

PRESS RELEASE

July 25, 2017

***Women in Film & Television Louisiana receives donation
from Romance Writers of America's Scriptscene***

New Orleans, La. - Women in Film & Television Louisiana (WIFT Louisiana) is the recipient of a donation from the screenwriting chapter of the Romance Writers of America.

Leslie Ann Sartor, past treasurer and secretary of the RWA Screenwriting Chapter, Scriptscene, announced the donation will be made to WIFT Louisiana in honor of one of Scriptscene's founding members, the late Donna Caubarreaux of Marksville, Louisiana.

"We are proud to make these donations in honor of their tireless work and their love of film," Leslie Ann Sartor said.

WIFT Louisiana President Carol Bidault de l'Isles, said, "This grant is a gift from a group of women writers who support other women to reach their goals, be it as writers, directors, actresses or producers."

Three Women In Film & Television International chapters were chosen for awards. In addition to WIFT Louisiana, donations will be made to WIFV New England in honor of Neringa Bryant and WIFTM Bay Area in honor of Victoria Johnson.

Bryant, with the help of Johnson and Caubarreaux, founded Scriptscene in 1999. It has served as an online chapter of RWA to help those interested in writing original screenplays or adapting their novels and, or producing them for the screen.

According to Leslie Ann Sartor, Bryant, Johnson and Caubarreaux spearheaded programs to meet those needs, including online classes, a screenwriting contest, and a mini conference held in conjunction with the annual national Romance Writers of American conference.

"Although the chapter has now dissolved, the network of the founders established remains," Sartor said.

"We would like to thank ScriptScene, Leslie Ann Sartor, Nancy Haddock and the women in whose name these donations have been made, for their generous donations, which will go to support the goals of our chapter," Bidault de l'Isles states.

WIFT Louisiana is a nonprofit organization with a mission to "celebrate our members' achievements and provide professional training to advance their careers," she adds. WIFT Louisiana has hosted a successful Next Step screenwriters series and script development workshops throughout the year.

WIFT Louisiana was formed in 2011 and is a chartered member of Women in Film & Television International. WIFTI is comprised of over 40 chapters and more than 10,000 members worldwide. WIFT Louisiana currently serves as the host chapter of WIFTI.

Caubarreaux wrote under the pen name Pepper Phillips. Her 2012 book, titled "The Devil Has Dimples" was full of mystery and secrets in a small Southern town, and inspired by a patient at the nursing home where she worked.

For information about WIFT Louisiana, visit www.wiftlouisiana.org; and for information about WIFT International, visit www.wifti.net.

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