

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WIFTV Banff World Media Festival Mentorship Winner Announced

Vancouver, BC (May 17, 2016) – Women in Film & Television Vancouver (WIFTV), is pleased to announce the recipient of the WIFTV BANFF WORLD MEDIA FESTIVAL MENTORSHIP. The jury this year selected Dawn Brett-Hauschild, who is set to be mentored by Briean Kenward, Development Executive with Lark Productions (*Child Star, Emergency Room*).

This mentorship offers Dawn the invaluable opportunity to attend the Banff World Media Festival, June 12-15, 2016 at the Fairmont Banff Springs. Prior to the festival, she will have a chance to consult with her mentor.

The WIFTV Mentorship jury was comprised of Media Strategist, Director of Programming for Roundhouse Media, and Producer Tracey Friesen; Producer, Programmer and Founder of Celluloid Social Club Paul Armstrong; and Director of Creative Sector Policy for the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training Karen Lamare.

“We received a record number of applications indicating the high level of creativity and active project development by women in the industry,” said Lamare. “The jurors decision was further challenged by the strength in quality of the projects. So many were worthy however only one project can be awarded. We encourage all the applicants to push forward with their projects, and look forward to 2017.”

Dawn was selected with her project, *MODERN WOMEN: Are We There Yet?!*, a smart and edgy docu-series about a group of girlfriends who join forces to outwit male-dominated institutions and attain 50/50 equal rights with men at work, in life, and in love.

Dawn looks forward to immersing herself in real conversations about the industry, elaborating “I’ve had some great bosses and colleagues over the years, but no one in the industry I could consider a mentor. Typically, everyone on a production is so busy with the job at hand, there’s no time to discuss side projects, creative philosophies, and generally why we chose this creative life over a desk job with a steady paycheck. So just having someone experienced who wants to talk about the next stage of my career, and possibly help me navigate this ever-evolving industry, would be incredibly inspiring”.

Dawn Brett-Hauschild is a television writer, producer and story consultant. Working for more than 15 years in documentary film, unscripted TV and digital media, she has credits on more than 80 hours of content for a variety of broadcasters, including CTV, CBC, W Network, HGTV U.S. and the National Film Board of Canada. Most recently, Dawn helped create the first two seasons of the successful spin-off series, *Love It or List It Vancouver*. Previous work includes *The Boy Inside*, a CBC documentary that won the 2007 NHK Japan Prize for Best Program in the Youth Education Division. She also served as an associate producer on one of Canada’s top-grossing feature documentaries, *The Corporation*, winner of 26 international awards, including the Audience Award for World Documentary at the Sundance Film Festival in 2004. Dawn holds a Bachelor of Journalism, Honours, from Carleton University’s School of Journalism in Ottawa.

About WIFTV:

Women in Film & Television Vancouver (WIFTV) is an internationally affiliated non-profit society committed to advancing and celebrating women in screen-based media. We are the Vancouver chapter of Women In Film + Television International (WIFTI), which counts more than 10,000 members worldwide.

Visit our website: www.womeninfilm.ca

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About the Banff World Media Festival

The Banff World Media Festival is the world's largest and most important gathering of entertainment industry and digital media executives dedicated to media content development, production, broadcast and distribution within TV and digital media. BANFF provides a platform for the evolving media industry to develop its creative and business objectives – it serves as the leading destination for co-production and co-venture partners and is an unparalleled marketplace for over 2,000 international decision-makers to connect with new partners, learn from industry leaders and execute new business deals. The 37th annual BANFF World Media Festival will take place June 12-15, 2016 at the Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel in Banff, Canada.