independently by a filmmaker. That project must be non-commercial in nature, i.e. not produced solely for financial gain. Sponsored Projects are eligible to solicit and receive grants and tax-deductible contributions. **The Spring deadline for applications is April 26, 2021**. [More info and application instructions here](#).

3) There is one call for **Seed Fund for Documentary Filmmakers** applications per calendar year. **The 2021 application deadline is May 17**. The application form is

[here](#). The application checklist is [here](#). FAQs are [here](#).

4) **WIFV Board Candidate Statements are due May 11, 2021.** WIFV gains from the expertise and enthusiasm of the WIFV Board of Directors! They set the organization's direction, ensure its sustainability, and represent the organization. **There will be an orientation meeting for interested WIFV members on May 4, 2021. Register for meeting [here](#).** If interested in being a candidate but can't make the meeting, email director@wifv.org and materials will be sent to you. Board service is for a two-year term. A member can serve three consecutive terms. General and Executive Members can serve on the WIFV Board.

*Formerly known as the Randy Goldman Mid-Career Development Scholarship.

Upcoming Events

Pajama Party & Movie Night featuring THE WOMEN!



In celebration of Women's History Month, we invite you to join WIFV Board Members on **Thursday, March 25**, for a Pajama Party Happy Hour and Movie Night featuring the 1939 classic film THE WOMEN!

We will kick off the evening with a WIFV Happy Hour from 5:30-6:30 pm [RSVP HERE](#). Then at 7:00 pm, we'll regroup in our jammies, grab our popcorn, and settle in for an Amazon Watch Party of THE WOMEN. (PLEASE NOTE: An Amazon Prime account is required for this event.)

THE WOMEN is a 1939 American comedy-drama film directed by George Cukor. The film is based on Clare Boothe Luce's 1936 [play of the same name](#), and was adapted for the screen by Anita Loos and Jane Murn. The film continued the play's all-female tradition—the entire cast of more than 130 speaking roles was female. The film stars Norma Shearer, Joan Crawford, Rosalind Russell, Paulette Goddard, Joan Fontaine, Lucile Watson, Mary Boland, Florence Nash, and Virginia Grey. Marjorie Main and Phyllis Povah also appear, reprising their stage roles from the play. Ruth Hussey, Virginia Weidler, Butterfly McQueen, and Hedda Hopper also appear in smaller roles. Set in the glamorous Manhattan apartments of high society, and in Reno, Nevada, where they obtain their divorces, it presents an acidic commentary on the pampered lives and power struggles of various rich, bored wives and other women they come into contact with. Throughout the film, not a single male character is seen or heard.

SWAN Day (Support Women Artists Now)

Celebrated on the last Saturday in March, SWAN Day is an opportunity for you to celebrate women artists! This year WIFV compiled a list of recent women-made films and those deserving of inclusion in the National Film Registry for your viewing.

[It's not too early to start thinking what you want to nominate to the NFR in 2021.](#)



Check out the list of suggested films for SWAN DAY viewing here:

FROZEN RIVER (2008) written/directed by Courtney Hunt

LAND (2021) directed by Robin Wright

LOVE AND BASKETBALL directed by Gina Prince-Bythewood

NOMADLAND (2020) directed by Chloe Zhao

ONE NIGHT IN MIAMI (2020) directed by Regina King

PROMISING YOUNG WOMAN (2020) directed by Emerald Fennell

STEPHANIE DALEY (2006) written and directed by Hilary Brougher

THE GLORIAS (2020) directed by Julie Taymor

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF HANK GREENBERG (2000) directed by Aviva Kempner

UNDER THE SAME MOON / LA MISMA LUNA (2007) written by Ligiah Villalobos and directed by Patricia Riggen

WHIP IT (2009) written by Shauna Cross and directed by Drew Barrymore

WONDER WOMAN 1984 (2020) directed by Patty Jenkins

Watch a film and share your favorite moments at [@WIFVDC](#) and [#SWANDay2021](#). Melissa has seen all of them and can't wait to hear your reactions! Even found some for NCAA and baseball fans.



Recruit a Member / Plant a Seed

What better time than Women's History Month for you to encourage your colleagues to join WIFV? As we continue to support and celebrate independent mediamakers, why don't you do the same by recommending WIFV membership? For each new member joining in March, WIFV Board members will make a contribution to the Seed Fund for Documentary Filmmakers - talk

about a win/win! [It's easy to join here.](#)

Healthy and Safe Travel - April 7

You will be travelling again for work or relaxation. This webinar provides tips for doing it without compromising your health, safety, or principles. Presenters **Tonya Fitzpatrick** of World Footprints and **Edyta Satchell** of Satchelle Global Travel Wellness will share their expertise and tips.



Wednesday, April 7 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](#).

When Women Invented Television



WHEN WOMEN INVENTED TELEVISION: *The Untold Story of the Female Powerhouses Who Pioneered the Way We Watch Today* by **Jennifer Keishin Armstrong**. Ms. Armstrong will be at the Book Club! This program is organized by WIFV member **Paige Gold**.

Synopsis: It was the Golden Age of Radio and powerful men were making millions in advertising dollars reaching thousands of listeners every day. When television arrived, few radio moguls were interested in the upstart industry and its tiny production budgets, and expensive television sets were out of reach for most families. But four women—each an independent visionary—saw an opportunity and carved their own paths, and in so doing invented the way we watch tv today.

Thursday, April 15 at 6:30 pm [RSVP here](#) FREE Program

More info and author bio on the registration page!

You will receive the login link with your registration confirmation.

Film Case Study: Romero - The Lost Pilot

Join Founder and President of the George A. Romero Foundation, **Suzanne Desrocher-Romero**, and the organizations Chief Operations Officer **Jeff Whitehead**, in this film case study centered on the archiving and releasing of the lost works of George Romero (1940-2017).



From the restoration and distribution of the once thought to be lost 1973 PSA entitled the "Amusement Park" (soon to be streaming on [Shudder](#)), to the recent discovery and upcoming release of a lost 1998 [Romero TV Pilot](#) (coming to DVD on April 3rd). Joining the panel will be **Ben Rubin** (Horror Studies Collection Coordinator for the [University of](#)

Pittsburgh Library System), local film distributor **Mark Ricche (Cryptic Pictures Distribution)**, and **Jason Bareford** of Image 987 Productions who will share their work in the unveiling and distribution of a lost Romero TV Pilot.

Thursday, **April 29**, 6:30 - 8:00 pm [RSVP here](#) \$15 WIFV Members / \$30 Public
You will receive the webinar login with your registration confirmation.



These are free, online events. You will receive the login with your registration confirmation.

Happy Hour & Pajama Party Screening of **THE WOMEN**, **Thursday, March 25, 5:30 pm** [RSVP here](#).
More info above!

Happy Hour, **Tuesday, April 6, 4:30 pm** [RSVP here](#)

BIPOC Happy Hour, **Thursday, April 15, 4:00 pm** [RSVP here](#)

Happy Hour, **Tuesday, April 20, 4:30 pm** [RSVP here](#)



These are free, online events. You will receive the login credentials with your registration confirmation.

Executive Coffee, **Tuesday, April 13, 9:00 am** [RSVP here](#)

Coffee, **Thursday, April 15, 9:30 am** [RSVP here](#)

Reel Moms Coffee, **Friday, April 16, 10:00 am** [RSVP here](#)
Short film challenge info at registration

Talent Coffee, **Thursday, April 22, 9:00 am** [RSVP here](#)

Coffee, **Thursday, April 29, 9:30 am** [RSVP here](#)

New & Renewing Members (Feb 26 - March 23, 2021)

Akima A. Brown
Jane Barbara
Meigan Bell
Randall Blair
Junior Bridge
Jena Burchick
Michael Camoin
Anne Cocklin
Jolin Crofts
Justin Cuthbertson
Katherine DuBois
Angela Forest
Nancy Frohman
Alan Gaffere
Katie Gates
Kristin Reiber Harris
Julie Harris
Ja'Von Hill
Chad Horn
Melissa Howerton
Karen Kasmauski

Travis Kevin
Adam Krell
Kirk Lambert
Penny Lee
Diandra Leslie-Pelecky
Jim Lewis
Shannon Maroney-Garrett
Susan Martin
Jax Meyer
Lainey Moseley
Bjorn Munson
Cheryl Ottenritter
Dara Padwo-Audick
Jacqui Porth
Odile Prevot
Rosemary Reed
William Reid
Margaret Rogers
Malikkah Rollins
Peter Roof
Erica Rowe

K.C. Schillhahn
Gary Schonman
Carol Slatkin
Caroline Smith
Sheila Smith
Joan Smyth
Judith Snyderman
sheri ratick stroud
Jessica Stuart
Flora Wallace-Smith
Lillian Warkentin
Julie Waters
Emily Wathen
Joanna Zwanger

Corporate Supporters:

*AU, School of Communications
*Double R Productions
*Ott House Audio

Thanks to our sponsors



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.

When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon donates.

[Go to smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

[amazon smile](https://smile.amazon.com)