

March 2025

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Roundtable Roundup

Narrative Directors: *In-Person Gathering*
Mon, Mar 3, 6:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

Documentary: *Life With Ghosts*
Mon, Mar 10, 6:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

Film Club: THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT
Mon, Mar 17, 7:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

Screenwriters: Meet Julie Gold
Mon, Mar 31, 6:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

Roundtables are free for WIFV Members / \$15 for public

President's Message



Dear WIFV Members & Friends,

We are in unprecedented times in our country, certainly in our lifetime.

Our work, the work of filmmakers and media makers, is more important than ever. We MUST continue to tell our stories. We must continue to produce documentaries and docu-dramas that present the truth, as well as narrative films that open our eyes, captivate us with creative storytelling, or provide a much-needed escape, even for a short while.

Future generations are relying on us.

Actually, “classic” documentary and narrative films are evidence that these circumstances are not so unprecedented. Our history – the good and the bad – has always been captured. I recently learned that it was the 1978 miniseries “Holocaust,” starring Meryl Streep and James Woods, that put that term into popular usage. The miniseries received mixed reviews, but the impact was undeniable.

As filmmakers, we must never forget that what we create has the power to change lives, individually and collectively. Indeed, storytelling changes the world.

WIFV will continue to do the good work that we do, and continue to support our amazing filmmakers and their projects. Yes, cuts to funding are affecting us all. We are using our creativity to fundraise and provide support. Our upcoming **Telethon** is an attempt to think out of the box – raising

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funds while showcasing films from our members.

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.

It's a new day. And it's a rerun. Together, we can and will make a difference...yet again.

Connie

Connie St. John

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

— Margaret Mead

New/Renewing Members (Jan 30 - Feb 24, 2025)

Samantha Aben
Wijdane Balbiyar
Nikki Rattray Baldwin
Grace Batavick
Tracy Baumgardner
Karen Dee Carpenter
Nutan Chada
Soma Chanda
Dené Chinn
Anne Cocklin
Serge Delpierre
Robyn DeShields
T Dumas
Gabrielle Ewing
Patricia Finneran
Rhonda Fleming-Makell
Tracy Garrett
Nicole Haddock
Catherine Hand
Deanna Gerstel Harris
Roman Holton
Cadie Hopkins

Chad Horn
Jaime Horrigan
Joy Jones
John Judy
Andrea Kalin
Margaret Kivlen
Lisa Laden
Cameron Lawson
Kyung-Ja Lee
Hilarey Kirsner Leonard
Fabienne Lips-Dumas
Kendra Louka
Susan Lutz
Mitch Malasky
Valeria Massarelli
Yvonne McGee
Heming Nelson
Samantha Noland
Robin Noonan-Price
Geoffrey O'Gara
Sue O'Hora
Kathi Overton

Renata Phillippi
Roberta Pieczenik
Moriel Randolph
Julia Reardin
S. Mari Robinson
Andrea Rogers
Patrick Sammon
Martina Schabron
Carol Slatkin
Dan Sonnett
Kimberley Spire-Oh
Myah Stokes
Reilly Thate
Melissa Thompson
Diego Torres
Rebekah Wingert-Jabi
Amy Young
Joanna Zelman

Corporate Members:
Roman Media Works
Studio Unknown

News You Can Use



Thursday, April 3, 2025

Reception 6:00 pm; Program 7:30 pm

National Museum of Women in the Arts

1250 New York Avenue NW, Washington, DC

Tickets available here - Early Bird Pricing in effect until March 15.

HONOREE



RACHEL MORRISON
Director/Cinematographer

HONOREE



ROBIN NOONAN-PRICE
Director/Producer

HONOREE



FELICIA PRIDE
Writer/Producer/Director

Oscar-nominated director and cinematographer **Rachel Morrison** first emerged as a refreshing voice at the forefront of independent cinema, and has since built an extensive body of work, channeling each story's core emotion into arresting imagery. For her work on *MUDBOUND*, Morrison became the first woman ever to be nominated for an Academy Award for Best Cinematography. She is also the first woman to lens a Marvel superhero movie, the box office smash *BLACK PANTHER*. Morrison's feature debut, *THE FIRE INSIDE* was released theatrically in December 2024 by MGM. [More info here.](#)

Robin Noonan-Price has been working with DC metro filmmakers on short films for more than 10 years. Her most recently directed short film, *GLORIA'S BIRTHDAY*, is screening in festivals. *TELL ME ABOUT ORANGE*, a short she directed, was included in the Starz Telling Our Stories competition in 2021, selected from more than 800 entries from around the world. Robin recently produced her first feature films, *THE OTHER YOU* (Alexandria, VA) and *STREGA NONNA – A Sicilian Witch Tale* (Chicago, IL). [More info here.](#)

Felicia Pride is a TV writer/producer and an award-winning filmmaker. She wrote on Ava DuVernay's *QUEEN SUGAR* and was most recently a producer on *GREY'S ANATOMY*. She's currently developing shows with Amazon, Netflix, and FX. She's the writer/executive producer of *REALLY LOVE*, which became a Top Ten Movie on Netflix. She made her directorial debut with *tender*, a short film which aired on STARZ, and is currently preparing to direct her feature debut. She founded and manages *HONEY CHILE*, a production company catering to Black women 40+ and is the co-host of their NAACP-nominated podcast *Chile, Please*. [More info here.](#)



HOLDING LIAT Wins in Berlin

Nick Cunningham reports at [Business Doc Europe](#): “At the prize ceremony of the 75th Berlin Film Festival the Berlinale Documentary Award (€40,000) was won by **Brandon Kramer** for *Holding Liat*, produced by Darren Aronofsky, **Lance Kramer**, Yoni Brook, Ari Handel and Justin A. Gonçalves. In the film, Liat is one of the hostages taken on October 7 2023. The film follows her relatives from right up close, with a focus on her father, as he tries to stay on the path of pacifism and humanity amidst war, trauma and diplomacy.

WIFV is honored to be the fiscal sponsor for this film. [Contributions accepted here](#).



Strachan is OCTFME February Filmmaker of Month

The DC Office of Cable Television, Film, Music, and Entertainment (OCTFME) is proud to recognize **Daria Simone Strachan** as the February 2025 Filmmaker of the Month. A Ward 7 native, Daria is a freshman at Loyola Marymount University, majoring in Film and Television Production.

Daria has already made a significant impact within the world of storytelling. As a former student member and intern with Women in Film and Video (WIFV), she worked closely with local filmmakers and produced documentaries for DC-based nonprofits, including the Anacostia Youth Media Festival’s Documentary Project.

“At just 18, Daria is already amplifying underrepresented voices and fostering meaningful change through film,” says OCTFME Director LaToya Foster. *“Her dedication to storytelling is inspiring, and we can’t wait to see what’s next for her.”*

Daria’s award-winning short film, *AS YOU ARE*, created through Black Girls Film Camp (BGFC), explores self-acceptance and belonging through the lens of a young queer girl navigating her religious upbringing. The film has earned multiple accolades, including:

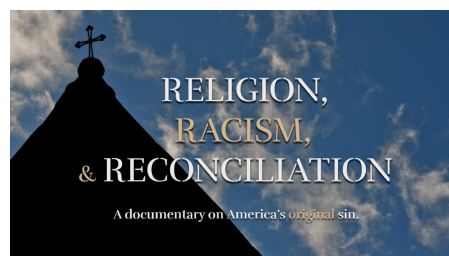
- Best Short LGBTQ+ – NYC Independent Film Festival
- Most Impactful Film – BGFC 2024 Showcase
- Selections at Lady Filmmakers Film Festival, City of Angels Women’s Film Festival, Micheaux Film Festival, the 2025 Pan African Film and Arts Festival in Los Angeles and the 2025 San Diego Black Film Festival.

“As a teen storyteller born and raised in Southeast DC, I am honored to be recognized by OCTFME,” says Daria Simone Strachan. *“Programs like the Anacostia Youth Media Festival and Black Girls Film Camp have been instrumental in my journey, and I hope this inspires other young filmmakers to seek support from these incredible organizations.”*

Beyond filmmaking, Daria is a community leader, receiving the 2024 Sophie, Live Out Loud Award from SMYAL and being named a Point Foundation - NBC Universal Flagship Scholar. She also serves on the Black Girls Film Camp Alumni Board and as a BGFC Alumni Ambassador. Follow [@dariasfilms](#) on Instagram and [watch her award-winning short film, AS YOU ARE here](#).

Krell's Film Premieres at National Press Club March 7

The doc, *RELIGION, RACISM, & RECONCILIATION* will be making its DC premiere at the National Press Club on Friday, March 7th at 5:30 pm. The film explores how racism has



intertwined with American religion, focusing on individuals and communities of faith working to address issues such as voting rights, income inequality, and mass incarceration. Through interviews with academic and religious leaders, it examines the contradiction of an American society that values freedom and equality while grappling with its history of slavery, segregation, and racism. It also highlights the role of religion in both fueling racial division and promoting healing and reconciliation. [Tickets available here.](#)

The film features Bishop William Barber II, Yale University; Dr. Eddie Glaude, Jr., Princeton University; Jim Wallis, Georgetown University; & Rev. Kelly Brown-Douglas, Union Theological Seminary. It was produced by Gerald Krell and **Adam Krell** and is currently airing on public television stations nationwide. [Read more here.](#)



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.](#)

WIFV Telethon - March 8

On International Women's Day (Saturday, March 8th), from Noon to 4:30pm, in celebration of our 45th Anniversary, WIFV is hosting our first-ever, live fundraising telethon on our new YouTube channel.

The 4.5-hour live broadcast will showcase some of the incredible work being done by filmmakers in our community. From short films to trailers and excerpts from ground-breaking documentaries, WIFV will highlight the diverse and powerful stories our members are creating.



Here's how you can be part of this virtual event:

- Tune In Live on Saturday, March 8th from 12-4:30pm
- Tell Your Friends and Family to tune in
- Answer Our Call – some of our WIFV team members may reach out to you
- Support WIFV Filmmakers – by watching their short films during the Telethon
- Subscribe to [WIFV's New YouTube Channel](#)
- Make a Donation during the Telethon – either online or by calling the number we flash

WIFV thanks you for your generous support that allows us to offer our excellent programming and host life-changing networking events. [See you at the Telethon!](#)



Office Moving in March

WIFV is delighted to announce that it will be moving to the Hill Center at the Old Naval Hospital at the end of March. Phone number remains the same and our new address will be: 921 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20003 Barely two blocks from the Eastern Market metro station!

Upcoming WIFV Events

In-person Gathering - March 3

It's been a while since we've met in person, so please join us at the WIFV office on March 3rd, to meet up, share project updates and generate ideas for upcoming Narrative Director Roundtables.

Narrative Directors Roundtable

Brought to you by




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

FREE for WIFV Members (must be logged in) / \$15 for public
WIFV Office, 1200 18th Street NW, Suite 300, Between Farragut and Dupont South Metros



Safe Sets: Dying to Work in the Film Industry - March 5

Join us for an insightful conversation with director Dr. Paul Heinzelmann and producer Becky Morrison of Safe Sets: Dying to Work in the Film Industry. In this session, Dr. Heinzelmann will delve into the critical health and safety challenges faced by film industry professionals, particularly stunt performers and crew members. He will share firsthand accounts and discuss systemic issues impacting the well-

being of those behind the scenes.

Wednesday, March 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](#)

You'll will have another chance to learn about this important topic on the [MediaMaker Spotlight](#) in March.



Host Candice

Episode #94

Practicing Safe Sets: Improving Production Health & Safety

with guests:

Dr. Paul Heinzelmann & Becky Morrison
Documentary Filmmaker & Producer

The LIGHT

MediaMaker Spotlight

Coffee in Annapolis

Tuesday, March 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, March 5, 9:00 am [RSVP here](#)



Executive Member Coffee

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

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

New Members Coffee

Friday, March 14, 9:00 am [RSVP here](#)

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

Coffee in Baltimore

Tuesday, March 18, 9:00 am [RSVP here](#)

The Bun Shop, 239 West Read Street, Baltimore
Organized by Jacquie Greff and May Santiago

LA/DC Gathering

Thursday, March 20, 9:00 am PT/ Noon ET [RSVP here](#)

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

Happy Hour in Richmond

Thursday, March 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, March 21, 10:00 am [RSVP here](#)

The two-minute film challenge theme is MARCH
Organized by Alyscia Cunningham

LIFE WITH GHOSTS - March 10

Science is studying ghosts? Really? In this eight-time award-winning documentary, a widow suffering prolonged grief agrees to participate in a controversial university study that aims to reconnect bereaved survivors with their departed loved ones. The process is known as Induced After-Death Communication (IADC), and it is rapidly gaining recognition among psychologists, academics and bereavement professionals.



LIFE WITH GHOSTS records the first-ever publicly funded attempt to facilitate contact with deceased individuals to determine if such contact can be used to reduce severe grief symptoms. In an area where traditional talk therapy has been largely ineffective, IADC offers new hope for the chronically bereaved. You will receive a link to the film with

Monday, February 10, 6:30-8:00 pm [RSVP here](#)

Free for WIFV Members / \$15 Public

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



Will AI Enhance or Assault Equity? March 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.

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, Copyright Alliance

Judith Snyderman, Committee Member, GenAI Best Practices, Archival Producers Alliance

Moderator:

Hadley Green, Video Journalist, *The Washington Post*

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

DCTV, 901 Newton Street NE, Brookland/CUA Metro

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

THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT March 17

The March selection is THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT (1995) written by Aaron Sorkin and directed by Rob Reiner.

A widowed U.S. President running for reelection and an environmental lobbyist fall in love. It's all above-board, but "politics is perception," and sparks fly anyway. Starring Michael Douglas, Annette Bening, and Martin Sheen.



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, March 17, 7:30-8:30 pm [RSVP here](#)

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

Screenwriters Roundtable

Brought to you by:



Screenwriters: Meet Julie Gold

The Narrative Directors Roundtable talked about the making of THE OTHER YOU, a locally produced feature film. We are delighted to have an evening with the screenwriter, **Julie Gold**, to discuss the process from idea to premiere!

Monday, March 31, 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.

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.

Gold
Transparency
2024

Candid.





Women in Film & Video | 1200 18th Street NW, Suite 300 | Washington, DC 20036 US

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