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**WIF (WOMEN IN FILM, LOS ANGELES) AND GOOGLE ANNOUNCE
INAUGURAL SHORTS LAB FILMMAKING FELLOWS**

LOS ANGELES, California; March 17, 2022 ... WIF (Women In Film, Los Angeles) announced today three teams of women filmmakers selected as the inaugural fellows of the **WIF Shorts Lab supported by Google**. These filmmakers are the first to benefit not only from WIF's years of expertise in nurturing creatives, but also funding support from Google, including grants for each team to complete the production of their short films. They will be paired with mentors, including producers Kira Carstensen (REBEL HEARTS), Alexandra Perez (INTO THE DARK), and veteran line producer Martha Cronin, to guide them as they create their films.

The projects were selected by a jury of industry leaders and veteran producers, including Stephanie Allain, Lake Bell, Margie Moreno, and Talitha Watkins. In addition to the grants, additional production and post-production support is being provided to the filmmakers by **Warner Chappell Music, Picture Shop, and Cinelease**. The films will be completed by Summer of 2022 and will be owned by the filmmakers and eligible for festival submissions and award consideration.

WIF Director of Programs Maikiko James said, "Short films are a critical tool for advancing filmmakers' careers, though they can be a challenge to resource, especially for people underrepresented in the field. We're thrilled to be working with these three stellar projects and their teams, and grateful for Google's support to make it possible."

"The fellows selected by WIF and Google for the inaugural Shorts Lab are promising writers, directors, and producers with a remarkable gift for telling compelling, diverse stories. Each of these women are dynamic creatives and the team at Google is honored to provide them with resources that can help get their projects over the finish line and

elevate more voices of women in Hollywood,” said Elle Roth-Brunet, Google’s Head of Content & Entertainment Partnerships.

The partnership was negotiated by UTA Entertainment & Culture Marketing, the brand consulting division of UTA, which represents Google.

2022 WIF Shorts Lab Supported by Google Participants [[Download Headshots HERE](#)]

CHOICES

Logline: CHOICES is a coming-of-age comedy about a class clown, a nerd, and an aspiring prom queen who await pregnancy test results in a girls’ bathroom at their South L.A. high school.

Kameishia Wooten, writer/director: Kameishia Wooten is a passionate director, writer, and producer who creates provoking, inclusive, socially impactful stories for film and television. She has written, directed, and produced 6 short films and a web series. Most recently, Kameishia's proof of concept short, DESTINY'S ROAD, received the Best Narrative Short Film Audience Award at the 2021 Moorpark Film Festival, Best Short Film Award at the 2020 Black Truth Film Festival, and has screened in over 20 film festivals throughout the U.S. and abroad.

Robin J. Hayes, producer: Dr. Robin J. Hayes hails from a blended Afro-Latine, Caribbean, and African American family in Brooklyn (before it was artisanal). With the assistance of academic scholarships, she attended St. George's—an elite New England boarding school—and studied at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. After graduating, she collaborated with veterans, clergy, and soccer moms to lead dozens of humanitarian aid missions in Cuba, Mexico, and Nicaragua.

Meagann Pallares, line producer: Meagann Pallares, a bilingual Latin American producer, began her career in Video Production at theAudience, a celebrity driven social media publishing company founded by Sean Parker, Ari Emanuel, and Oliver Lockett. Born and raised in Los Angeles, California, she is perhaps best known for her work on the Chrysler PacifiKids national campaign, leading a team of 12 hidden cameras while children took over the dealership. She has also produced commercials for brands such as Bud Light, Microsoft, and most recently Glassdoor, to name a few. Her film production credits include a docu-drama called THERE IS MANY LIKE US featuring Eric Roberts, and a psycho thriller THE SLEEP. She traveled the world as a Story and Line Producer for GEARS OF WAR PRO CIRCUIT where she was able to interview some of the

most well-known professional gamers and their families in both Spanish and English. A fun fact is that she produced music videos for The Chainsmokers' first viral hit SELFIE and their sophomore single KANYE. Taking pride in her work, she strives to ensure the production of high quality, trending and empowering video content shared by the millions.

PLEASE IN SPANISH

Logline: Feeling disconnected from her ethnic roots, a young woman warms to her cultural identity after meeting a lively neighbor.

Patricia Seely, writer/director: Patricia Seely is a Los Angeles based multimedia producer whose recent projects include THE COCKTAIL PARTY, an official selection at the 2021 Tribeca Film Festival, written and directed by Academy Award-nominated filmmaker Jessica Sanders, and THE RISING VOICES STORY, directed by Kwanza Nicole Gooden, which featured the stories of BIPOC filmmakers on their journey to create meaningful, inclusive short films under the Rising Voices initiative. She was previously the VP of Production for Kobe Bryant's Granity Studios, producing the ESPN+ series "Detail," the scripted podcast "The Punies," the sports fantasy audiobooks *The Wizenard Series* and *Legacy and the Queen*, and behind-the-scenes documentation of the Academy Award-winning animated short DEAR BASKETBALL. Other past credits include the feature film LIZA, LIZA, SKIES ARE GREY, written and directed by Oscar-winning filmmaker Terry Sanders, and the Emmy-nominated National Geographic series "Hard Time."

Alexandra Clayton, producer: Alexandra Clayton is a producer and filmmaker whose work leans into the earnest and awkward experience of being human. UNPACKING is her narrative feature debut as a co-writer/director/producer. She recently produced the narrative feature IN SILVA, an environmental-horror set in the mountains of Colorado. Other producing credits include the feature docs REFRAME (post), and FACES OF THE MODERN MAYA (pre-production), two narrative shorts in 2021, two web series, and a lot of branded content. Films she's acted in have screened at over 30 festivals including Karlovy Vary, NYC's Rooftop Films, SF's Cinema by the Bay, and have streamed on Amazon and Kinoscope. A grounded optimist who thrives on the creation of original work from the ground up, Clayton believes the stories we tell create the culture we live in. She lives in Los Angeles with her dog Roo.

SILVERLAKE CLEANERS

Logline: On Hwa-young's last day of work before moving to New York, she has two disparate encounters with the same local that make her question the decision to leave her family and community behind.

Katarina Zhu, writer/director: Katarina Zhu is a Chinese-American filmmaker/actress from the suburbs of New York. She graduated from NYU in 2018 with a BFA in Drama. Since then she has gone on to write, direct, and act in her own short films. Through her work, she's interested in exploring how cultural divides can be bridged and how they inform relationships, especially within families and across generations. Lastly, she's interested in films that focus on characters, typically younger females, who transcend their circumstances in order to claim agency in their lives.

About WIF

Founded in 1973 as Women In Film, Los Angeles, WIF advocates for and advances the careers of women working in the screen industries, to achieve parity and transform culture. We support women and people of marginalized genders in front of and behind the camera and across all levels of experience. We work to change culture through our distinguished pipeline programs; we advocate for gender parity through research, education, and media campaigns; and we build a community centered around these goals. Membership is open to all screen industry professionals, and more information can be found on our website: wif.org. Follow WIF on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and [YouTube](#).

About Google Assistant

Available on more than 1 billion devices, in over 30 languages and more than 90 countries, Google Assistant helps more than 500 million people every month to get things done at home, in their car or on the go. With the option to select from 51 different voices, people all over the world can have a natural conversation with their Google Assistant and ask for help with things like play music, turn on the lights, or start a favorite TV show.

About Picture Shop

Picture Shop, part of Streamland Media, is an award-winning, worldwide state-of-the-art post production house offering comprehensive picture services to the entertainment industry's most imaginative filmmakers and top-tier studios. Picture Shop is part of Streamland Media, a global post production company that handles picture, VFX, sound,

and marketing services. Our roster of innovative talent and cutting-edge technologists deliver industry-leading color, editorial, dailies, and mastering and restoration services that help bring creative visions to life. www.pictureshop.com @pictureshoppost

About Cinelease

Industry Lighting and Grip gold standard since its creation in 1977, Cinelease Inc.'s intent has been to serve and deliver the best in quality lighting and grip equipment, power distribution, grip trucks, expendables and sound stages to both small and large-scale productions. Wherever the productions go – we will be there to greet them. Whatever the job, wherever the shoot, there's one clear choice.

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