

WIFV People in the News - June 2025

Sasha Carrera, Leigh Mosley, Patrick Sammon, Julianne Donofrio, Ben Weinberg, Puritano Media Group, Ilana Trachtman, 48 Hour Project - Team WIFV



SPINSTERS Completes Principal Photography!

SPINSTERS written, produced, and starring WIFV member **Sasha Carrera** has finished principal photography in Frederick, Md. Because the story takes place in Frederick, they used the actual locations for filming and were overwhelmed and overjoyed with how businesses and residents alike showed up to offer locations, catering, even housing for cast and crew for our 15-day shoot.

The story, a comedy, centers on two middle-aged, estranged besties (played by Sasha Carrera and Rain Pryor) who struggle with dead-end careers, aging parents, paths not taken, and each other as they invent their own version of “happily ever after.” [Read the Frederick News-Post article here.](#)

Pictured above, left to right: 1st Row: Alexa Ihrt-Director of Photography; Sophie Fellows-Key Costumer; Christine Helm-1st Assistant Camera; Katie Shinsato-Script Supervisor; 2nd Row: Jaddie Fang-Lead Costumer; Kimberly Montini-Producer; Sasha Carrera-Actor; Rahel Grunder-Director; 3rd Row: Reagan Brown-PA; John D. Bert. PMG-Propmaster; Brien Slate-1st Assistant Director; Lucas Huie-2nd 2nd Assistant Director; back to us Connie Martin-local host



Mosley Photos Featured at World Pride 2025

WIFV member **Leigh Mosley** has been photographing the LGBTQIA+ community for nearly 60 years. Fifteen percent of the photographs at the Rainbow History Project's World Pride 2025 exhibit at Freedom Plaza were taken by her over a 46-year period (two are featured above). The exhibition is on display through June. Two of her photos are on display in the lobby at the Martin Luther King Library.

Recently, she was interviewed by Fox 5 news about the exhibit at Freedom Plaza (see photo above left). It can be seen on Vimeo by contacting Leigh at www.leighmosley.com. You can watch an Artico interview with Mosley about her career [here](#).

WIFV Members Release New Film about DC's LGBTQ History

A trio of WIFV members worked together on a new documentary that's coming to WETA and MPT later this month. **LOU'S LEGACY: A REPORTER'S LIFE AT THE WASHINGTON BLADE** tells the story of two DC icons: legendary newspaper reporter Lou Chibbaro Jr. and Donnell Robinson, a beloved drag performer who has been entertaining Washington's LGBTQ community as "Ella Fitzgerald" since 1975. Produced by **The Mattachine Society of Washington, DC**, the 30-minute documentary traces the city's gay history through the lens of Lou's nearly five-decade career at the *Blade*, where he has chronicled stories that the mainstream media often ignored or erased. As Lou reports a news story about Ella's triumphant return to the stage after a three-year hiatus during Covid, the two trailblazers reflect on their parallel journeys — and discuss the rising backlash facing the LGBTQ community, including laws targeting drag performers.



Patrick Sammon is the film's director, producer, and writer. **Julianne Donofrio** was the producer. **Ben Weinberg** from Sandwich Post Production handled motion graphics. WETA will broadcast **LOU'S LEGACY** on Saturday, June 21 at 8 pm and Monday, June 23 at 9:30 pm. MPT will present the film on June 28 at 10 pm. It will also be **streaming on WETA.org** starting June 21. [Here's a news article about the film.](#)



Hey Look! It's PMG on the Jumbotron!

Puritano Media Group shot and edited a cinematic 30-second video for the Preakness Stakes at Pimlico, shown to a crowd of 63,000. With a history of jumbotron work (including videos at Nationals Park and our Emmy-winning show for the Caps), we partnered with C-360 Agency to showcase Park Heights and Governor Wes Moore. You can watch the Park Heights showcase below.

Proud of this collab—if you need **cinematic video magic** think of us!



Advocacy Award for Trachtman

On May 17th, AIN'T NO BACK TO A MERRY-GO-ROUND director and producer **Ilana Trachtman** was honored at the 2025 Glen Echo Park Gala with the Friend of the Park Advocacy Award in "recognition of her powerful work preserving and sharing the history of Glen Echo Amusement Park through her film." [Learn more about the film here](#). Montgomery County Executive Marc Erlich presented Ilana's award. **WIFV is the fiscal sponsor for AIN'T NO BACK.**



Team WIFV 12 Noms, 3 Wins at 48!

NOMINATIONS: The **team** for BEST COMEDY; **Marsha Lee Rehns** for BEST ACTRESS in a Comedy; **Jillian Cardillo** for BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS in a Comedy; BEST CAST ENSEMBLE (Comedy); BEST SOUND DESIGN; BEST ART DIRECTION/PRODUCTION DESIGN; BEST SPECIAL EFFECTS/VISUAL EFFECTS; BEST GRAPHICS; BEST HAIR/MAKEUP; BEST WARDROBE; AUDIENCE AWARD (Group A); TEAM SPIRIT (Group A).

WINS: Audience Award (Group A), Team Spirit Award (Group A), Best Hair/Makeup. Congratulations to the entire team!

[You can watch the film here!](#)

Roll credits ...

Actors: sheri ratick stroud, Marsha Lee Rehns, Robin Reck, Katherine Schmoke, Alison Bauer, Alexandra Salter, Sydney Salter, Jillian Cardillo

Director Robin Noonan-Price - *Assistant Director* Sandra Brennan

Head Writer Laura Kroeger - *Writers:* Cassidy Edwards, Renata Phillippi, Zohar Rom, Lisa Scott

Co-Producers sheri ratick stroud, Geri Reinhart

Director of Photography Andy Espinoza - *Camera Assistant* Megan Bohan

Set Designer Marianne Elbertson

Sound Technician Ed Saltzman - *Sound Assistant* Anna Griesshammer

Lead Editor Inna Dmitrieva - *Assistant Editors:* Ines I. Perez, Andy Espinoza

Gaffer/Lighting Anne Saul - *Grip* Christine Long

Script Supervisor/Continuity Keri "Kamikazi" Williams - *Ass't Script Supervisor* Megan Neff

Hair/Makeup: Max Firouz, Layla Firouz

Martial Arts Choreographers: Keri Kamikazi Williams, Robin Reck

Set Photography Renata Phillippi

Craft Services Stephanie Vann

Poster Design Sara Reff

Special Thanks: Melissa Houghton, Jane Barbara, Stephen Price and Robin Noonan-Price, Potomac Mixed Martial Arts



Pictured left to right: Zohar Rom, sheri ratick stroud, Katherine Schmoke , Andy Espinoza, Renata Phillippi, Geri Reinhart, Robin Noonan-Price, Cassidy Edwards, Anna Greisshammer at the Best of Screening for DC 48 Hour Film Project, spring 2025.

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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