

MENTORSHIP REPORT

WIFTV WHISTLER FILM FESTIVAL MARKET PREPARATION MENTORSHIP 2019

Winner: Joy Haskell, "Cookies or Crack"

Mentor: Camille Beaudoin, Mosaic Entertainment

Jury: Shannon Kaplun (chair), President of the WIFTV Board of Directors and filmmaker; Shirley McLean, Story Producer, "Great Pacific"; Natasha Tony, CEO Elevate Inclusion Strategies; and Shana Myara, Writer and Producer

WFW PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT MENTORSHIP FOR THE INDEPENDENT PRODUCER 2019

Winner: Annette Reilly

Mentor: Kim Steer, Line Producer/Production Manager

Jury: Lily Hui (Producer, Production Manager), Michelle Samuels, (Production Manager, Lighthouse Pictures Inc.) and Tug Phipps, (Client Services Coordinator, Emerging Filmmakers/Digital Content, WFW), chaired by Natasha Tony WIFTV's Board (Director/Mentorship Chair and founder/CEO of Elevate Inclusive Strategies)

WIFTV BANFF WORLD MEDIA FESTIVAL MENTORSHIP 2019

Winner: Sarah Kelley

Mentor: Elizabeth Schofield, Omnifilm Entertainment

Jury: Shannon Kaplun, filmmaker and VP of WIFTV's Board of Directors; Nessa Aref, filmmaker, Production Coordinator/Manager; Elizabeth Schofield, Director of Scripted Development for Omnifilm Entertainment Ltd; Jessie Anthony, filmmaker Outreach Coordinator at WIFTV. Executive Director of WIFTV, Carolyn Combs, sat as Chair

WIFTV ACTOR CAREER MENTORSHIP PROGRAM 2019

Mentees & Mentors

Mentee	Mentor
Alison Headrick	Nicole Oliver
Alison Ward	Carly Pope
Angelica Stripe	Tammy Gillis
Angie Ip	Jen Spence
Ariel Hansen	Fiona Vroom
Chanika Desilva	Crystal Balint
Chelsea Brown	Loretta Walsh
Claudia Absi	Jill Morrisson
Corey Woods	Priscilla Faia

Crystal Tisiga	Carmen Moore
Emma Cam	Enid-Raye Adams
Juliana Bergstrom	Pascale Hutton
Kay Metchie	Rukiya Bernard
Keren Burkett	Karen Holness
Lucy McNulty	Camille Sullivan
Maddison Silva	Luvia Petersen
Madeline Wahl	Crystal Lowe
Madison Isolina	Carmen Aguirre
Martina Biljan	Gabrielle Rose
Melissa Woodside	Bronwen Smith
Princess Davis	Catherine Lough-Haggquist
Sara Bynoe	Sonja Bennett

Jury: Krista Magnusson, Actor & Creator of Jeb Beach & Associates, Casting Director, Jackie Lind; Director, Alexandra La Roche

Actor Mentorship Summary:

The program received 38 applications during the application period of October 1 – 31, 2019. This number is the highest yet, with the previous record being 32 applications. The jury reviewed the applicants and selected 22 mentees to be matched with mentors – also a record for the program. Special thanks to Jackie Lind, Alexandra La Roche, and Krista Magnusson for the large amount of time & energy spent reviewing all of these applications!

As always, selection was based on a point system for a specific list of criteria. Program Director, Krista Magnusson, then reached out to appropriate mentors to match each chosen mentee with the mentor most likely to help them with their individual goals. With a larger number of mentees in this round, there were also a number of new mentors that we were grateful to have join the program.

The program kicked off in January 2020 with a Kick Off Talk provided by Program Director, Krista Magnusson, on the do’s & don’ts of the program and tips on how to get the most out of the mentorship. Following that, a Goal Setting Workshop was provided by Aaron Hutchinson of Actors Business Collective (ABC) and, as with past years, this workshop set everyone up for success with an updated, clear & concise game plan for the coming 6 months. At that point, the program kicked off with the mentees driving the focus of their unique mentorship depending on their personal struggles, questions, or goals. The personal guidance provided by their mentors is the key to the program’s success, with the mentors always putting a lot of heart, time, and energy into their mentees.

According to the program documents, there is a \$25 Application Fee and a \$50 Program Fee to be paid if accepted to the program. Due to a clerical error by WIFTV staff, the payment link for the \$50 Program Fee was not sent to the successful applicants. When this was noticed in March, the Covid Pandemic had already hit and it

was decided that due to many people experiencing financial strain at that time, the \$50 fee would not be charged for this round of the mentorship. Therefore the Application Fee raised \$950.00 for WIFTV and there was a missed opportunity of \$1100.00. That said, the lack of Fee and understanding by WIFTV during the difficult financial time was certainly appreciated by all of the mentees.

Starting in February 2020, the mentees came together in two groups (one on Tuesdays, one on Saturdays) to volunteer at the Vancouver Food Bank monthly to not only pay it forward, but also help with perspective on challenges, and give mentees something that makes them feel good about themselves outside of the film industry. Unfortunately, due to the Covid Pandemic, this was paused in March and was not able to resume before the program completed, so the mentees only had 1-2 days of volunteering together, depending on which day they were scheduled for.

As always, the mentees also had one-on-one Mid-Mentorship Reviews with the Program Director, Krista Magnusson, to review how things were going and how to get the most out of the remaining months of the program. This was done during the Covid Pandemic lock down in May and the overwhelming feedback was how helpful the mentorship had been to their mental health, faith in the industry overall, and continued personal & craft development.

It should be noted that one mentee/mentor pairing ended the program in March, after the mentee had not responded to the mentor for a 6 week period. This long of a break in communication made it difficult to resume, and as is made clear at the beginning of each round, the mentorship needs to be driven by the mentee, not the mentor. Another mentee/mentor pairing decided to end the program in May, however that was due to both people being very happy with all of the discussions they had completed and the mentee feeling like the mentor had answered all of their questions! They decided to keep in touch for the remaining couple of months, but that they no longer needed the formal monthly meetings. Finally, due to the Covid Pandemic, one mentor felt they needed to pause the mentorship for 2 months and the mentee was fully understanding of this, so they paused for April & May. The pair resumed the mentorship following that and unfortunately had to pause again due to the mentee having a family emergency, however they did resume again and were both very happy with the experience of the program after completing the 6 monthly meetings in October.

This round of the program officially ended July 31, 2020 and all mentees finished the program by completing a Final Review. The review not only gives feedback on how to improve the program in the future, but helps mentees do a personal analysis of the last six months - providing an opportunity to review what was accomplished, or perhaps what wasn't, in the program.