

WIFV NEWS

WOMEN
IN
FILM & VIDEO
WASHINGTON, DC

September 2021

President's Message



September will always signal the start of the school year for me. Many of us are students, parents and teachers - I teach film at George Mason University - and I think the anxious anticipation of "back to school" has

never been felt more than this year. I always get a very similar feeling right before a production starts filming - Are we ready? What if something happens? Will everyone get along?

One of the things that I like to remind my students at the start of the semester - as well as myself - is that, yes filmmaking is hard, but it's also really freaking fun! In case you forgot, we all have some really cool skills! Sometimes it gets boring. Sometimes clients are difficult. Sometimes everything on a shoot goes so horribly wrong it's comedic. But we get to entertain! We get to educate! We get to create content that people choose to watch in their free time. Compared to most jobs in the DMV, I'd say we're pretty lucky.

Recently WIFV sponsored two 48-Hour Film teams in the DC competition that is purely for the art and fun of filmmaking. I hope some of you were able to make the screenings. As we kick off the next 12-months with a new WIFV Board, we'd love to hear what we can do to help support this community, and make things a little more fun! How can we create more together and bring the community together even though we may need to physically stay apart? What are some things you've enjoyed over the past year, either from WIFV or other groups you are part of? I encourage you to

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Roundtable Roundup

Editors Happy Hour

Wednesday, **Sept 8, 6:00 pm** [RSVP here](#)

Documentary: Music as Documentary

Monday, **Sept 13, 6:30 pm** [RSVP here](#)

Makeup/Hair: 5-Minute Ponytail

Tuesday, **Sept 21, 6:30 pm** [RSVP here](#)

Screenwriters: First 5-Page Readings

Monday, **Sept 27, 6:30 pm** [RSVP here](#)

Narrative Directors

[email myself](#) or [Melissa](#) with any of your ideas or comments.

I'm very excited to be leading WIFV into this "new year", whatever that may look like. I've really enjoyed meeting some of you at our in-person happy hours and look forward to meeting more of you at our virtual events. We have an [in-person Baltimore coffee on September 21](#), and the [WIFV virtual Open House will be October 13](#). Hope to see you there!

Yours truly,

Sara Barger

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.

Wednesday, **Sept 29, 6:30 pm** [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.

News You Can Use

Jane Cusumano/WIFV Short Narrative Film Finishing Fund - DEADLINE 9/13

The Jane Cusumano/WIFV Short Narrative Film Finishing Fund supports WIFV Members with the completion/post-production of a short film (no longer than 15 minutes including credits). This grant program is made possible with proceeds from the 2001 DC screening of WHAT MATTERS MOST, written and directed by Jane Cusumano and limited in-kind services from [Heninger Media Services](#), [Interface Media Group](#), [Ott House Audio](#), and [ReelPlan](#). The program is administered by Women in Film & Video. There is one call for applications per year. [The application deadline for 2021 is September 13, 2021](#).

The first film to receive this grant was the award-winning TELL ME ABOUT ORANGE made in 2019. It has been accepted into several film festivals and is now an award-winning short!

Grants are awarded via a merit-based review process based upon the following criteria:

- Artistic Merit and Strength of Work Sample from the film under consideration;
- Readiness of Work to be Completed;
- Overall Creative Excellence;
- Distribution Plan.

[More info and application cover sheet are available here](#).

Gear Grant Returns! DEADLINE 9/30

DC-Camera wants to help WIFV Members working with a

local, non-profit client or on a local social issue, whose project would benefit from access to a camera package to support a specific media project. Send non-profit mission statement or description of the proposed social issue topic, along with the required submission form and projected production timeline including number of segments and total days needed for gear to director@wifv.org. Submission deadline is September 30, 2021, with an anticipated selection date of October 18, 2021. [More info and submission form here](#).



The selected project will receive equipment support courtesy of DC Camera. Questions? Call Melissa at 202-429-9438.

Richmond International Film Fest - Sept 7-12



We have a fantastic selection of films and spotlights for this very special 10th Anniversary Edition that we cannot wait for you to come see! This year there are a number of features to select from local filmmakers such as Hawks Ridge and Welcome To The Show, as well as many international features such as Bloom and Tales of Tomorrow. Also in the line-up is a collection of must see short films & live music events such as our Breaking Bread Event.

[You can find more info and showtimes on these films and upwards of over 150 other films by checking out the schedule and our full film guide.](#)

DC Shorts Film Festival - Sept 9-19

The DC Shorts International Film Festival kicks off its 18th annual festival on Sept 9, 2021, and runs through Sunday, Sept 19. DC Shorts 2021 is a hybrid film festival screening 95 short films in 18 showcases online, available in North America for the duration of the festival, and screening five in-person showcases in partnership with JxJ (1529 16th St NW, DC). Two additional in-person screenings will be held at the Goethe-Institut Washington (1377 R St NW, DC). Live events will require proof of Covid-19 vaccination before entering venues and masks will be required for the duration of the screenings and events.



This year's films were selected from more than 900 submissions, with the 95 final Official Selections including four World Premieres, seven North American Premieres, and five US premieres, and hailing from 26 countries. Official Selection showcases present films that are varied in subject and genre, that are from 2 to 40 minutes in length, and are presented in 90-minute programs,

DC Shorts 2021 includes four free filmmaker workshops for aspiring filmmakers of all levels in collaboration with WIFV (Women in Film & Video Washington DC), WALA (Washington Area Lawyers for the Arts), and the GMU Arts & Entertainment Advocacy Clinic. Workshops include Film Budgeting 101, Screenwriting for Short Films, Law 101 for Filmmakers, and the WALA/GMU Legal Drop-In Clinic. [Schedule and ticketing info here](#).

DC Student Film Festival - Sept 17

Please join us for the first annual DC Student Film Fest taking place **Friday, September 17th** at DC Wharf's Transit Pier. The screening will begin at 8pm and will feature 90 minutes of short films from students at American, Catholic, Georgetown, GWU and Howard Universities. Come cheer on your alumni! [Thanks to the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities for their support](#)



of this event.

We will have a networking event for the students from 6-8pm. If you would like to set up a table at the event to meet students and/or contribute swag for goodie bags, please reach out to Sara at sarabarger@gmail.com.

Chesapeake Film Fest - Oct 1-10

Remember the excitement of watching films on a big screen with surround sound in a darkened theater among other film lovers, and then discussing them with the filmmakers? That intimate experience returns this fall as the Chesapeake Film Festival offers a wall-to-wall weekend of provocative, insightful and innovative films October 1 and 2 at Easton's Avalon Theatre.



Friday evening begins with a VIP reception for sponsors and donors followed by screenings and discussions of environmental films, including the world premiere of a new film by local favorites Tom Horton, Dave Harp and Sandy Cannon-Brown. Saturday's films feature two audience-pleasing narrative newcomers. Admission to Friday's evening of environmental films and discussions is \$25. Admission for Saturday's films is \$15 each. [More info on films here](#).

The remaining complement of the Chesapeake Film Festival's lineup will be shown virtually October 3-10. The CFF is thrilled to bring these films to audiences free-of-charge, but donations to help offset cost is encouraged. For the Live and Virtual Festival, nearly 60 films will be shown, including documentaries, animation, shorts, narratives, student films, Made in Maryland films, thrillers and environmental films. [Tickets go on sale Sept 1](#).

Upcoming Events

Getting the Best Sound for your Production - Sept 1



Capturing the best sound during production is critical to a high-quality finished project that people will actually watch. Who better than sound recorders and audio editors to share with you what they need and how to get it? Panelists are [Donna Gureckas](#), [Steve Lack](#), and [Cheryl Ottenritter](#).

Event sponsored by [Everywoman Studios](#), [Interface Media Group](#), [202 Creates](#), and [OCTFME](#).

Wednesday, September 1 at 6:30 pm [RSVP here](#)
\$15 for WIFV Members (must be logged in) and Students/ \$30 public
You will receive the login link with your registration confirmation for this online event.

ScriptDC Returns in September

While we can't gather in person for a weekend of workshops, we can still provide engaging speakers and high-quality information and connections online. You save commute time and we are able to include presenters from multiple time zones. September features foundational info to get your story on paper and a Filmmaker Conversation with [Alice Wu](#) and [Ann Hornaday](#).



ScriptDC is made possible with support from [202Creates](#), [Interface Media Group](#), [Maryland Film Office](#), [OCTFME](#), and [Virginia Film Office](#). These programs will be online webinars and you will receive the login link with your registration confirmation.

Screenplay Formatting - September 14

Returning by popular demand, "Dr. Format" aka **Dave Trottier** shares the latest trends in formatting and simplifies spec screenplay formatting techniques in the process. Dave will cover all the fundamentals (including common blunders) and make it easy for you to apply this "screenwriting language" and the latest trends to your current script. Plenty of time for Q&A.

Tuesday, September 14 at 6:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

\$15 for WIFV Members (must be logged in) and Students/ \$30 public

Final Draft 12 Tips and Techniques - September 28



Join **MK McFadden** and **Shelly Mellott** in this live webinar and see what Final Draft 12 offers. Learn how to clearly navigate the latest features, including how to use and customize templates, collaborate remotely, outline your

story with the Beat Board and Story Map, run an inclusivity report, and more! Expert demonstration with Q&A opportunities to get your questions answered. WIFV Member discount for software purchase or upgrade available.

Tuesday, September 28 at 6:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

\$15 for WIFV Members (must be logged in) and Students/ \$30 public

Filmmaker Conversation: Alice Wu - September 30

ScriptDC filmmaker conversations and case studies start with **Alice Wu**, a Chinese-American film director and screenwriter. **SAVING FACE**, her feature debut, premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival where it was acquired for theatrical distribution by Sony Pictures Classics. Ms. Wu wrote and directed **THE HALF OF IT**, co-produced with Anthony Bregman and M. Blair Breard for Netflix. A modern-day "Cyrano" story about a shy straight-A student who helps a clueless high school football player woo the girl they both secretly love.



We are delighted that *The Washington Post* Film Critic, **Ann Hornaday**, will moderate the evening. More information on both speakers is available on the registration page.

Thursday, September 30 at 6:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

\$15 for WIFV Members (must be logged in) and Students/ \$30 public

Film Club: ENCHANTED APRIL - Sept 20



This month's selection is **ENCHANTED APRIL** (1991), directed by Mike Newell. The screenplay by Peter Barnes was adapted from Elizabeth von Arnim's 1922 novel of the same name. The film is available on Amazon for \$2.99. 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.

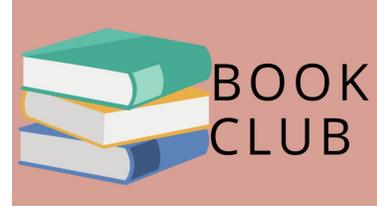
Monday, September 20 at 7:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

You will receive the login link with your registration confirmation for this free, online event.

Book Club with Ken Kwapis - Sept 23

Join us to discuss director Ken Kwapis' career

memoir, *But What I Really Want to Do Is Direct*. Kwapis is considered one of the most respected directors in the business and a major force in creating the hit TV shows THE OFFICE, THE LARRY SANDERS SHOW, THE BERNIE MAC SHOW, and MALCOLM IN THE MIDDLE. His feature film credits include HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU and THE SISTERHOOD OF THE TRAVELING PANTS. [Link to buy the book.](#)



Thursday, September 23 at 6:30 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.

Editors Happy Hour, **Wednesday, Sept 8 at 6:00 pm** [RSVP here](#)

BIPOC Happy Hour, **Thursday, Sept 16 at 4:30 pm** [RSVP here](#)

Happy Hour, **Wednesday, Sept 29 at 4:30 pm** [RSVP here](#)



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

Executive Coffee, **Tuesday, Sept 7 at 9:00 am** [RSVP here](#)

Reel Moms Coffee, **Friday, Sept 17 at 10:00 am** [RSVP here](#)

In-person Coffee in Baltimore, **Tuesday, Sept 21 at 9:00 am** [RSVP here](#)

New & Renewing Members (June 26 - August 24)

Shilette Addison-Reed
Day Al-Mohamed
Michael Amodeo
Chrissie Atkinson
John Ayala
Rich Bailey
Nancy Wheeler Balboa
Maria Barnes
Alison Bauer
Felice Berkowitz
Dan Byrnes
Lauren Cardillo
Lia Carney
Emily Crawford
Martin Dale
David Deutsch
Hugh Drescher
Angela Edwards
Chuck Fazio
Dana Flor
Christa Forman
Mary Frost
Abby Gillespie

Peter Hackes
Nicole Haddock
Jeff Hall
Janelle Harris
Shelby Hiltunen
Steven Holloway
Mindy Hu
Karetta Hubbard
Jasmine Huggins
Carletta Hurt
Padideh Jalali-Shirazi
Michi Jones
Royal Kennedy Rodgers
Christina Ksoll
Steve Lack
Danielle Lawrence
Christian Lindstrom
Lois Lipman
Rachel Longman
Malkia Lydia
Irene Magafan
Emma Mankey Hidem
Thomas Mason

Patti North
Cheryl Ottenritter
Andrea Passafiume
Kathryn Pasternak
T Anthony Quinn
Abby Rodriguez
Cathie Saadeh
Sydney Seligman
Abigail Sharon
Hillary Shea
MJ Stemp
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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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