

WIFV NEWS

WIFV People in the News - Dec 2023

Nina Gilden Seavey, Sandra Brennan, Robin Noonan-price, Mark Ricche, John Aaron, sheri ratick stroud, Gus Soudah, Alyscia Cunningham, Robin Farmer, Aviva Kempner, Kayona Ebony Brown, Lisa Feit



The Fugitive's Paradox Published

Nina Gilden Seavey had her essay, "**The Fugitive's Paradox**" published in the Fall/Winter issue of *The Sycamore Review*. The piece explores the difficulty of being a journalist or a documentarian attempting to tell the truth when everyone in the story you are reporting is living a lie.

WAITING FOR GALDOT and More Awards

Cast and crew of the short film *Waiting for Galdot*. (a winner of the ScriptDC/WIFV "Let's Make a Short Contest," and the Pittsburgh Raging Pages Screenplay Festival for "Best Short Screenplay") wrapped a week of local screenings including, the **Heritage Film Festival**, the **Montgomery College Short Film Fest**, and the **Wheaton Film Festival** (pictured). Now you too can check out the

film via the **Heritage OnlineFilm Festival**. The screenings are free. **Pre-order now!** Pictured above are Sandra Brennan, Robin Noonan-Price, Mark Ricche, John Aaron, and sheri ratick stroud.



Soudah & Sexpectations

Sexpectations is a laugh-out-loud progressive comedy about Katie and her roommate, Victoria, who have been virgins for way too long. As they approach the end of their 20s, their lack of experience is no longer sweet or novel- it's just weird. **Sexpectations** is a show for women (and curious men) about the woes of young adult dating from our side of the bed.

Jenna and Kevin Good wrote and directed the independent series. **Gus Soudah** of **Light and Camera Werks LLC** was "lucky enough to serve as Director of Photography for the project and was thrilled to work with such a great cast and crew. So much fun working in this project." **You can watch it on AppleTV** or **purchase it on Amazon here**.



S04E15 of the WIFV podcast "Media & Monuments" interviewed the Goods for "Exceeding Indie TV Show Sexpectations." [You can listen to it here.](#)



Cunningham's TEDx Talk is Online

It's live! **Alyscia Cunningham's** first TEDx talk is titled "How You Can Make Your Art Accessible" and you can watch it above! She not only created her first accessible art exhibition, but it was also THE FIRST independent accessible art exhibition to be created. This is the story of her journey, with the hope that other artists will do the same.

"Thanks to Nathalie Lilavois, Curator and Executive Producer of [TEDx DeerPark, Inc.](#), for providing me with the opportunity to debut my first TEDx presentation. I am beyond grateful to [Malik Melodies Sisterhood, Inc.](#) and [Clyne Ever](#) (aka my father) for sponsoring my trip to New York for the event, and EvaluationRx LLC for supporting and donating to TEDx DeerPark.



Farmer at Hedgebrook

Robin Farmer enjoyed 33 days as a writer-in-residence at Hedgebrook, a literary nonprofit near Seattle that supports visionary women writers from around the globe. Farmer, director of the Virginia Screenwriters Forum, worked on two screenplays and a second novel during her "bubble of bliss," which ended in November. In the photo at left, Robin is sitting at the desk where Alice Walker wrote *The Color Purple*. Want to know more about the Hedgebrook Residency? [Check out their website.](#) Next deadline is February.

Kempner Celebrating Two in "Best of..."

Ann Hornaday did an overview of the "best films of 2023" and presented a list of 73 for your consideration. Not only are two locally made, both were made by **Aviva Kempner** through the Ciesla Foundation. **IMAGINING THE INDIAN: The Fight Against Native American Mascoting** and **A POCKETFUL OF MIRACLES: A Tale of Two Siblings** both made *The Washington Post's* full list! Other films with WIFV connections on the list are **STILL: A Michael J. Fox Movie** directed by Davis Guggenheim and **THE LADY BIRD DIARIES** directed by Dawn Porter. If you're wondering what to do with your time, this list is a starting place!



If you want to learn more about **STILL**, Annetta Marion, the film's producer, will be the featured guest at the Documentary Roundtable on January 8. [Register here.](#)

Brown & UnlockHerPotential®



Kayona Ebony Brown, was recently selected as part of UnlockHerPotential® 2024 cohort. Kayona was chosen as a mentee by Ty Stiklorius, business partner/manager of EGOT winner, John Legend, who not only oversees his music career through her Friends at Work imprint but also helps their very successful Get Lifted Film Company. Kayona looks to work closely with Ty on business and creative strategies toward her goal of "completely disrupting the world of entertainment."

Author and entertainment exec, Sophia Chang, created **Unlock Her Potential®**, an annual program aimed at addressing opportunity gaps for women of color through meaningful mentorship from industry leaders. "This program is SUPER competitive. In fact, I applied in 2021 and did not get selected. So this time is incredibly special to me—getting the chance to work closely with one of my idols—considering the things I'm building behind the curtain."



Feit Produces WILD HOPE

Lisa Feit is excited to share her new series, **WILD HOPE**, produced for HHMI/Tangled Bank Studios, and now airing on the **Wild Hope TV** and PBS YouTube channels, as well as on Instagram. Lisa wrote and post-produced several short films for the series, telling the stories of inspiring changemakers from around the world who are restoring biodiversity, protecting ecology and giving us hope for our planet's future. [Here is a link where you can take a look](#) -- and enjoy some uplifting stories about people making a difference for the world's wildlife.

Thanks to the WIFV 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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