

August 2024

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President's Message



Greetings, WIFV Members & Friends!

September is fast approaching and with it our **45th Anniversary Celebration** at metrobar on Friday the 13th.

I'm excited to share that we've secured a fabulous national sponsor for our 45th anniversary – Mattel! I reached out to them when they announced in January of this year that their Career of the Year Barbie was **Women in Film**.

How perfect!!

I sent numerous heartfelt emails to them requesting that they support our wonderful organization and milestone anniversary. Ultimately, they said YES!

How similar is that to what we do as filmmakers? We pitch the importance of our project to individuals and organizations that have the power to support. A non-response or a "no" sometimes makes us want to give up. But when we truly believe in it, we keep moving forward, and diligently keep asking...until we get it funded, get it made, and get it seen.

I truly believe in WIFV, so I diligently kept asking... and Mattel responded. They are providing an awesome auction package made up of a Women in Film Barbie and other Movie Barbies, as well as some Fashionista Barbies that we can give away to our partygoers.

If you haven't yet gotten your ticket for the celebration, I encourage you to do so

Roundtable Roundup

Roundtables are taking most of the summer off to plan upcoming programs! Send your program suggestions to programming@wifv.org and we will get them in the hopper!

Send Your News & Photos

The 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](#). The deadline for the monthly newsletter is the 20th of the month.

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



Join the celebration on September 13.
[RSVP HERE](#). More info below.

before we sell out – and bring a guest! Our “experience” team has planned a fun and exciting evening – with prizes for best costumes and dances, trivia contests, and more. We’ll have a cool deejay playing the hits of the 70s and 80s. Plus, WIFV is covering your first drink and light refreshments. (Food trucks will be on-site and the bar will be open for our guests to enjoy more substantial fare.)

If you can’t go, please consider making a **\$45 donation** so that someone else can attend.

I look forward to seeing you there!

Warmly,
Connie

New and Renewing Members (June 27 - July 24, 2024)

John Carr
Kandy Collins
Angela Edwards
Jamie Fain
Mary Frost
Laura Gamse
James Gossard
Donna Gureckas
Corran Hale
Jasmine Huggins

Martha Karl
Brigid Maher
Carolyn Marie
Matthew McDonell
Kelly O'Malley
Jackie Perez
Roberta Pieczenik
Amy Rankin
Royal Kennedy Rodgers

Ahmed Samara
Carla Sandy
Colin Sandy
Carmen Stanley
Christie Starley
David Stern
Gwen Tolbart

Corporate Supporters:
Sandy Audio Visual LLC

News You Can Use



Al-Mohamed is a Disability Futures Fellow

The Ford Foundation and the Mellon Foundation announced the 2024 recipients of the Disability Futures Fellowship, an initiative administered by United States Artists that is dedicated to platforming and amplifying disabled creative practitioners across various mediums and geographies.

The 2024 Disability Futures Fellowship celebrates a groundbreaking group of 20 visual and performing artists, writers, and filmmakers for their transformative cultural contributions. Each fellow will receive an unrestricted \$50,000 grant, totaling \$1 million in funding for this year’s cohort and \$3 million distributed since the program’s launch in 2020.

The 2024 Disability Futures Fellows are:

Anne Finger (she/her), Writer, Oakland, CA
Cara Reedy (she/her), Journalist, New York, NY
Christine Bruno (she/her), Actor, Teaching Artist, Disability Equity Consultant, NYC, NY
Cyrée Jarelle Johnson (he/him), Poet, Hudson Valley, NY
Day Al-Mohamed (she/her), Filmmaker, Silver Spring, MD
Elliott Fukui (he/him), Organizer and Writer, Oakland, CA

Emily Sara (she/her), Artist and Designer, Massachusetts
Finnegan Shannon (they/them), Artist, Brooklyn, NY
Gabriela Cruz (she/her), Drag Entertainer, Miami, FL
Gaelynn Lea (she/her), Musician, Composer, Writer, and Activist, Duluth, MN
Johanna Hedva (they/them), Writer, Artist, and Musician, Los Angeles, CA
Kay Ulanday Barrett (he/they/siya), Poet, Essayist, and Cultural Strategist, Rahway, NJ
Kayla Hamilton (she/they), Artist, Bronx, NY
Luz Guerra (she/her), Activist-writer, Storyteller, and Historian, Austin, TX
Nancy Rourke (she/her), Artist, Loveland, CO
Natasha Ofili (she/her), Actress, Writer, Filmmaker, and Producer, LA, CA
Saira Barbaric (they/he/ze/she), Mixed Media Maker, Seattle, WA
Saleem Hue Penny (he/him/friend), Hybrid Poet, Chicago, IL
Walela Nehanda (they/them), Writer and Cultural Worker, LA, CA
Warren "Wawa" Snipe (he/him), Actor and Music Artist, Aldie, VA

[Click here to learn more about the 2024 Disability Futures Fellows and their work.](#)

Smith Films Chamber Dance Ramblin'



Sheila Smith was honored to film Diane Coburn Bruning's fabulous [Chamber Dance Project's Ramblin'](#) with the Tony Award-winning Red Clay Ramblers in June at Harman Hall stage in DC this summer.

The Chamber Dance Project is a contemporary ballet company that combines world-class dancers, choreographers and musicians for live dance and music performances. *Ramblin' Suite* was choreographed by nationally-renowned Diane Coburn Bruning. The film was edited by Bruno Falcon, and the performances were filmed by Sheila Smith and Rachel Malehorn. This exciting video is a compilation of the evening's several works, including *Sur*, a sensuous contemporary tango by Argentinean choreographer Jorge Amarante, and *Weave the Wind*, a contemplative piece, all featuring the artistry of their resident string quartet along with the Red Clay Ramblers' soul-stirring tunes receiving a standing ovation every show.

Sheila has collaborated with Diane for more than ten years creating dance videos for all to enjoy, from *Waltz*, filmed at the majestic Cosmos Club to *Exit Wounds*, among many others.

For more on Ramblin' and Chamber Dance project see chamberdance.org. Their next performance will be at Arena Stage on January 4.



We've got news! After nearly 80 episodes, we are changing our WIFV podcast name. Inspired by the amazing conversations we are having with media professionals each week and wanting to best serve you—our listeners, we decided it was time to rebrand the podcast to better reflect our content and purpose. Soon we'll announce a new name, logo, and website URL. But we'll always continue the same great bi-weekly chats with film, television, and video experts. The WIFV podcast gives listeners insight into filmmaking, production, and all that goes into bringing projects to life. The rebrand will be debuted in mid-August. Stay with us for the journey ahead! [Click here and subscribe wherever you listen to podcasts.](#)

Don't Delay - Noms Due August 15

WIFV continues its multi-year initiative to have more women-made films included in the National Film Registry housed at the Library of Congress. Although women have been involved with movies since the movie camera was invented, their work is severely underrepresented in this national collection.



The Library of Congress maintains the National Film Registry to honor “culturally, historically or aesthetically significant films” that are at least 10 years old at the time of their inclusion in the Registry. The selected films are “works of enduring significance to American Culture.” [More information about the National Film Registry is here.](#)

[Get started with your nominations \(or viewing list\) here with these films that deserve to be in the National Film Registry.](#) You just need to include the title and year the film was made. The deadline for nominations is August 15, 2024. [The nomination form is here.](#) WIFV Member-made films deserving of your nomination are HE'S ONLY MISSING by **Robin Smith** and THE LIFE AND TIMES OF HANK GREENBERG by **Aviva Kempner**. [Learn more about these two films here.](#)

Upcoming Deadlines for WIFV Members

WIFV Short Narrative Film Finishing Grant - August 15

This program exists to support WIFV Members with the post-production of a short film (no longer than 15 minutes including credits). [Review eligibility requirements here.](#) The grant consists of limited in-kind services from [Henninger Media Services](#), [Interface Media Group](#), [Ott House Audio](#), and [ReelPlan](#). There is one call for applications per year and a \$50 application fee. You will receive instructions to submit your application in your payment receipt. [Begin your application process here.](#)

Past grant recipients include TELL ME ABOUT ORANGE, THE FAMILIAR, and FLIGHT OF THE CROWS. They are on the festival circuit and award-winning!

WIFV Narrative Short Screenplay Competition - August 31

The Scoop:

Scripts can range from 2 to 10 pages (not counting the cover sheet);

No more than three locations;

No more than 5 characters with speaking roles;

Provide your contact info on the cover page;

We suggest copyrighting your script with the Copyright Office. There is a fee to copyright your script.

First Place entry will receive \$500 / Second Place entry will receive \$250

Awarded in-person after a table read during ScriptDC Filmmakers Conference in Fall 2024

There is a \$25 application fee. [Register here](#) - [Submission instructions will be in your registration confirmation.](#)



45th Anniversary Party - Sept 13

Where has the time gone? Into award-winning films, collaborative storytelling, friendships, and more. We know what WIFV has been up to - professional development programs, networking, ScriptDC Filmmakers Conference, Seed Fund for Documentary Filmmakers, job fairs, Narrative Short Finishing Grant, film screenings, nominations to include more women-made films in the National Film Registry - and we want to gather your media milestones as well.

In July, WIFV will launch an interactive timeline to collect organizational and individual highlights from the WIFV community. So start compiling your list of film titles with release dates, awards, etc. You will receive instructions to upload your accomplishments soon.

In the meantime, [register to join us at the 45th Anniversary Dance Party](#) on Friday, September 13 at metrobar, 640 Rhode Island Avenue, NE, from 6:30 to 9:30 pm. Rhode Island/Brentwood Metro is half a block away, on-site parking garage. Yes, there will be prizes for decade-recalling costumes, dance moves, and more!

Upcoming WIFV Events

Acquisition & Distribution - Aug 1

Understanding where your script figures into the acquisition and distribution landscape is critical whether you want to sell your script or produce it yourself. **Steve Douglas-Craig** will share his expertise about getting films into the marketplace. This workshop is a public part of the Narrative Script Development Fellowship for August. [Panelist bio here](#)

Thursday, August 1, 6:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

\$20 for WIFV Members (must be logged in) and Students /

\$35 for general public

You will receive the Zoom login information with your registration confirmation.



The WIFV Narrative Script Development Fellowship is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. To find out more about how National Endowment for the Arts grants impact individuals and communities, visit www.arts.gov. Additional support was received from [OCTFME/202 Creates](#) and the Gem Star Foundation.

Working Towards an Inclusive Festival Landscape - Aug 14

Film festivals play an important role in the movie ecosystem, helping filmmakers find their

audience. But a forthcoming report from Filmmakers with Disabilities-Documentary (FWD-Doc) Film Event Accessibility Working Group (FEAW), and Film Festival Alliance (FFA), finds that festivals are not welcoming all filmmakers. FEAW's **Cassidy Dimon** will be on hand to share how festivals can change their practices (and how you can help them). Also on hand will be Accessibility Coordinator **Kiah Amara** sharing her experiences and festival programmer/WIFV Member, **Andrea Passafiume** discussing how the Seattle Deaf Film Festival practices inclusion and ensures access.

Wednesday, August 14, 6:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

\$20 for WIFV Members (must be logged in) and Students / \$35 for general public

You will receive the Zoom login information with your registration confirmation.

Coffee in Annapolis

Tuesday, August 6, 8:00 am [RSVP here](#)

This will be an in-person event at a WIFV member's home.

You will receive the address once you register. We encourage you to bring something to share — coffee, donuts, bagels, fruit... Organized by **Felicia Barlow Clar** and **Laura Seltzer Duny**.

Coffee in Frederick

Wednesday, August 7, 9:00 am [RSVP here](#)

Le Luna Bakery & Cafe, 162 W Patrick St, Frederick, MD

Organized by **Jean Rosolino**

Executive Member Coffee

Tuesday, August 13, 9:00 am [RSVP here](#)

You will receive login info for the zoom with your registration

Reel Moms Coffee

Friday, August 16, 10:00 am [RSVP here](#)

The two-minute film challenge theme is PINK.

Info on how to share your short will be with your registration. You will receive login info for the zoom with your registration.



COLLATERAL - August 19

It's heating up outside and onscreen with WIFV Film Club's latest series: Summer Strangers. Each month through September, we'll discuss a film that finds its protagonists making a new friend — or foe — who will change their lives.

August's selection is *COLLATERAL* (2004) starring Jamie Foxx, Tom Cruise, and Jada Pinkett Smith. Directed by Michael Mann. A cab driver finds himself the hostage of an engaging contract killer as he makes his rounds from hit to hit during one night in Los Angeles.

The WIFV Film Club is open to all and is a great way to build connections with fellow members of the film community. We meet on the third Monday of each month. **Make sure you watch the film in advance of the discussion.** We announce the next film at the end of each meeting. The Film Club is organized by **Connie St. John** and **Ericka Boston**.

Monday, August 19, 7:30-8:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

You will receive the Zoom login information with your registration confirmation.

Be prepared to share your likes, dislikes, and insights.

Editors Roundtable

Monday, August 26, 6:30 pm [RSVP here](#) You will receive login info for the zoom with your registration

Come join fellow editors for an End of Summer Zoom Happy Hour! Put your feet up and hang out with us for an open forum to discuss whatever is on your mind. As the leaves start to turn and phrases like 'back to school' cross your mind, take a moment to decompress with folks in your corner of the industry. What are you looking forward to this Fall? How is your year going? How will it end? Are there any issues you'd like to raise with a group of peers? Join us online, on the 26th of August at 6:30PM. See you there!



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 telehealth.

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.





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