Date
SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2015

About
The Nevada Women’s Film Festival will increase representation of female craft, vision, and experience in film with films that include a strong female presence, women at the helm, stories with strong female characters, stories that depict women in a positive light and which display diversity of worldview, background, and experience. Selections were made with an eye for local and emerging talent. 730 films were submitted for the festival, from over 70 countries.

Location
BAOBAB STAGE (inside Town Square)
6587 Las Vegas Blvd South
Las Vegas, NV 89119

Schedule
Women of the Globe
Noon - 5:30pm

The Femmy Awards
5:30pm - 6:30pm

Nevada Filmmakers
6:30pm - Midnight

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FESTIVAL INFO

PROGRAMMING

Sponsors

Producing

- life-portraits®: Creative Documentary Production.
- Cinelab City Productions
- Roadwings Entertainment
- baobab stage

Organizations

- Nevada Film Office: Your Imagination Our Locations
- Needle on the Record
- UNLV Living Sociology Club: Promoting the Sociological Imagination in all walks of life
- Beckett Studios
- Women’s Film Collective
- CSN Women’s Alliance
- CINEFEMMES

www.NWFFest.com
What began as a modest idea for a student club event quickly blossomed into something extraordinary the moment I met Dr. Pattie Thomas. I cannot thank her enough.

As the faculty advisor for our newly created Women’s Film Collective at the College of Southern Nevada (CSN), I was in a unique position to work with students to help bring awareness to the special challenges that women often confront in the male-dominated film industry. Soon the idea of a small festival was born; we saw it as a simple contribution we could make to support positive change.

Last fall I brought the idea to the amazing Professor Shirley Johnston of the Women’s Alliance at CSN, who welcomed me into the fold and suggested we work with Pattie (and her Living Sociology Club) to organize this event in honor of Women’s History Month in March. We had very little time.

Pattie quickly took things to the next level. With the help of the CSN Office of Community Relations, Diversity and Multicultural Affairs, and our newly formed executive committee, including Professor Robert Benedetto of CSN, Professor Brett Levner and May May Luong of UNLV, Amey Esparza of NSC, Angela Thomas of AMG Enterprises, Danette Tull of the Nevada Film Office, Wassa Coulibably, and students such as WFC president Jeanette Fox, things took off like wildfire. It seems overnight we received hundreds of film submissions from all over the world. We were thrilled to find we had a genuine film festival on our hands.

Our official selections embrace filmmakers from a diversity of genders and backgrounds.

The first block of selections (noon - 5:30pm) is called Women of the Globe. This is a celebration of women filmmakers, or films with...
complex female characters and subjects. The films come from **nine countries**, and consist of a mix of genres, including features, shorts, documentaries and animation.

Our awards ceremony, **The Femmy Awards** (because we have a sense of humor), runs from 5:30pm - 6:30pm. Awards such as the **Women’s Film Collective award for Best Female Protagonist**, and the **Living Sociology award for Best Documentary** will be presented, and the recipient of our **Nevada Woman Filmmaker of the Year**, Rebecca Thomas, will be honored.

The second block of selections (6:30pm – midnight) called **Nevada Filmmakers**, showcases our local colleagues in the community, including students. This is also a mix of genres, and we kick it off with Rebecca’s acclaimed feature, **Electrick Children**.

We hope you enjoy our inaugural Nevada Women’s Film Festival. Ours is not the only festival out there to celebrate the accomplishments of women. But the stunning response from filmmakers worldwide has shown us that the need is pressing and real.

We deeply appreciate your support.

**Nikki Corda**
Founder and Festival Executive Director

Nikki spent her early career in the world of “development” in Los Angeles, reading and evaluating screenplays. After stints at Twentieth Century Fox and Michael Douglas’s company at Paramount, she began producing and writing independently with the award-winning documentary, **Urban Rescuers**. She continues to follow her passion for non-fiction film with her business, Life-Portraits. In recent years, Nikki has taught a variety of film/video classes as an adjunct instructor at the College of Southern Nevada. She holds a BS in film from Boston University, and is an MFA candidate in Creative Non-Fiction at Sierra Nevada College.
PATTIE THOMAS | Festival Executive Producer
Pattie Thomas, Ph.D. is a Sociologist who currently teaches at the College of Southern Nevada in Las Vegas, where she serves as Faculty Advisor to the Living Sociology Club. She has published over 200 articles as a freelance writer, is an active blogger and multi-media producer, often collaborating with her husband, Carl Wilkerson, MBA. Past projects include several short films, a radio show and co-authoring the book, Taking Up Space.

BRET LEVNER | Festival Director
Brett graduated with honors from NYU and got her start at MTV where she worked her way up from intern to producer. Brett attended Columbia University’s graduate film program. She became the first woman to win the Coca Cola Refreshing Filmmaker Award in 2004, with her film Being Reel. Brett is an Assistant Professor of Film at UNLV. She most recently directed, The Track, a feature film about underage sex trafficking in Las Vegas.

MAY MAY LUONG | Festival Producer
May May is a graduate of UNLV and has produced numerous award-winning short and feature length films. She recently completed her fourth feature film, The Track, directed by Brett Levner, starring Missy Yager and Sam Trammell. Her films have played in festivals worldwide and on cable. Currently, May May teaches Film courses at UNLV and is also working on the development of a number of projects as a partner at Roadwings Entertainment.

WASSA COULIBALY | Festival Event Producer
Wassa Coulibaly was born in Dakar, Senegal. She performed in the Cirque du Soleil show, Zumanity, for eleven years. Three years ago, she opened her own theater, the Baobab Stage, an oasis for artists to perform their own work. Wassa has had a passion for writing since she was a little girl; she loved poetry and books. Red Dress is a ten minute poem which grew into a play. She now has a full screenplay of the material and is developing it into a feature film.
AMEY ESPARZA | Executive Committee
Amey Esparza creates programs to celebrate and enhance inclusivity at Nevada State College in the Office of Community Engagement & Diversity Initiatives. She is currently a graduate student at UNLV. Together with her partner, Amey runs the nonprofit Push Forward, a mentoring program that uses skateboarding as a method to connect at-risk youth to a future that includes higher education and the arts.

ROBERT BENEDETTO | Executive Committee
Robert Benedetto is a Professor at CSN in the Videography and Film Program, teaching classes in Screenwriting, Directing and Film Studies. He holds a B.A. and M.F.A. from Yale University where he made award-winning independent films. Robert is also a professional screenwriter and member of the WGA, with credits in both feature films and television. He formerly served as Director of Programming and Senior Producer for the CineVegas Film Festival.

DANETTE TULL | Executive Committee
Danette is the Film Resource Coordinator for the Nevada Film Office. Danette provides production assistance for both large and small budget projects, including film permitting, location scouting and intergovernmental logistics which require her to interface with individuals across Federal, State and local municipalities, and her foreign language skills have proven useful when interacting with international productions.

ANGELA THOMAS | Executive Committee
Angela Thomas, owner of AMG Enterprises, lives in Las Vegas. She is a talented writer, multi-media producer and talk show personality. After a successful career in the music industry marketing and promoting some of today’s top artists for BMG Distribution, Angela turned her talents to creating and writing television programming. She has created and developed content for Wiegel Broadcasting and Viacom and is the Co-Founder of “Our Own Voices Live.”
Women of the Globe

Screening Time: Saturday, March 14 at Noon

These films are a celebration of women filmmakers, or films with complex female characters and subjects. The films come from nine countries, and consist of a mix of genres, including features, shorts, documentaries and animation.

Sugar Coated
Directed by: Cassie Moronez
Country: US
Running Time: 00:04:46
Thoughts on the female experience.

Winning Girl
Directed by: Kimberlee Bassford
Country: US (Hawaii)
Running Time: 01:08:00
Inspiring overview of four years in the life of a teen judo/wrestling champ from Hawaii.

TEN MINUTE BREAK

Morte Segreata (Secret Death)
Directed by: Michele Leonardi
Country: Italy
Running Time: 00:13:19
A Sicilian actress copes with loneliness and societal pressures as she confronts the mental health of her grown son.

A Small Dot On The Western Front
Directed by: A D Cooper
Country: UK
Running Time: 00:08:08
Based upon the true story of Dorothy Lawrence, a female journalist who managed to briefly infiltrate the ranks of the all-male British army during WWI.

Louhi
Directed by: Aila Mulari
Country: Finland
Running Time: 00:14:50
A dark, period piece inspired by Finnish mythology of a battered wife who fights back -- with unintended consequences.
Scarlines
Directed by: Stephanie Young
Country: Canada
Running Time: 00:19:56
A trans man returns to his rural hometown for the first time since his transition.

Killing My Girl
Directed by: Tasos Giapoutzis
Country: UK
Running Time: 00:11:37
An Asian immigrant in London is pressured by her husband and in-laws to undergo a sex-selective abortion.

e-Social
Directed by: Natalia Lampropoulou
Country: Greece
Running Time: 00:15:00
In 2035, a young widow reluctantly allows a corporation to create a hologram of her deceased husband, based upon his social networks.

Blame
Directed by: Katy Davis
Country: UK
Running Time: 00:03:15
A humorous discussion of the human behavior of blame, by Dr. Brené Brown.

Babies
Directed by: C.C. Webster
Country: US
Running Time: 00:11:00
A young pregnant woman travels home and enlists her sister to help secure her baby’s future: by stealing a ‘cool’ pair of jeans from her high school nemesis.

No Sex For Fish
Directed by: Xinwei Cui
Country: Kenya
Running Time: 00:19:08
A look at the practice of Jaboya, sex trading for food, within a fishing community in Kisumu, Kenya.

TEN MINUTE BREAK
Women of the Globe

**The Fallen Phoenix**

**Directed by:** Gwen Barriac, Heather Larkin  
**Country:** US  
**Running Time:** 00:05:19  
An established composer struggles to write a masterpiece that pleases both himself and his sponsor.

**Small Small Thing: The Olivia Zinnah Story**

**Directed by:** Jessica Vale  
**Country:** US / Liberia  
**Running Time:** 01:24:00  
Chronicles the heartbreaking journey of a nine-year old Liberian girl who eventually dies of injuries inflicted from a brutal rape when she was seven-years old.

**Anna**

**Directed by:** Spiros Charalambous  
**Country:** Greece  
**Running Time:** 00:22:00  
An immigrant domestic worker toils for an abusive woman and her family, but manages to open her heart to the ailing patriarch who is dependent upon her kindness.
THE FEMMY AWARDS
Saturday, March 14 from 5:30pm to 6:30pm

Awards such as the Women’s Film Collective award for Best Female Protagonist, and the Living Sociology award for Best Documentary will be presented, and the recipient of our Nevada Woman Filmmaker of the Year, Rebecca Thomas, will be honored.

Nevada Woman Filmmaker of the Year
Rebecca Thomas

Rebecca Thomas was born in Walnut Creek, California on December 10, 1984. She was raised in Las Vegas, Nevada, the youngest of 5 children. She took a break from studying film at Brigham Young University to serve an 18-month Mormon mission in Japan. She went on to pursue her MFA in film directing at Columbia University in New York City.

She wrote the screenplay for the short NOBODY KNOWS YOU, NOBODY GIVES A DAMN, which was an Official Selection at the Sundance Film Festival in 2009. ELECTRICK CHILDREN, which premiered at the Berlin Film Festival, is Thomas’ debut feature film as a writer/director.
Electrick Children

Writer/Director
Rebecca Thomas

Produced by
Jessica Caldwell
Richard Neustadter

Starring
Julia Garner
Rory Culkin
Liam Aiken
Bill Sage
Cynthia Watros
Billy Zane
John Patrick Amedori
Rachel Pirard
Cassidy Gard
Paola Baldion

Saturday, March 14 at 6:30pm
DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE

Rachel is a rambunctious teenager from a fundamentalist Mormon family in Utah. On Rachel’s 15th birthday, she discovers a forbidden cassette tape with rock music on it. Having never heard anything like it, Rachel has a miraculous experience.

Three months later, Rachel turns up pregnant and claims to have had an immaculate conception from listening to the music. Rachel’s parents arrange a marriage for Rachel, but Rachel runs away to the closest city, LAS VEGAS, to search for the man who sings on the cassette tape, thinking he has something to do with her mysterious pregnancy...
NEVADA FILMMAKERS

Screening Time: Saturday, March 14 at 6:30pm

A showcase of our local colleagues in the community, including students. This is also a mix of genres, and will kick-off with Rebecca Thomas’s acclaimed feature, Electrick Children.

**Electrick Children**
**Directed by:** Rebecca Thomas  
**Running Time:** 01:36:00  
Honorary Screening. Q&A with Director Rebecca Thomas will follow this screening.

**Until Death**  
**Directed by:** Erica Chan  
**Running Time:** 00:06:42  
A woman’s fiancé commits suicide, and she must confront his possibly racist mother.

**Shadows on the Ceiling**  
**Directed by:** April Kagan  
**Running Time:** 00:3:25  
A dreamy montage of a little girl whose imagination is set off by shadows. (NSC Student)

**Ms. Understanding**  
**Directed by:** Richard Santiago  
**Running Time:** 00:14:49  
Two women recount their experiences with workplace bullying. (CSN Student)

**Snap Shot Love**  
**Directed by:** Jenny Egidio  
**Running Time:** 00:05:05  
“The course of true love never did run smooth.” – William Shakespeare (UNLV Student)

**Zayde**  
**Directed by:** Antonio Mendoza  
**Running Time:** 00:06:15  
A grandfather lives in terrible isolation and loneliness.

www.NWFFest.com
**Without Wings**  
*Directed by:* Jo Meuris  
*Running Time:* 00:03:40  
A celebration of the human body in motion. (NSC Faculty)

**Good Grief**  
*Directed by:* Kathrina Bognot  
*Running Time:* 00:06:51  
The everyday life of an idiosyncratic married couple is interrupted by the arrival of an unlikely guest at their door step. (UNLV Student)

**Mind Palace**  
*Directed by:* Anastasia Weiss  
*Running Time:* 00:07:06  
*BBC Sherlock*-inspired dance film from Magical Madness Dance Theater.

**That One Guy**  
*Directed by:* Kimberly Lowe  
*Running Time:* 00:09:04  
After a night of partying, a young woman struggles to wake the strange guy in her bed. (UNLV Student)

**Red Angel Dragnet**  
*Directed by:* Adam Davis  
*Running Time:* 00:40:00  
What is the fate of a zombie post-post-apocalypse? This film is a collaboration between faculty and students of Nevada State College.

**Love**  
*Directed by:* Maria Bartrum  
*Running Time:* 00:19:43  
Filmmaker explores the emotion of *love* by asking people what it means to them. (UNLV Student)
Loon Woman
Directed by: Greg Benoit
Running Time: 00:15:00
An adaptation of a scene from play with same name. The sister and daughter of a newly admitted mental patient confront each other in the hospital waiting area.

The Push
Directed by: Penny Wiggins
Running Time: 00:16:45
Decades after their heyday, two feuding former showgirls finally confront each other. (CSN Student)

Roos N More Zoo
Directed by: Wynda Knight
Running Time: 00:02:30
A look at a hands-on local zoo. (NSC Student)

Clean Fury
Directed by: Kelly Schenk
Running Time: 00:05:00
A housemaid must fight for her life after discovering a dark secret. (UNLV Student)

The Things My Sister Taught Me
Directed by: Genevieve Elgrichi
Running Time: 00:14:04
Childhood dynamics never really end. (UNLV Student)

Heart Shaped Glasses
Directed by: Costanza Castro
Running Time: 00:05:48
The moment you realize what could have been.

Project 3000
Directed by: April Awalt, Brenda Daly
Running Time: 00:30:15
Teen homeless project: A Roof Over Every Child.

Red Dress
Directed by: Wassa Coulibaly
Running Time: TBD
A Wassa Coulibaly project.
THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS AND SPONSORS

This festival would not have been possible without the hard work from our volunteers and the support from our sponsors. The Executive Committee of the Inaugural Nevada Women's Film Festival thanks you!

**Sponsors**
- Baobab Stage
- CSN Diversity Office
- CSN Women’s Alliance
- CSN Women's Film Collective
- CSN Living Sociology Club
- Life-Portraits
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**Program Design**
- May May Luong

**Programs Provided by**
- Women’s Film Collective