

Summer 2023

President's Message



I am honored and beyond excited to serve as WIFV president this year.

I fell in love with WIFV when I relocated to Washington, DC, in 2019, after 20 years of

living and working in Los Angeles. I joined the Board in 2020 and through WIFV I have been to meet and work with so many talented folks in the DMV – behind and in front of the camera.

WIFV's excellent networking events, scores of educational and training programs, entertaining and informative podcast, and just plain fun Roundtables and groups – such as the Film Club, have enriched my life personally and professionally.

We have long-known that WIFV's collective voice was powerful and influential. Under Sara Barger's leadership, we became even more intentional about using our voice to open doors and create change in the industry.

To that end, we continue to stand in solidarity with our colleagues and friends in SAG-AFTRA and the WGA in the fight for fairness and equity. Our statement is on our website and all of our social media.

Over the past year, I was able to lead a 10-person Strategic Planning Committee to create a plan that charts a path forward for WIFV for the next 3-5 years. All of the WIFV Board members are engaged and ready to move forward to execute the plan, which will strengthen and grow the organization even further.

In addition to a new Executive Committee, we have four new WIFV Board members. Here is the slate of 2023-24 WIFV Board

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Roundtable Roundup

SciFi Fantasy Creators: *Regrouping*
Tuesday, August 8, 6:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

Film Club: A SIMPLE FAVOR
Monday, August 21, 7:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

Editors: *Tech Office Hours*
Tuesday, August 22, 6:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

Doc: *Evening with Tiffany Shlain*
Monday, Sept 11, 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.**

Send Your News & Photos

Members who are charged and ready to go:

Sandra Abrams
Sara Barger, Immediate Past President
Ariel Baska
Sandra Brennan
Akima A. Brown
Candice Bloch, Executive Vice President
Carolyn Dodd, Treasurer
Jacquie Greff, Secretary
Tara Jabbari
Anna Jhirad
Steve Lack
Emma Mankey Hidem
Mark Maxey
Amy Oden
Malikkah Rollins
May Santiago
Kirk Schroder, Esq.
Lisa Scott
Sheila Smith
Judith Snyderman
Connie St. John, President
Sheri Ratick Stroud
Kate Tsubata
Monda Raquel Webb

What has WIFV meant to you? How has it changed your life – personally and professionally? Would you like to join a committee or roundtable to help move the organization forward and upward? If so, please reach out to Melissa Houghton to get connected.

I look forward to working with you.

Connie St. John

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.

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

Production Assistant Training

Thanks to the leadership of **Mike Rose, Leslie Ralston, Kathi Overton, Peter Roof, and Sheila Smith** 20 people had a chance to learn what it takes to be a valuable and valued Production Assistant. The in-person sessions were held at **Interface Media Group** August 14 and 21.



New and Renewing Members (May 26 - Aug 3, 2023)

John Aaron
Sandra Abrams
Julie Allen
Stephen Ames
Carol Appleby
Sydney Assefa
John Ayala
Jax Baires-Diener
Nancy Wheeler Balboa
Barbara Ballow
Tori Barmoy

Marcus Ford
Jacqueline Fogg
Shynell Formey
Mary Frost
Lex Gillespie
Susan Grandis Goldstein
Abby Greensfelder
Talaya Grimes
Janelle Harris
Tina Hoffmann
Jasmine Huggins

Karen Ryan
Emma Ryan
Cathie Saadeh, Esq.
Sofia Sandoval-Ferriss
Carla Sandy
Colin Sandy
May Santiago
Nina Gilden Seavey
Joan Smyth
Mandy Steen
David Stern

Denee Barr
Ariel Baska
Alison Bauer
Anselm Beach
Laura Bennett
Debbie Brodsky
Sheila Brooks
Sandy Cannon-Brown
Lauren Cardillo
Lia Carney
Anne Chapman
E. Samantha Cheng
Alexis Chinery
Stephen Clark
Susanne Coates
Ricardo Coleman
Dylan Graves Barbeta
Comstock
Alyscia Cunningham
Danielle Davy
Sali Dimond
Nancy Donnelly
Marie Dyak
Angela Edwards
Audry Elmore
Gideon Elron
Andy Espinoza
Carol Federman
Alan Field
Dana Flor

Jill N Jackson
Sheila Jaskot
Martha Karl
Royal Kennedy Rodgers
William Kleinert
Jenn Koiter
Kirk Lambert
Dominique Cymone
Littles
Carlos E Macher
Samantha Malhotra
Jay Mallin
Dan Manatt
Thomas Mason
Thomas McCabe
Bridget Bell McMahon
Judith Meschel
Julia Neff
Martha Newman
AnnMarie Parker
Jackie Perez
Ines Perez-Thompson
Joanna Raczynska
Amy Rankin
Nina Reinharz
Irelene Ricks
Abby Rodriguez
Allie Rood
Peter Roof

Connie St. John
Michelle Stumpf
Ramsey Telhami
Christina Thomas
Chimera Thompson
Adam Till
Shima Tolba
Malory Todd
Gwen Tolbart
Charlie Towne
Claudia Treadwell
Kate Tsubata
Rachel Tyler
Stephanie Vann
Laura Franco Velasco
Monda Webb
Charlotte Wilkerson
Keri Williams
Sophie Wood
Marissa Woods
Wynette Yao
Sara Yerman

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News You Can Use

Burchick & Capital Emmy

MOM & M, a feature documentary directed and produced by **Jena Burchick** was the recipient of a 2023 Capital Emmy. The award represents the category "Documentary, Cultural/Topical" of the National Capital Chesapeake Bay Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. The documentary had its broadcast premiere on Maryland Public Television in 2022 and continues streaming through their online platform at www.mpt.org.



Synopsis: MOM & M is a kindhearted yet raw intimate portrait of modern American parenthood. Meet Nikki, a writer and PhD student; Elise, a social media influencer; and Sansa, their adopted daughter who battles leukemia. Together, they navigate what happens when your partner comes out as transgender while caring for an ill child and learn that cancer remission is not the end of life's challenges.

Brown's work for CBS Sports Wins Gold Telly

Kayona Ebony Brown was the writer for Beyond Limits: Driving Change for CBS



Sports which aired in 2023 and focuses on Raja Caruth an emerging star in the NASCAR Drive For Diversity Driver Development Program Ms. Brown will be talking about her work at a Filmmaker Conversation on August 15 at 6:30 pm. [More info and register here.](#)

Brooks & Tolbart Inducted into NABJ Hall of Fame

Dr. Sheila Brooks is being recognized for her trailblazing leadership and more than four decades of impactful work in media and communications. As the founder of NABJ's Student Multimedia Projects and a champion providing balanced coverage of the Black community and society at large, she has left a lasting mark on the industry. Join us in congratulating our Dr. Sheila Brooks for this inspiring achievement. Her dedication and achievements continue to drive us forward towards excellence. [Learn more here.](#)



Gwen Tolbart is an Emmy Award-winning television broadcaster. She is a Weather Anchor and Feature Reporter at WTTG FOX5DC in Washington, D.C., where she has impacted the community and told powerful stories for the last 21 years. Her career began in her hometown of Montreal, Quebec as host of the Black Community Communications Media's show, "Black Is." A trailblazer, she was the first African Canadian Weather Anchor on both Canada's national "The Weather Network" and Montreal's CTV's CFCF-12.

They were recognized at the NABJ Hall of Fame Inductee & Luncheon on Friday, August 4, 2023, during the #NABJ23 Convention & Career Fair in Birmingham, AL.

Clean Cuts Installs its Second Dolby Atmos Mixing Suite

Clean Cuts has recently installed its second Dolby Atmos mixing suite, which is now fully tuned up and sounding fantastic.



We upgraded one of our eight suites in our DC studio with Genelec monitors as a 7.1.4 Atmos configuration. If you're unfamiliar with Dolby Atmos, it has the ability to create an immersive audio experience, with sound that moves and flows around you in three-dimensional space with its addition of ceiling speakers. That being said, listeners can enjoy a spatial experience on headphones as well.

To come listen to some Atmos or discuss whether Dolby Atmos is right for your next project, [contact Paul.](#)

MTI Provides Tech Support For NBA2K Online Gaming Tournament

Metro Teleproductions partnered with Quince Imaging of Chantilly, Va., to help NYC's OS Communications cover the first half season of the



popular online gaming tournament NBA2K. The season covered 20 days of competition, from mid-March to mid-May at the esports venue District E Event Center. MTI president **Dave Lilling** was the Production Supervisor on the complicated production, which involved creating the infrastructure for a command center that the players and the commentators could broadcast from over Twitch. So many cables!

Upcoming Events



Filmmaker Conversation: Kayona Ebony Brown - August 15

Kayona Ebony Brown is an Emmy Award-winning producer and writer for her work with Super Bowl LV on CBS, which included the pre-game feature, BEFORE JACKIE, starring Viola Davis.

As a multi-hyphenate storyteller, Kayona uses drama to bake fresh narratives that are often seasoned with complimenting genres—sports, fantasy, music, mystery—giving her work with both TV and film distinctive and memorable elements, imprinting on your soul.

Continuing to amplify her unique storytelling through the vehicle of sports, Kayona has talents her voice to acclaimed sports stories, including the NCAA Basketball Championship tease starring Jon Hamm, and the Emmy-nominated 9/11 anniversary NCAA Football pregame open. Most recently, Kayona produced and directed an NFL short doc, THE FORGOTTEN GOAT, that premiered nationally as a key piece for the league's Women's History Month 2023 programming.

Tuesday, August 15, 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.



A SIMPLE FAVOR - August 21

The final pick in WIFV's Summer Sleuthing series takes us to Connecticut, where mom vlogger Stephanie thinks she's hit the friend jackpot after meeting impossibly cool fashion publicist Emily. When Emily asks her for a simple favor Stephanie eagerly complies. But Emily disappears

and Stephanie will stop at nothing to find out what happened.

Our August film, A SIMPLE FAVOR, is based on the novel by Darcey Bell. It stars Anna Kendrick, Blake Lively and Henry Golding. The screenplay was written by Jessica Sharzer and directed by Paul Feig. You can stream it on Amazon Prime Video.

Monday, August 21, 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM [RSVP here](#)

After registering for Film Club, you'll be emailed the Zoom login information. **Make sure you watch (or re-watch) the film in advance of the discussion.** Come prepared to share your likes, dislikes, and insights. It's like a book club, except instead of reading a book, you get to watch a film! [Discussion questions here](#).

Your WIFV Film Club Hosts: Ericka Boston and Connie St. John

Screenplay Big Beat & Formatting

Master Class - August 23

In this 1.5 hour session, Veteran Studio Exec and Screenwriter **Steve Douglas-Craig** will unlock the power inherent in the 'pulse' of a screenplay by examining the big beats of a film, their placement in the structure of your screenplay and what makes them imperative in the journey of your lead character (or main POV). The class will also include a 'live rewrite' where Steve will reformat a past script illustrating the economy necessary to the effective read of your script. Session will end with a short Q&A.



Wednesday, August 23, 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.

Podcast Essentials - September 6

Podcasts are a versatile and thriving medium that range from entertaining to educational, and are quickly expanding beyond only audio. And while podcasts are enjoyable, they can also be useful tools to help bring attention to your project. Where to begin as a host of your own show or even as a guest can feel daunting, but our very own Media & Monuments podcast team is here to offer their experience and advice. You'll learn tips about equipment, workflows, hosting (in all senses of the word!), marketing, and more. Media & Monuments is WIFV's weekly podcast that features conversations with industry professionals on a range of topics of interest to screen-based media makers. From the inception, there have been three rotating hosts: **Sandra Abrams**, **Candice Bloch**, and **Tara Jabbari**. They all also work hard as producers, and everything comes together and sounds great thanks to master audio engineer, **Steve Lack**. Since their third season, they've added another editor, **Emma Klein**, and another producer, **Brandon Ferry** to the team to help with the workload. Media & Monuments will be in production on their fourth season when this workshop takes place.



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

FREE for WIFV Executive Members (must be logged in and use discount code)
\$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](#).

Resources

Women in Film & Video (WIFV) stands in solidarity with our colleagues and friends in the Writers Guild of America and SAG-AFTRA who seek equitable compensation, sustainable working conditions, protection from generative AI, and access to affordable health care.

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.

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.

