

## WIFV People in the News - January 2026

Leigh Mosley, Mark Ricche, sheri ratick stroud, Kimberly Skyrme, Matthew Hua, Abigail Tannebaum Sharon, Alyscia Cunningham



### Leigh Mosley Interviewed

The 51st profiled **Leigh Mosley** in a recent issue that focused on her documentation of the legacy of DC's Black lesbian elders.

"Leigh H. Mosley carries many titles: photographer, videographer, filmmaker, activist, educator. Her six decades of work form an intimate record of D.C.'s ever-shifting community. Born here but raised just blocks from where Malcolm X once lived in Roxbury, Massachusetts, Mosley now lives and works mere blocks from Meridian Hill Park, otherwise known as Malcolm X Park. From her home, she can hear the drummers who have gathered there for sixty years in his honor." [Read the full article here.](#)



### Ricche Rocks On!

In mid-November, WIFV member **Mark Ricche** collaborated with some of Broadway's finest during a weeklong 29-Hour developmental workshop for his upcoming jukebox musical, Rock On! Featuring hits from artists such as Pat Benatar, REO Speedwagon, Bryan Adams, Survivor, Lita Ford (and many more), the show is a high-energy coming-of-age story set in the late '70s, driven by the pulse-pounding nostalgia of classic rock's greatest anthems. Rock On! is slated to have its world premiere in 2026. Mark is in the blue t-shirt, front row.



## A Landmark Month for ratick stroud

Board member **sheri ratick stroud** is enjoying a particularly eventful month this January. From attending high-profile film premieres to participating in renowned festivals, sheri's contributions to the arts are on full display.

On January 9, 2026, sheri attended the much-anticipated premiere of **RING OF KIBO**, a feature film in which she was cast. The movie was filmed in Baltimore during January of last year. **Kimberly Skyrme** co-directed/co-produced the film.

The excitement continues at the end of the month as sheri travels to Park City, Utah, to attend the prestigious Sundance Film Festival. She is there for the premiere of **ALBATROSS**, a short film she was cast in last July. **ALBATROSS** is set to debut as part of Short Program #5 on January 26, 2026.

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## Matthew Hua Reports

I finished my first semester of grad school in Chicago at Columbia College Chicago and I am gearing up for the next semester which is starting at the end of the month. It was *exactly* the challenge I wanted and I am absorbing everything like a sponge.

In addition to my studies, I was honored to be one of eight recipients of the 2025 **NBCUniversal Tony Coelho Media Scholarship** awarded by The American Association of People with Disabilities. The scholarship honors undergraduate and graduate students with disabilities pursuing careers in the media and entertainment industry.



This scholarship has connected me with amazing folks in the disability community but I do not want to stop there. I am eager to connect with other creatives with disabilities, organizations that promote artists (in the film industry) with disabilities, and/or offer scholarship opportunities for graduate students with disabilities. **Please email your suggestions here.**

The first short film I ever wrote music for, **VOXRAPTOR**, is getting its first in-person screening at the HollyShorts Film Festival on January 28! **VOXRAPTOR** is a horror short film about a woman who can "telepathically" control a monster known as the Voxraptor. This film was made through the Easterseals Disability Film Challenge, a 5-day challenge which centers disability narratives and disabled creatives. I wrote additional music and I am so excited that folks can see it on the big screen! You can see it below if you can't make the screening in LA!



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## MBA for Sharon

After more than 20+ years producing nonfiction content for networks, nonprofits, and mission-driven brands, **Abigail Tannebaum Sharon** returned to school to pursue her





MBA at Georgetown's McDonough School of Business, graduating with honors. It was a chance to add quantitative knowledge to her creative background, and get to flex new strategic muscles.

Abigail is still running Real Pictures, with the same focus of telling real stories with integrity in order to make an impact. 2025 also brought another surprise honor: being inducted into McGill's Athletics Hall of Fame for founding, coaching, managing, and playing on the university's first lacrosse team. It served as a reminder that collaboration and persistence have always been at the heart of her work.

## I AM MORE THAN MY HAIR Available for Viewing

**Alyscia Cunningham** is excited to share that after several years of navigating clearance hurdles, mostly due to funding (or the lack of it), she has finally secured the necessary licenses so **I AM MORE THAN MY HAIR** is now available for public viewing.

This process taught her very real lessons:

1. Whenever possible, capture ALL of your own footage and interviews (there are also solid, affordable options for stock b-roll).
2. If you must use footage owned by another entity, secure clearance before you begin editing.

"As an impact-driven artist, my goal is simple: to create impact. I wanted the women this film was made for to have access to it, to see themselves reflected, affirmed, and hopefully inspired. I also wanted to continue educating the public about alopecia and share these women's journeys of self-empowerment, learning to see beauty beyond media-imposed standards. I'm deeply grateful that I can now share **I AM MORE THAN MY HAIR** with you." Click the image below to watch. See the audio described version [See the audio described version here](#).



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### 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](mailto: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. We welcome all genres, genders, and experience levels.





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