

WOMEN
IN
FILM & VIDEO
WASHINGTON, DC

WIFV NEWS

February 2025

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Roundtable Roundup

Narrative Directors: *THE OTHER YOU*
Mon, Feb 3, 6:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

Documentary: *Trailer Night*
Mon, Feb 10, 7:00 pm [RSVP here](#)

Film Club: *MA RAINEY'S BLACK BOTTOM*
Mon, Feb 10, 7:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

President's Message



Dear WIFV Members & Friends,

We are heading into February – the shortest month of the year, although it feels like January was!

WIFV's programming is in full swing, and we have several upcoming events that are free to our wonderful members.

On February 11, we have our second **45th Anniversary Panel** – an in-person event at the MLK Library. The topic is a hot one: **“Will AI Enhance or Assault Equity?”** This event is free for all WIFV members, but you must **REGISTER** to attend. Seating is limited, so register early.

On February 13, WIFV is hosting a virtual **National Networking Night with WIFT-US**. Come get to know some of your filmmaking colleagues from around the country, and perhaps explore a collaboration.

On February 10, join the **WIFV Film Club** conversation about *MA RAINEY'S BLACK BOTTOM* (2020). Make sure to watch the film first (streaming on Netflix). As you all know, I absolutely love Film Club. I get to watch films I've always wanted to see – or had never heard of but needed to see – and then discuss them with brilliant WIFV (and non-WIFV) members.

Rounding out the month, we have coffees in **Annapolis**, **Frederick**, and **Clarendon**.

Coming up in March, WIFV will be hosting its first-ever virtual telethon. Save the date

Screenwriters: *First Five Pages*
Mon, Feb 24, 6:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

Roundtables are free for WIFV Members / \$15 for public
You will receive your login link with your confirmation email

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.

– Saturday, March 8, from noon-4:30pm (ET)! More information to come...

Happy Black History Month! Support your favorite Black filmmaker this month. Send a note of encouragement, watch one of their films, or contribute to their gofundme, if they have one.

Connie

Connie St. John



New/Renewing Members (Dec 23, 2024 - Jan 29, 2025)

John Aaron
Sandra Abrams
Bob Ahmed
Peggy Aw
Jillian Banner
Jane Barbara
Crystal L. Bass
Alison Bauer
Lorraine Blackwell
Candice Bloch
Alene Boghosian
Suzanne Brindamour
Kayona Ebony Brown
Cintia Cabib
Madeline Caldis
Claire Callahan
Deborah Camper
Jillian Cardillo
Michal B. Carr
Frank Cervarich
Caroline Chen
Emily Colon
Cheryl Crim
Katie Culligan
Alyscia Cunningham
Kristen Daugherty
Beth Davison
Amy DeLouise
Sharon Derby
Alexandra Dew
Inna Dmitrieva

Michael Gabel
Todd Gardner
Joel Gershon
Paul Grant
Nicole Gray
Alyss Grear
Jacqueline Greff
Anna Griesshammer
Jonathan Gruber
Donna Gureckas
Maureen Cohen
Harrington
Laura Waters Hinson
Jordan Hoffman
Graham Holford
Diana Ingraham
Walter Jacob
Georgia Jenkins
Anna Jhirad
Terry Jones
Clara Kelly
Aviva Kempner
Michelle Kim
Jenn Koiter
Frances Kramer
Shari Lewis
Kelli Lightfoot
Christine Long
Debbi Mack
Lisa Mao
Elise Markle

Dara Padwo-Audick
Andrea Palombella
Brian Pascale
Jackie Perez
Mignon Pinson
Tatyana Pokrovskaya
Matthew Radcliff
Nora Rappaport
Melanie Switzer Reilly
Hillary Reskin
Bonnie Rich
Libby Richman
Linda Robbins
Jean Rosolino
Amelia Ross
Douglas Ryan
Anne Saul
Alex Schor
Jainaba Seckan
Phil Shapiro
Liza Slutskaya
Robin Smith
Laureen E. Smith
Sharon Sobel
Mike Sobola
Gus Soudah
Flo Stone
sheri ratick stroud
Sarah Teagle
Saraniya Tharmarajah
Morgan Thomas

Joe Dzikiewicz
Lynda Erkiletian
Roderick Evans
Robin Farmer
Brandon Ferry
Alan Field
Tom Fish
Lauren Fletcher
Cheryle Franceschi
Michael Frank
Cheryl Anne Fries

Mark Maxey
Matthew McDonell
Gerard McGrade
Jessica Mendel
Leah Michaels
Ginger Moss
Paul Mowry
Maggie Mulloy
Cadie Naquin
Megan Neff
Terry Nicoletti
Sarah Olscamp

Claudia Treadwell
Brigitte Ayerves
Valderas
Vickie Warehime
Mary Beth Warner
Aura Wharton-Beck
Jed Winer
Andrew Yarrow
Jonathan Zurer

Corporate Members:
Tonal Vision
Video/Action

News You Can Use



The poster for the 2025 State of the Industry Event features a sunburst background. At the top left, the text reads "2025 STATE OF THE INDUSTRY EVENT" in bold red letters. To the right is the Virginia Production Alliance logo, which includes a red and white shield and the text "VIRGINIA PRODUCTION ALLIANCE". Below the main title, a circular graphic contains the text "FEB 6TH 6 - 9 PM". To the right of this is a stylized illustration of a vintage movie camera on a tripod. Below the camera, the text reads "HARDYWOOD CRAFT BREWERY" and "2410 Ownby Lane, Richmond, VA 23220".

The Virginia Production Alliance invites you to one of our biggest events of the year! Our annual STATE OF THE INDUSTRY event is a celebration of film and video production in Virginia. At this event, film professionals and those who aspire to filmmaking mix, mingle, get informed, and share information about the current state of the film industry. We will have updates from Andy Edmunds of the Virginia Film Office and legislative news and updates. Enjoy a complimentary drink ticket and light dinner. VPA Members are \$5, guests are \$10. [Register here](#). WIFV will be there!



WIFV Meets East

WIFV was honored to host six Indian Screenwriters at the office for a conversation with some of our Screenwriters! The time was short, but the conversation was fabulous! Pictured above L to R are: Atika Chohan, Anubhuti Banerjee, Marmabandha Gavhane, Melissa Houghton, **Shoshana Rosenbaum**, Pooja Tolani, Persis Sodawaterwalla, **Connie St. John**. Not pictured: **Alyscia Cunningham**, **Julie Gold**

WIFV 2025 Winter Holiday Party in Pictures

WIFV and DCTV welcomed 85 people to the 2025 Winter Holiday Party on January 24. There was good food, golden tickets in fortune cookies (Thank You **Lisa Scott!**), lots of good conversations, and brewing collaborations. Yes, **Anne Saul** won a Barbie! **Brandon Ferry**, **Michelle Kim**, **Sandra Abrams**, and **Candice Bloch** representing the MediaMaker Spotlight team. **John Aaron** won a special beverage! (Lisa Scott also made brownies with peanut butter frosting under that anniversary logo.) **Connie St. John** welcoming guests.



Sandy Audio Visual Awarded

Sandy Audio Visual, LLC (SAV) was honored with the 2024 Top 100 MBE Award from Capital Region Minority Supplier Development Council (CRMSDC). This marks SAV's third win, following awards in 2014 and 2018. This recognition celebrates their team's dedication and the trust of its valued partners. The Top 100 Minority Business Enterprises (MBE) Award is a testament to SAV's collective efforts in providing exceptional audio-visual services. SAV is owned by **Colin and Carla Sandy**. Ms. Sandy is a WIFV Board Member!



"Thank you for your continued support, which drives us to excel and serve our community with passion. Here's to achieving even greater milestones together!"

VELO LOVE Pedals to 11 Festivals!

Nancy Breslin's award-winning short stop-motion film **VELO LOVE** will be screened at four more festivals over the next several months, starting with the DC Independent Film Festival (February 12-17). Following in March will be the SPE Media Festival in Reno (March 7-8), the Indie Short Film Festival in Charlottesville (March 21-23), and the Garden State Film Festival (March 27-30), where it has already won an award for its original song /

Dreamed of Being Two, by Nancy's step-son Matthew Caws, of the band Nada Surf. Hollywood North International Film Festival (Vancouver, January 20th) and Pendance Film Festival (Toronto, February 27 to March 2). That makes 11!



A graphic for a podcast episode. It features a large pink heart shape in the center. Inside the heart are three women: Tara on the left, Sandra in the middle, and Candice on the right. Their names are written below their respective photos. To the left of the heart is a camera icon. Below the heart, the text reads 'Episode #91 with all 3 hosts!' and 'Host Special: Love, Laughs, and the Rom-Com Genre'. In the bottom right corner is the 'MediaMaker Spotlight' logo, which includes a film reel icon and a speech bubble icon.

Coming up on [MediaMaker Spotlight Podcast](#)

On February 2nd, episode #091: “Host Special: Love, Laughs, and the Rom-Com Genre” - Hosts **Sandra**, **Tara**, and **Candice** chat all about romantic comedies ahead of Valentine’s Day. We discuss some of our favorite films, actors, and tropes within the ubiquitous rom-com genre, while also sharing some fun facts. You’ll love hearing the banter about meet-cutes and steamy scenes, and you may even discover some classic movies to cozy up to with a special someone.

Then on February 19th, episode #092, which due to some choices that will be made after this newsletter is released, is currently a mystery. Will we be speaking with an award-winning editor, a famous actor, a long-time Hollywood producer? Tune in to find out which of those three it will be!

We will also be speaking with the subject and co-director of the feature documentary, *Who the Hell is Regina Jones?* for an episode in March. You can check out the doc ahead of the episode on Sunday, Feb 2nd at the National Gallery of Art. [Register Here](#).

And have you listened to January's episodes yet?

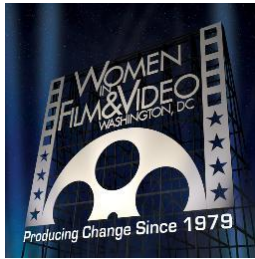
#089: “[Art Amidst Adversity: From Ukraine to Venice](#)” -

Host Tara Jabbari speaks with Zhanna Ozirana, a Ukrainian filmmaker whose first feature film premiered at the Venice Film Festival. They talk about the inspiration behind her film, the importance of art showcasing challenges like war, winning the Biennale Cinema Competition, and much more.

#090: “[Stories that Reframe Aging and Celebrate Older Women](#)” -

Host Candice Bloch talks with documentary filmmaker Melissa Davey about her latest feature, *Climbing Into Life*. They also discuss Melissa's journey, past work, and her mission to keep shining a light on incredible older women in order to redefine how we think of aging.

You can find MediaMaker Spotlight wherever you find your podcasts, including our video companion on [YouTube](#). Don't forget to subscribe to the show so you don't miss any episodes!



Upcoming Deadlines

WIFV is honored to provide a range of fellowships and direct grants for its members. All of these programs enhance the local narrative and documentary film infrastructure and strengthen the Mid-Atlantic as an independent film production hub.

WIFV Narrative Script Development Fellowship Deadline February 10

Through the 9-month WIFV Narrative Script Development Fellowship accomplished film professionals will work with 4-6 Fellows to take scripts from page to production. The scripts become the basis of collaboration between the mentors and Fellows around how to move your script to screen. [Learn more about the Fellowship here](#). There is a \$50 application fee.

WIFV Documentary Development Fellowship Deadline February 17

The WIFV Documentary Development Fellowship program, exclusively available to members of WIFV and members of Filmmakers with Disabilities-Documentary (FWD-DOC), is entering its second year. This program will give documentary filmmakers a safe space to learn about the ecosystem for indie docs during a nine-month program of 3-4 workshops/month to support fellows in taking a documentary idea from early stages to closer to production. [More info here](#). There is a \$50 application fee.

DC.Camera Grant Deadline March 3

DC.Camera wants to assist a WIFV Member working with a local, non-profit client or on a local social issue, whose project would benefit from access to a camera package to support a specific media project. Send your client's non-profit mission statement or description of the proposed social issue topic you are producing, along with the information below and projected production timeline including number of segments and total days needed for gear. The period of access to equipment is limited to 4 production days and no more than 2 check-outs. [Application form available here](#).

Upcoming WIFV Events

THE OTHER YOU Makers - Feb 3

THE OTHER YOU is an independent featured film written, directed, produced and filmed by WIFV members: **Julie Gold, Shoshana Rosenbaum, Robin Noonan-Price, Kimberly Skyrme, and Anne Saul**. Join us as they discuss next steps for their film, what they have learned about marketing, distribution and festivals.

A writer, wife and mom of three discovers a tiny door in her closet that leads to another version of her life. [Link to trailer here](#). THE OTHER YOU is screening at the DC Independent Film Festival (DCIFF) on February 13th at 8pm at the Avalon theatre. [Tickets can be purchased here](#).

Monday, February 3, 6:30-8:00 pm [RSVP here](#)

Narrative Directors Roundtable

Brought to you by:



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



FEAW Accessibility Tools - Feb 5

For the past three years, the Film Event Accessibility Workgroup (FEAW) has been hard at work on a suite of FREE and easy-to-use accessibility tools to help film organizations create more accessible events, combined with existing tools from organizations like FWD-Doc, filmmakers and event organizers now have the resources they need to build accessible events and sets.

The new tools from FEAW include an [Accessibility Checklist](#), [Resources](#), [Terminology](#), and an [Accessibility Vendor Database](#). WIFV is honored to have **Cassidy Dimon** join us to discuss the tools and overall initiative! These are tools that you as a filmmaker and as a screening attendee want to be familiar with!

Wednesday, February 5, 6:30-8:00 pm [RSVP here](#)

FREE for WIFV Executive Members (must be logged in and use discount code)
\$20 for WIFV Members (must be logged in) and Students / \$35 for public
You will receive login information with your registration confirmation.

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



NETWORKING

Coffee in Annapolis

Tuesday, February 4, 9:00 am [RSVP here](#)

49 West Coffeehouse, 49 West Street, Annapolis, MD
Organized by Felicia Barlow Clar and Alison Bauer

Coffee in Frederick

Wednesday, February 5, 9:00 am [RSVP here](#)

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

Organized by Jean Rosolino

Executive Member Coffee

Tuesday, February 11, 9:00 am [RSVP here](#)

You will receive the login info for the zoom with your registration confirmation

WIFT-US National Networking Night - Hosted by WIFV!

Thursday, February 13, 7:00 pm [RSVP here](#)

You will receive the login info for the zoom with your registration confirmation

Coffee in Baltimore

Tuesday, February 18, 9:00 am

Location TBD, Registration opens soon

Organized by Jacquie Greff and May Santiago

Happy Hour in Richmond

Thursday, February 20, 5:00 pm [RSVP here](#)

Best Café at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts
200 N Arthur Ashe Blvd, 1st Floor, Richmond, VA 23220

Organized by Virginia Bertholet and Robin Farmer

Reel Moms Coffee

Friday, February 21, 10:00 am [RSVP here](#)

The two-minute film challenge theme is BLIND

Coffee in Clarendon

Wednesday, February 26, 9:00 am [RSVP here](#)
Kaldi's Social House, 3100 10th Street North, Arlington, VA
Organized by Sandra Brennan

Trailer Night - February 10

Trailer Night is an opportunity to meet others in the documentary community and to provide feedback to several filmmakers on their trailers.

Documentary Roundtable



Featured Trailers:

Sex, Lies, Salvation by Phillip Bouknight

The filmmaker reveals powerful truths about abuse, exploring family, faith, justice, and redemption. This deeply personal film highlights trauma's lasting impact while offering hope for healing, empowering survivors, and urging institutions to face their past.

Playing Dr. Ball by Christopher Carter

The documentary spotlights a 70-year-old retired doctor caught in the Opioid Crisis, exploring the challenges of prescribing medications and her 10-year prison sentence.

Monday, February 10, 7:00-8:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

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



MA RAINEY'S BLACK BOTTOM February 10

Continuing the Spring "play adaptation for screen" theme, is *MA RAINEY'S BLACK BOTTOM* (2020). Tensions rise when trailblazing blues singer Ma Rainey and her band gather at a recording studio in Chicago in 1927. Streaming

on Netflix. Written by Ruben Santiago-Hudson and August Wilson. Directed by George C. Wolfe.

Starring Viola Davis, Chadwick Boseman, Glynn Turman

Watch the film in advance of the Film Club Meeting. Be prepared to share your likes, dislikes, and insights. We announce the next film at the end of each meeting. The Film Club is organized by **Connie St. John** and **Ericka Boston**.

Monday, February 10, 7:30-8:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

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

Will AI Enhance or Assault Equity? February 11

WIFV Filmmakers capture and make history through their powerful storytelling. In this 45th Anniversary Year, WIFV will host four newsworthy panels.



Panel #2 - Will AI Enhance or Assault Equity?

This panel will feature panelists who will discuss the opportunities of AI and whether this hot technology will democratize or increase inequity within the film, TV, and publishing industries in 2025 and beyond.

Confirmed Panelists:

Joseph Dzikiewicz, Founder, Crimes of the Art Productions

Ryan Hastings, Manager, Entertainment Contracts & Local Administration, SAG-AFTRA Washington-Mid Atlantic Local

Rachel Kim, VP, Legal Policy & Copyright Counsel at the Copyright Alliance

Judith Snyderman, Archival Producer

Tuesday, February 11, 6:30-8:00 pm [RSVP here](#)

Martin Luther King Jr Memorial Library, 901 G Street NW Gallery Place Metro

FREE for WIFV Members (must be logged in) / \$25 for public

Screenwriters Roundtable

Brought to you by:



Screenwriters: First 5 - February 24

The Screenwriters Roundtables are open to the public, and provide a safe place for new and established writers to have their work read and critiqued.

This meeting will be a first five pages reading. We put out a call for submissions of the first five pages of your script the week before the meeting, and the first 4-5 submissions get chosen for a table read by actors and to receive constructive criticism from the other attendees. If you wish to be added to the Screenwriters listserv, please contact the WIFV office at director@wifv.org. Scripts are not distributed during the table read to the audience.

Monday, February 24, 6:30-8:00 pm [RSVP here](#)

FREE for WIFV Members (must be logged in) / \$15 for public

You will receive login information with your registration confirmation.

Filmmaker Convo - THE HERRICANES February 26

The "Super Bowl" is over so let's talk about the four seasons of the Houston Herrericanes with the documentary's director, **Olivia Kuan**. The Houston Herrericanes were a part of the first women's full tackle football league in the 1970s. Their unknown story is one of commitment, courage, and strength. Despite adversity and hardship, they fielded a team purely for the love of the game. What they started is a movement that is still in motion today. Watch the trailer below. [The film starts streaming on Apple TV.](#)

Cinematographer Olivia Kuan (*First Period*, *Frameline38*) makes her first outing as a documentary film director with this spirited portrait of the untold story of these trailblazing athletes... and it's a story close to her own heart, as Kuan's mother was a Herrericanes.

Wednesday, February 26, 6:30-8:00 pm [RSVP here](#)

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

You will receive the login information with your registration confirmation.



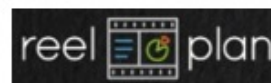
Resources

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

**Gold
Transparency
2024**

Candid.



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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