

**WOMEN IN FILM, LOS ANGELES ANNOUNCES MUSIC COMMITTEE
TO CHAMPION THE TALENTS OF WOMEN COMPOSERS
Committee and Goals Unveiled at May 7 event in LA**

Melissa Etheridge performs at Launch Event

Los Angeles, Saturday, May 7, 2016.... At an event this afternoon, **Women In Film, Los Angeles** unveiled a new committee designed to champion and promote the careers of women who create music. The goal is to provide more support and opportunities for female composers and songwriters in the visual mediums.

The members of **the newly-formed Women In Film Music Committee, chaired by Board Member and acclaimed music supervisor, Tracy McKnight**, includes **Kaylin Frank** of Disney, **Loretta Muñoz** of ASCAP and **Christine Belden** of Netwerk. Spurred by statistics that show that only 2% of the top 500 films in 2015 were scored by women--an increase of just 1% from 2014--the committee elaborated on its goal of assessing and facilitating more opportunities for female music talent to score and write for Film, TV, Gaming and all other visual content.

Said WIF Music Committee Chair Tracy McKnight, "I am thrilled that our mission to start building bridges of opportunity for female composers and songwriters in our community is becoming a reality. There are so many insanely talented women creating music and we at WIF want to support them."

WIF President Cathy Schulman adds, "In line with Women In Film's objectives, we are thrilled to be expanding our reach and programming to embrace women working in music – in addition to our focus on women in film, television and new media. Female composers and songwriters are plagued by an entrenched deficit of opportunities, and we hope to be part of a creating a sustainable future for these talented artists."

Notably and immediately, Women In Film is expanding its renowned mentoring program by launching a **Dedicated Mentoring Circle for Female Composers**, giving them the opportunity to sit down with some of the industry's most talented music executives, agents and music supervisors. Mentors confirmed to date:

Paul Broucek (Warner Brothers), Russell Ziecker (Lionsgate), Alicen Schneider (NBC Universal) Tony Scudellari (Sony TV); Brian Loucks (CAA), Robert Messenger (Fortress Talent), Cheryl Tiano ((Gorfaine Schwartz), Laura Engel (Kraft-Engel); Vasi Vangelos (First Artists) and Peter Golub (Sundance Institute)

Additional objectives:

***Music Showcases**, curated by the WIF Music Committee, to showcase talent and assist with visibility in the community

***Coordination with other organizations**, the Alliance of Female Composers, Sundance Institute Film Music Program and the Guild of Music Supervisors, further broadening the opportunities for women to walk through more doors to composing and scoring opportunities.

Women In Film is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting equal opportunities for women, encouraging creative projects by women, and expanding and enhancing portrayals of women in all forms of global media. Given that women comprise 50 percent of the population, WIF's ultimate goal is to see the same gender parity reflected on and off screen. Founded in 1973, WIF focuses on advocacy and education— provides scholarships, grants, and film finishing funds—and works to preserve the legacies of all women working in the entertainment community.

For Information about the WIF Music Committee: Bobbi Marcus / bobbi@bobbimarcuspr.com

For Information about Women In Film, Los Angeles: Catherine.olim@pmkbnc.com