

Members in the News - November 2021

Maggie Burnette Stogner, Nina Gilden Seavey, Lance Kramer, Gabrielle Ewing, Chrisa Giorgi, DC Camera, Alyscia Cunningham, Puritano Media Group, Lisa Simmons, Talaya Grimes, Peer Award Recognition - Cheryl Jacobs Crim, Hillmann and Carr, Cheryl Ottenritter, Penny Lee, Lisa Mao, Donna Gureckas, sheri ratick stroud, Wonder Pictures, Rick Kain, Sandy Audio Visual LLC, Spark Media, Jacquie Greff, Bjorn Munson, Elisabeth Noone, Melissa Leebaert, Bart Woodward

UNBREATHABLE at COP26 and More Accolades

UNBREATHABLE: The Fight For Healthy Air, directed by **Maggie Burnette Stogner**, will be screening multiple times at the United Nations COP26 Climate Change Festival with the Nature, Wildlife, Environmental Foundation (NEWF). It will also be broadcast throughout November 2021 in Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe, St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha, via DSTV and Open View.



In October, UNBREATHABLE screened with the United Nations Association Film Festival at Stanford University, selected from over 600 submissions, with this statement from the jury: "we found your film to be extremely pertinent and well suited for this year's theme, Moving Forward, and feel strongly that the audience will be captivated by your work." It also screened at the national American Public Health Association 2021 Annual Meeting and Expo (Oct. 23 - 27). APHA reaches over 25,000 health professionals across the U.S. and champions the health of all people and all communities.

October ended with a flourish when UNBREATHABLE was selected for recognition by TIVA Peer Awards. If you are interested in arranging for a screening of UNBREATHABLE or to have your university, high school, library, or other organization license it for a screening, please go to www.unbreathable.org



Award Recognition for Gilden Seavey

Nina Gilden Seavey commented that she is "Thrilled and humbled to be receiving the 2021 Charles Guggenheim Cinema St. Louis Award which honors St. Louisians who have made significant contributions to the art of film. Thank you St. Louis International Film Festival."

Kramer is in 40 Under 40



Congrats to **Lance Kramer** of **Meridian Hill Pictures** for being chosen to this year's list! Now in its fourth year, the 40 Under 40 list shines a

spotlight on emerging talent. This program is co-presented by HBO Documentary Films.

The 40 Under 40 selection process begins with an open call for nominations for filmmakers based in the U.S. and Canada. The final list of honorees was chosen by a selection committee that included DOC NYC staff and leading industry decision-makers. In addition to directors, the list encompasses talent working in producing, editing, cinematography, and other creative roles. [See the full list of honorees here](#)

DC Camera Equipment Grants Awarded

WIFV is grateful to **DC Camera** for supporting WIFV Members with equipment grants to micro-budget films by WIFV Members. We are delighted to announce that two grants were awarded this year - one to **Gabrielle Ewing** for her documentary CREDIBLE FEAR and the second to **Chrisa Giorgi** for THE CONSCIENTIOUS WINE GROWER documentary. Each project will receive equipment support from existing inventory and technical support, courtesy of DC Camera.



Festival Picks for I AM MORE THAN MY HAIR

I AM MORE THAN MY HAIR will screen at Toronto Black Film Festival taking place in February 2022. For more information about the festival, [visit the festival website](#) or visit Alyscia's website www.Alyscia.com.



The film, directed by **Alyscia Cunningham**, was also selected to screen at Women of The Lens Film Festival in March 2022. For more information, [visit the festival website](#). Women Of The Lens is a live Festival of Film, Broadcast and Digital programming. It was created to celebrate and highlight the achievements of black women in the UK creative industries. This platform was created because the underrepresentation of black women in the creative industries remains stubbornly low.

Puritano Anniversary

Puritano Media Group was started 25 years ago this past October! **Charlie Puritano** started the firm at the age of nine, shooting and editing videos on his Gameboy and asking clients to pay in Blockbuster gift cards. (Ok. Not really-the big Kahuna is older than that.) Stay tuned to the PMG Blog page for CP's actual stories of working on Forrest Gump, MTV and in the trenches of the Indie Film world. [See more on their website.](#)



Their gift to you? PMG Blog Highlights: Our Most Requested Topics [Boosting Your Social Media Strategy with Video](#)

HESS Garners Awards for Simmons



Lisa Simmons' thesis film for her MFA from Howard University, **HESS**, received numerous post graduate accolades, including the prestigious Howard University Paul Robeson Student Awards for Best Director and Best Film. **HESS** also won the Toronto Independent Film Festival and was officially selected for Festival International Du Film PanAfrican Cannes. **Talaya Grimes** served as the film's producer.

The year 2020 has created a dysphoria of emotions and experiences. This range of human expression has been challenging to manage, overcome and triumph. **Hess** the stunning CinePoem drama confronts these issues in usual and unusual pictorial images. **HESS** embodies the truth, the reality of life, and love during dark moments that existence offers.

WIFV Members Well-Represented TIVA Peer Awards

Best of Peer ♦ **Resisterhood** ♦ Cheryl Jacobs Crim

Animated Program ♦ Gold

We Are Library Next ♦ Felicia Widmann, Al Hillmann, Michal Carr, Carol Hilliard, Tod Hopkins and Andy O'Reilly

Documentary - \$50,000 and Over ♦ Gold

Resisterhood ♦ Cheryl Jacobs Crim, Pippa McBride, Paige Lee Smith, Ross Stansfield, Cameron Reeve, Cheryl Ottenritter and Robbie Carmen

Documentary - \$50,000 and Over ♦ Gold

A Tale of Three Chinatowns ♦ Tiger Sisters Productions | Penny Lee and Lisa Mao

Documentary - \$50,000 and Over ♦ Gold

Unbreathable: The Fight for Healthy Air ♦ Maggie Burnette Stogner and Elizabeth Joy Herzfeldt-Kamprath

Education/Training - Under \$25,000 ♦ Bronze

D.C. Courts: Landlord & Tenant Court ♦ Sue O'Hora, Christopher Campbell, Eric Stenmark, Diana Owens, J. Shawn Durham, Donna Gureckas, Dave Kowalski, Ari Zagnit and Heather Sipe

Independent Short ♦ Gold

Heroes' Honeymoon ♦ Rich West and sheri ratick stroud | **Wonder Pictures**

Independent Short ♦ Bronze

In the Age of Covid: When Molly Goes to Korea ♦ William L. Thomas, Kathryn Klvana, Connie Bowman, Chris Perillo, Towanda Underdue, Sean Kain, Vickie Warehime, Wyatt Unger, Susan Kain, Julie Mun, Rick Kain and Lisa Mikitarian

Live Event ♦ Bronze

Jason Max Ferdinand Singers Live in London ♦ **Sandy Audio Visual LLC**

Music Video ♦ Silver

Jason Max Ferdinand Singers Live in London ♦ **Sandy Audio Visual LLC**

Pro Bono ♦ Gold

Syria: A Decade of Atrocities ♦ **Spark Media**

Public Service Announcement ♦ Bronze

Know Before You Throw ♦ Jacquie Greff, Mya Montgomery and Diana Owens, **Tonal Vision LLC** | Gina Bomano, Howard County Recycling

Virtual Event - Prerecorded ♦ Silver

Jason Max Ferdinand Sings Live in London ♦ **Sandy Audio Visual LLC**

Acting Voice Over - Audio Narration, Male ♦ Silver

Through the Looking Glass ♦ “Prince Prigio” | Bjorn Munson | **Jabberwocky Audio Theater**

Acting Voice Over - Long Form, Female ♦ Silver

Finding Justice: The Untold Story of Women’s Fight for the Vote ♦ **Elisabeth Noone**

Acting Voice Over - Spot, Female ♦ Gold

Joe Biden: America Back on Track ♦ **Melissa Leebaert** | **MelissaVoice, Inc.**

Directing - Fiction ♦ Silver

Heroes’ Honeymoon ♦ Rich West | **Wonder Pictures**

Editing - Nonfiction ♦ Gold

A Tale of Three Chinatowns ♦ Penny Lee | Tiger Sisters Productions

Scriptwriting - Nonfiction ♦ Silver

Next Generation 911 ♦ **Woodward Productions**

Scriptwriting - Nonfiction ♦ Silver

Piney Woods School ♦ **Woodward Productions**

Scriptwriting - Nonfiction ♦ Bronze

Observing Lightning from the International Space Station ♦ **Woodward Productions**

Scriptwriting - Nonfiction ♦ Bronze

Safe Office ♦ **Woodward Productions**

Visual Effects ♦ Bronze

Heroes’ Honeymoon ♦ Rich West | **Wonder Pictures**

The TIVA-DC Peer Awards is a merit-based award judged solely on the individual merits of the entry. It is not a competition, but rather an acknowledgment and celebration of exceptional quality work created by professionals and non-professionals in the Washington, DC, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania or Delaware region.

Thanks to Our Sponsors



News Deadline

The deadline to submit your information for the monthly Members in the News e-publication is the 10th of the month. Send your article (100 words or so) and a jpg-format photograph or link to your video project to director@wifv.org.



About WIFV

Women in Film & Video (WIFV) 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.



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