Welcome 2021-22 Board

Thanks to all the WIFV Voting Members who took the time to vote in the recent election for the WIFV Board of Directors. The result of their efforts and the continuation of terms of board members elected last year, is that the following will be the members of the 2021-2022 Board of Directors:

- John Aaron
- Sandra Abrams
- Sara Barger
- John Benedetto
- Dylan Comstock
- Sonya Dunn
- Tara Jabbari
- Anna Reid Jhirad
- Steve Lack
- Emma Mankey-Hidem
- Mark Maxey
- Lauren Menkes, Esq.
- Amy Oden
- Malikkah Rollins
- Cathie Saadeh, Esq. *ex officio*
- May Santiago
- Sheila Smith
- Judith Snyderman
- Sharon Sobel
- Connie St. John
- Sheri Ratick Stroud
- Richard Volin, Esq.
- Emily Wathen
- Monda Webb
- Cathie Saadeh, Esq. *ex officio*

Welcome to the 2021-22 Board. You will have opportunities to meet them at networking and professional development events!

Subsequent to the general election, the members of the 2020-21 board voted for the officers to lead WIFV in the coming fiscal year. The officers are:

- Sara Barger, President

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Roundtable Roundup

Sci-Fi Creators, Wednesday, June 30, 7:30 pm RSVP here

Narrative Directors: DP Panel
Monday, July 12, 6:30 pm RSVP here.

Doc Roundtable: Trailer Night
Monday, July 12, 7:00 pm RSVP here.

Editors Happy Hour, Wednesday, July 14, 6:00 pm RSVP here.

BIPOC Happy Hour, Thursday, July 15, 4:30 pm RSVP here.

Reel Moms Coffee, Friday, July 16, 10:00 am RSVP here.
Further committee leadership decisions will be made by the 2021-22 Board.

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. Send your photos to membership@wifv.org. Please provide a project name and a photo credit.

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.

News You Can Use

And the Recipient Is...

We are delighted to announce that Jody Hassett Sanchez has received the Past President’s Mid-Career Development Scholarship that will enable her to take coursework at the Maine Media Workshops.

WIFV welcomes two new film projects into the fiscal sponsorship program - THE NINE LIVES OF BARBARA DANE with project director Maureen Gosling and MAPPING LOVE with project director Mary Alice McMillan.

CREDIBLE FEAR directed by Gabrielle Ewing and OUT OF DARKNESS directed by Carolyn McCulley through City Gate Films have received the 2021 Seed Fund for Documentary Filmmaker grants.

Outgoing President’s Message

By Cathie Saadeh, Esq., 2020-21 WIFV President

As the saying goes, “Out with the old, in with the new!”

It has truly been an honor to serve as WIFV’s President for the past year. On July 1, the gig is up, and I’m delighted to hand the reins over to Sara Barger, who I’ve enjoyed working with as Vice President.

This particular transition is very good for the organization, as Sara and I are quite different and our respective focuses will complement each other. Being a lawyer, I’ve enjoyed working on “back office” things, like the organization’s bylaws and the Board’s electronic records. Sara, on the other hand, is a creative filmmaker — I’m sure she’ll take a different approach, such as planning fun events for members to attend. Also, Sara’s the kind of person who doesn’t just say “Y’know, we should….” and then just leave it at that. She
jumps in and executes! You've already seen this in the Filmmakers We Admire page on the WIFV website. That was Sara’s idea, and she made it happen. So I’m very excited to see where WIFV goes next under her leadership, along with new Vice President Monda Webb, Treasurer Dylan Graves Comstock, and Secretary Sonya Dunn. Read full article here

Incoming President’s Message
By Sara Barger, 2021-22 WIFV President

Cathie was a remarkable President and really kept WIFV on track this year with spirits raised. Thank you, Cathie, for all your hard work this past year. I have very large shoes to fill.

I might be the new President, but I’m a long-time member (since 2006). I’m really looking forward to getting back to in-person events this year and seeing how we can combine all we’ve learned from Zoom to really make WIFV work for all of our members, both near and far. WIFV is such a wonderful community and I’m really honored to have met some of you this past year. I challenge everyone to attend at least one event (virtual or in-person) over the next 12 months and meet at least one board member this year. The WIFV Board is such a great team and your input will help them make WIFV even better. Read full article here.

Nelson Schwartz - Backstage with Helen Hayes Awards

Washington DC, with its 90+ theatres, is rich with major players who either began or make their home in DC or keep returning to play to the appreciative theatre audiences in the nation’s capital. From Helen Hayes, (who began her career in Washington, DC at age 5) to Jane Alexander, Kathleen Turner, Phylicia Rashad, Brian Stokes Mitchell, Debbie Allen, S. Epatha Merkeson, and more have deep connections to DC theatre.

Broadway producer and Founder of the Helen Hayes Awards, Bonnie Nelson Schwartz is producing Backstage With The Helen Hayes Awards, a series of filmed interviews presented by theatreWashington and EventsDC that spotlights the richness and variety of today’s Washington, DC theatre actors, directors, playwrights, designers, producers. Intimate conversations mixed with performance clips provide an entertaining and personal look into the lives that make Washington, DC theatre the second largest and most successful community in the nation.

The series will air on the EventsDC Gather Platform this summer.

Photo of Maria Manuela Goyanes, Artistic Director of Wooly Mammoth Theatre by Zack DeZon

Year in Review - and it has lasted 15 months!

WIFV had approximately 190 programs from March 1, 2020 to June 15, 2021 including 48 paid programs and 141 free programs that served more than 3,000 attendees. We were honored to feature speakers Catherine Hardwicke, Ann Hornaday, Ann Marie Allison, Lydia Dean Pilcher, Felicia Pride, Maureen Ryan, David Talbert, Dave Trottier, Julie Taymor, and many of our local experts. In January 2021, the Membership Committee instituted "Membership Monday" and "Why WIFV Wednesday" emails to keep members informed of benefits and opportunities. We stuffed your inbox with emails, the Monday Missive, newsletter, and Members in the News. We even moved our office to 1200 18th Street NW, Suite 300, to form a media hive with Video/Action. We look forward to having you visit soon!

Throughout the last interesting "year," WIFV continued to provide direct support to members through the Past Presidents Mid-Career Scholarship, Seed Fund for Documentary Filmmakers, and fiscal sponsorship. Staff spent more than 990 hours of
one-on-one time in consultation with members to discuss their projects. The WIFV website was refreshed and a WIFV Mentorship Program was developed in direct response to member requests to connect established and emerging filmmakers. To celebrate the closing of our 40th Anniversary Year, members nominated filmmakers they admired and we are honored to feature those filmmakers on the WIFV website.

Doc Rountable Recap: Waterlust Media

By Randi Cohen, WIFV Doc Roundtable Coordinator

The June Doc Roundtable was a deep dive (literally) into a company which combines science education with advocacy apparel to raise money for causes that support water health and uses digital media and film to promote its unique form of environmental storytelling. Waterlust is eco-responsible apparel used to help fund research and educate the world on key conservation research initiatives.

Patrick Rynne, PhD CEO of Waterlust.com is a marine scientist who turned his passion for the sea into a thriving business which generates funds for worthy environmental initiatives. With the goal of communicating marine science with a broad, general public Rynne picked up a camera in 2011 and began filming underwater. He is an ardent storyteller and uses the medium to get the public engaged and informed about conservative issues.

Waterlust is based in Miami, FL. They have developed a community of passionate people who care about specific ecosystems and are connected with marine scientists to become knowledgeable as well as engaged. According to Rynne Purchasing the sustainably made clothing also keeps the info at the front of mind. You wear it for several years and that keeps marine health easier for you to speak about.

Wearing Waterlust apparel means literally wearing their causes on their backs! Check out Waterlust videos and apparel at www.waterlust.com.

Upcoming Events

Sci-Fi Creators Roundtable - June 30

Rich Bailey, Liz Maestri, Wendy Pennington, and Shoshana Rosenbaum will share their experiences in conceptualizing, creating and bringing into reality their Sci-Fi film projects. Together we will touch upon the various stages of following through a vision to completion and hopefully inspire all of you to take your own projects to the next level. This Roundtable is being gathered by Tanya Thielke.

Wednesday, June 30 at 7:30 pm RSVP here.
You will receive the login link with your registration confirmation for this free, online event.

Book Club with Linda Obst - July 8

Acclaimed Hollywood producer Lynda Obst will join @WIFVDC to discuss her career and her latest book, SLEEPLESS IN HOLLYWOOD: TALES FROM THE NEW ABNORMAL IN THE MOVIE BUSINESS.

Thursday, July 8 at 6:30 pm RSVP here.
You will receive the login link with your registration confirmation for this free, online event.

Narrative Directors: DP Panel - July 12
Join us Monday, July 12th at 6:30 PM as our panel of directors of photography will discuss their craft, how a director can best collaborate with them, and how to tell your story with images. A link to samples of their work will be forwarded to all audience members to screen in advance. Panel features Dennis Boni, Shelia Smith, Matt Nagy, and Rinny Wilson.

**Monday, July 12 at 6:30 pm** [RSVP here](#).
Free for WIFV Members (must be logged in) / $10 public
You will receive login instructions with registration confirmation.

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**Doc Roundtable: Trailer Night - July 12**

The Documentary Roundtable is a monthly program co-hosted by Docs In Progress and WIFV. Trailer Night is focused on peer feedback and includes time for networking.

**Monday, July 12 at 7:00 pm** [RSVP here](#).
This program is free.

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**Resume Swap - July 15**

This is a great time to update your resume with the skills you improved during the pandemic. Get ready to respond to job postings as the production community is able to get back to work. We are delighted to work with a range of media professionals and hiring decision-makers to give you feedback on your resume during our online breakout sessions!

Industry experts include Sara Barger, Ken Nice, Rosemary Reed, Leslie Shampaine, and Kate Tsubata.

Thanks to OCTFME for its support of WIFV professional development programs.

**Thursday, July 15 at 6:30 pm** [RSVP here](#).
$10 for WIFV Members (must be logged in) and Students / $25 public
You will receive login instructions with registration confirmation.

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**Film Club: ROMA - July 19**

Calling all movie lovers: The WIFV Film Club is launching! We'll be holding our first gathering on July 19 at 7:30 pm ET by Zoom.

Our first selection is ROMA (2018), directed by Alfonso Cuaron and available on Netflix. We won't be watching the film during the meeting, just discussing it. We'll announce the next film at the end of each meeting. Your Film Club hosts are Ericka Boston, Connie St. John, and Cathie Saadeh.

**Monday, July 19 at 7:30 pm** [RSVP here](#).
You will receive the login link with your registration confirmation for this free, online event.
These are free, online events. You will receive the login with your registration confirmation.

Happy Hour, Thursday, July 8 at 4:30 pm RSVP here.

Editors Happy Hour, Wednesday, July 14 at 6:00 pm RSVP here.

BIPOC Happy Hour, Thursday, July 15 at 4:30 pm RSVP here.

Happy Hour, Thursday, July 22 at 4:30 pm RSVP here.

Executive Coffee, Wednesday, July 7 at 9:00 am RSVP here.

Coffee, Tuesday, July 13 at 9:30 am RSVP here.

Reel Moms Coffee, Friday, July 16 at 10:00 am RSVP here.

Coffee, Tuesday, July 27 at 9:30 am RSVP here.

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New & Renewing Members (May 27 - June 25)

John Aaron  
Sandra Abrams  
Julie Allen  
Carol Appleby  
Denée A. Barr  
Bridget Bell McMahon  
Laura Bennett  
Joseph Boyd  
E. Samantha Cheng  
Susanne D. Coates  
Dylan Graves Comstock  
Charlotte Corneliusen  
Alyscia Cunningham  
Michelle Delino  
Sue Dorfman  
John Duggan  
Sonya Dunn  
Pamela Fischer  
Janet Fitzgerald  
Lucia Fox-Shapiro  
Marie Gallo Dyak  
Cynthia Gayton  
Gayle George  
Daniel Martinez Gonzalez  
James Gossard  
Jacqueline Greff  
John Gerard Healy  
Emily Hodges  
Julia Hopcock  
Stephanie Hydal  
Mariya James  
Martha Karl  
Sarah E. Katz  
Joanne Lawler  
Jay Mallin  
Carolyn Marie  
Melanie McGhee  
Cola McGill  
Judith Meschel  
Pritidhara Mohanty  
Diane Naughton  
Martha Newman  
AnnMarie Parker  
Diane Roberts  
Nicolas Romero  
Karen Ryan  
Sofia Sandoval-Ferriss  
May Santiago  
Nina Gilden Seavey  
Susan Branch Smith  
Sharon Sobel  
Connie St. John  
Susan Stolov  
Gwen Tolbart  
Garry Washington

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Thanks to our sponsors
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.