

## January 2023

### President's Message



And just like that, another year has flown by. What a year it has been for WIFV! We launched an incredible **Narrative Script Development Fellowship** that surpassed all expectations - and has

led to one script being optioned and one fellow having a promising meeting with a production company! If you have a feature script you've been putting off finishing, the Fellowship deadline is a great motivator. We're accepting applications for the 2023 Fellowship program until February 10.

[More info here.](#)

WIFV finished up our second year of the **Mentorship Program** with 14 mentor/mentee pairs, an amazing curriculum developed by **Dylan Graves Barbeta-Comstock**, and exceptional networking. The 2023 pairings will be announced soon.

We added three more films to our list of fiscally sponsored projects, bringing the current count to 27. [You can see the list of films here.](#) Just added - DREAM FLIGHT by **Joy Jones** - from the Fall round of applications.

We also awarded many scholarships this year. If you have a short narrative film that needs help with post production, I highly suggest applying for our **Jane Cusumano Short Film Finishing Fund** which awards \$3,000 in cash, plus additional in-kind services. The deadline to apply is January 30. [More info here.](#)

A new addition to our website this year is a **Jobs Board**. If you are a job seeker who might have missed previous postings to the listserv and you don't want to search the listserv archives, you can still see many job posts on our website, in one location, under "My WIFV" [here](#). They cycle out every 30

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### Roundtable Roundup

**Documentary:** *Collaborative Docs: STREET REPORTER*  
Monday, **Jan 9, 6:30 pm** [RSVP here](#)

**Screenwriters:** *First 5-page Readings*  
Monday, **Jan 23, 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.**

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### Send 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](mailto:director@wifv.org). [You can see past issues here.](#) Deadline for the monthly newsletter is the 20th of the month.

days or at the application deadline.

And finally, after a short hiatus, the **Women of Vision Awards** will be presented in person! Save March 6 to join us and honor some truly remarkable female filmmakers. More info will be available in mid-January.

I truly could not be more honored to be a part of this incredible organization. Thank you so much for all that you do for this community. I hope you have a safe, and peaceful holiday season. I look forward to seeing you at one of our many in-person events this year!

**Sara Barger**

**We welcome receiving photos of you at work - writing, filming, acting, and being a stellar PA.** Send your photos to [director@wifv.org](mailto:director@wifv.org). Please provide a project name and a photo credit.



## All Best Wishes for 2023

As we shift between years, we are energized by what this community has accomplished in the last year and eager to work with you in the coming year to support your storytelling.

## News You Can Use

### Direct Filmmaker Support 2022

WIFV remains the only media-focused non-profit in this region to provide direct grants to filmmakers. In 2022 we were honored to recognize **Cintia Cabib** for BIRD WALK and **Vanessa Johnston** for DRAGON LADY with **Seed Grants for Documentary Filmmakers** to support their projects in the early stage of development. **The 2023 Deadline for Applications will be April 21, 2023. [More info here.](#)**



Together with the Maine Media Workshops, the **Past President Scholarship** was utilized by **Amy Oden** and **Toni George** during 2022 to take coursework in Maine! **The 2023 Deadline for Applications will be May 15, 2023. [More info here.](#)**

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 **Henninger Media Services**, **Interface Media Group**, **Ott House Audio**, and **ReelPlan**. Currently the team behind THE FAMILIAR is utilizing this grant. **The Deadline for Applications is January 30, 2023. [More info here.](#)**

We appreciate the donors who make these grants possible! In 2022 the funds and in-kind provided to filmmakers from these grants totaled \$28,000! **[You can support these grants here.](#)**

With the launch of the **WIFV Narrative Script Development Fellowship** we engaged five screenwriters - **Alyscia Cunningham**, **Joe Dzikiewicz**, **Laura Kroeger**, **Bridget Bell McMahon**, and **Mark Ricche** - with mentors and colleagues - Mark Maxey, Alison Rosa, Joan Darling, Claudia Myers, Steve Douglas-Craig, Anne Chapman, Kurt Klaus, Esq., Bri Castellini, Jay Schlossberg, Sheila Smith, David O'Ferrall, Sara Elizabeth Timmins, Laurie Scheer, Diana Kerew, Megan Holley, Felicia Pride, Ann Marie Allison, Audrea Topps-Harjo, Herbert Niles, Catherine Wyler, Catherine Hand, Kathleen LeDain, Sandhya Shardanand, Debbie Dorsey, and Sara Barger - during the nine-month Fellowship to move their scripts closer to production. The WIFV Narrative Script Development Fellowship in 2022 was supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. To learn more visit [www.arts.gov](http://www.arts.gov) Additional support received from **OCTFME/2022 Creates** and the Gem Star Foundation. **The Deadline for Applications is February 10, 2023. [More info here.](#)**

It is exciting to see the progress made by the teams in the **Short Narrative Film Initiative** during 2022. Five scripts were chosen by a three-part review from 25 script submissions. We anticipate screening the four films now entering post-production by mid-2023!

## Program Provision and Staff Time in 2022

For the third year in a row, WIFV provided more than 200 professional development and networking programs to more than 2,700 attendees. Most were online, but we were able to slip in some in-person coffees, happy hours, and the WIFV Open House! At each event, there were mutual interests between attendees and new collaborations formed. These events are also where we introduce this region's talent to panelists with established careers and contacts.

In 2022 WIFV full-time and part-time staff worked 3,750+ hours to support this region's filmmakers. This allows WIFV to be responsive to members' program needs, provide one-on-one consultations with members, incubate new programs, nurture long-standing partnerships, and develop new collaborations that showcase the Mid-Atlantic as a center for independent film production



**Betty Tells Her Story**  
"...a groundbreaking classic of feminist filmmaking"  
- THE BOSTON GLOBE



## Women-Led Films Included in National Film Registry in 2022

Thanks to all of you who continue to support WIFV's annual initiative to get more women-led films represented in the National Film Registry housed at the Library of Congress. This year, the following films were chosen: BETTY TELLS HER STORY (1972) written/directed by Liane Brandon; ATTICA (1974)

directed by Cinda Firestone; UNION MAIDS (1976) directed by Julia Reichert, James Klein and Miles Mogulescu; WHEN HARRY MET SALLY (1989) written by Nora Ephron; and PARIAH (2011) written/directed by Dee Rees. [Read full press release here](#). It's never too early to begin nominating films! [The portal is open to nominate films for 2023](#). Need some suggestions? [Check out the WIFV list](#).

## Brooks Honored and Inducted by MBE

**Dr. Sheila Brooks** was presented with a lifetime achievement award and inducted into the Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) Hall of Fame by the Capital Region Minority Supplier Development Council (CRMSDC). The prestigious event was held at the National Museum of African American History and Culture and was an event for the books. [Learn more about CRMSDC here](#)



## Upcoming Events

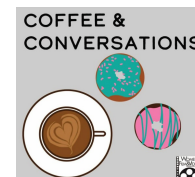


### WIFV Executive Members

[RSVP here](#)

**Tuesday, January 10, 9:00 am**

You will receive the login with your registration confirmation.



### Reel Moms Coffee [RSVP here](#)

**Friday, January 20, 10:00 am**

Short Film Challenge Theme is Bright, You will receive the login with your registration confirmation.

## Script Supervision - Jan 10

The Script Supervisor's position is one of the most misunderstood and overlooked of the entire film crew.

Becoming a script supervisor is a fascinating, high-earning opportunity and the industry's best kept secret with unlimited possibilities for growth. **Jennifer Carriere** will share with you the straightforward "Step 1, Step 2, Step 3" actionable plan that launched her script supervisor and (ultimately producer) careers in record time. They've resulted in more film job offers than she could ever accept, even if there were ten of her to go around. This program will serve as an introduction to her intensive training course.



**Tuesday, January 10, 6:30 pm [RSVP Here](#)**

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

You will receive login information with your registration confirmation.

ScriptDC programs are sponsored by [Maryland Film Office](#), [OCTFME / 202Creates](#), and [Virginia Film Office](#).



## Business 101 - Jan 11

Business 101, will be presented by **Joy A. Johnson**, a full-time multi-passionate entrepreneur, and author of *Joy the Key to Entrepreneurial Happiness*. In this 90-minute session you learn how to pivot to your new career in film making/media or restructure the one you have. We will discuss and distinguish the differences between what skills, talents and gifts you already have; This will

help you evaluate which areas you need to consider collaborating with or hiring first so you can get your projects done. More info on registration page.

**Wednesday, January 11, 6:30 pm [RSVP here](#)**

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

You will receive login information with your registration confirmation.

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

## FLASHDANCE - Jan 16

In honor of the late Irene Cara, the WIFV Film Club invites you to join us for our January selection FLASHDANCE (1983) – an iconic cult classic. Cara was the first bi-racial female to win an Academy Award® for best original song "Flashdance...What a Feeling." Starring Jennifer Beals (THE BOOK OF ELI), Michael Nouri ("NCIS," FINDING FORRESTER) and Lilia Skala (LILIES OF THE FIELD) and directed by Adriane Lyne (FATAL ATTRACTION, INDECENT PROPOSAL), FLASHDANCE tells the story of a young woman from Pittsburgh who works as both a welder and an exotic dancer but hopes to attend a prestigious ballet school. Available for rent on Amazon Prime.



**Monday, January 16, 7:30 pm [RSVP Here](#)**

You will receive the login info with your registration confirmation.

**Your WIFV Film Club Hosts: Ericka Boston, Connie St. John, and Cathie Saadeh**



## WIFV Holiday Party - Jan 19

Let's shake off the winter doldrums with good food and great company! Registration includes food, drink, and a chance to win a door prize. In-person event.

**Thursday, January 19, 6:00 pm [RSVP Here](#)**

\$25 WIFV, The Actors Center, TIVA Members / \$40 Public  
Interface Media Group, 1233 20th Street NW

## Scheduling Your Film - Jan 26



This step-by-step seminar focuses on what you need to know to create a script breakdown and schedule for low budget independent scripted projects. Using a short narrative script, we will go over the steps and general principles for scheduling film productions using simple excel spreadsheets. You will receive a link to the script that will be used for this program in your registration confirmation. This workshop will NOT be recorded. **Maureen Ryan** returns by popular demand and will also be providing her Budgeting workshop on February 9. Registration is available on the WIFV calendar.

**Thursday, January 26, 6:30 pm [RSVP Here](#)**

\$15 for WIFV Members (must be logged in) and Students / \$30 for public  
You will receive login information with your registration confirmation.

ScriptDC programs are sponsored by [Maryland Film Office](#), [OCTFME / 202Creates](#), and [Virginia Film Office](#).



## Editor Terilyn Shropshire - Feb 1

**Terilyn A. Shropshire** began her career when she was hired to edit *EVE'S BAYOU*, the feature directing debut of actress Kasi Lemmons. The film went on to become the highest grossing independent film of 1997. She worked with Lemmons again on *THE CAVEMAN'S VALENTINE* (2001). Shropshire has also directed all of Gina Prince-Bythewood's films including *LOVE AND BASKETBALL* (2000), *THE SECRET LIVES OF BEES* (2008), *BEYOND THE LIGHTS* (2014), *THE OLD GUARD* (2020), and *THE WOMAN KING* (2022), in addition to a variety of television productions.

**Wednesday, February 1, 6:30 pm [RSVP here](#)**

\$15 for WIFV Members (must be logged in) and Students / \$30 for public  
You will receive login information with your registration confirmation.

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

## WIFV Cusumano Grant and Narrative Fellowship Deadlines

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 [Henninger 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 is January 30, 2023. [More info and application instructions here.](#)**

Through the nine-month **WIFV Narrative Script Development Fellowship**, open only to WIFV members, accomplished film professionals will work with 4-6 Fellows to take feature-length scripts from page to production. The scripts will become the basis of collaboration between the mentors and Fellows. Three meetings per month with mentors – will workshop the scripts through all aspects of pre-production and development. The Fellows will also meet monthly, forming a cohort to support each other as they move out of the Fellowship. By program's end, the Fellows will have a shooting script, budget, a plan to make their films and access funds OR a project they can successfully pitch to producers outside of their teams. This Fellowship will enhance the local narrative film infrastructure and strengthen the Mid-Atlantic as an independent film production hub. **Application deadline is February 10, 2023. [More info and instructions here.](#)**

**New & Renewing Members (Dec 1 - 27, 2022)**

Sangeeta Anand  
Susan Borke  
Micaela Burgess  
Teresa Carante  
Daphne Glover Ferrier  
Robert Ferrier  
Suzie Galler  
India Gregory  
Jonathan Gruber  
Umit Gulsen  
Bernice Harleston  
Lisa M. Hodsoll  
Chung-Wei Huang  
Lynnette Jackson  
Michelle Jones

Andrea Kalin  
Claire Kaplan  
Kaitlyn Kirkman  
Stephen Kolb  
Lance Kramer  
Becky Lake  
Gussie Lehman  
Kelli Lightfoot  
Hannah Long-Higgins  
Shannon Malone-de  
Benedictis  
Dominic Mann  
Abby Martin  
Susan Martin  
Mark Maxey

Elisabeth Noone  
Shyla Palm  
Matthew Radcliff  
Michael Rose  
Noelle Cwiklinski Serper  
Robin Smith  
Tia Smith  
Nancy Swenton  
Mary Tierney  
Julianna Watson  
Jess Weigandt  
Jed Winer

**Corporate Supporters:**  
Backfin Productions  
Video Action Fund

## 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](mailto:CCSCFoggyBottom@gwu.edu) and the Care for Creatives team will follow up with more information.

## Thanks to our sponsors



Send Stories to:  
[director@wifv.org](mailto: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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