



WOMEN & FASHION
FILMFEST

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LIGHTS, FASHION, ACTION!
Second ANNUAL WOMEN & FASHION FILMFEST
JUNE 3- 7, 2014 to Support & Empower Women & Girls

MAY 6, 2014 (New York, NY) -- The annual **Women & Fashion FilmFest** (WFF) is returning to New York City for its 2nd edition. Part conference, part film festival, this 5-day event will unite leaders in fashion, entertainment and media to support and empower women and girls. This year, WFF is partnering with [LIM College](http://www.limcollege.edu), which will serve as the festival's main venue.

WFF will include panel discussions with luminaries in fashion, film, television, magazines, and beauty; screenings of films made by both established filmmakers and high school and college students; workshops for girls, and a fashion show that will feature original designs from students. A full schedule is available on www.womenfashfilm.com

Among this year's confirmed participants are former *Vogue* Editor-at-Large **Andre Leon Talley**, filmmaker **James Belzer** (*The Tents*), who will offer an advance preview screening of his latest documentary, *Make It in America: Empowering Global Fashion* -- which examines the loss and subsequent re-invigoration of domestic apparel production in the U.S. -- Sundance Productions President **Laura Michalychshyn**, Vimeo President **Dae Mellencamp**, Fashion Director of *US Weekly* **Sasha Charnin Morrison**, and Ovation Executive VP, Network Strategy **Liz Janneman**, who will discuss *The Fashion Fund*.

"Since our inaugural festival last year, we've gained much momentum in building awareness of our platform to empower women and girls. In addition to our stellar lineup of panels and screenings, I am especially excited about our new Girls Film Festival and the Girls Empowerment Fashion Runway, which is aimed at inspiring girls and giving them the chance to express their creativity and develop their skills and talents," says WFF Executive Director Jeanine Jeo-Hi Kim, who was recently named U.S. Chair of MARITAGE International, a UNITED NATIONS affiliated platform focused on empowering women and addressing poverty by creating employment opportunities for women artisans and artists.

Says LIM College President Elizabeth S. Marcuse, "LIM College is delighted to serve as the main venue for the Women & Fashion FilmFest. We have been preparing students for successful careers in the business of fashion since 1939, so naturally we wholeheartedly



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support WFF’s mission as they create opportunities for, and support the professional ambitions of, girls and young women.”

WFF will kick off with a Red Carpet Opening Night Benefit hosted by Celebrity Stylist **Phillip Bloch** on **June 3rd at the Gold Bar (389 Broome St.) in Manhattan**. Starting at **6 pm**, fashion designers will walk the outdoor red carpet with models wearing their designs to celebrate fashion with the public. NYCEDC Director **Eric Johnson**, leader of many of New York City’s fashion initiatives will deliver a welcoming address. WFF will also present its first *Inspiration & Visionary Award* to **Sara Ziff, Founder of the Model Alliance**. **Governor William Paterson, Catherine Malandrino, Stephen Burrows, Timothy Greenfield-Sanders, Nigel Barker, Supermodels Pat Cleveland, Sessilee Lopez, Grace Bol, Nykhor Paul, Candace Huffine** and **Crystal Renn** are among the Honorary Hosts. **Phi Unit** – Your Little Sister’s Favorite DJ and Co-Founder of Building Beats, a non-profit that fundraises for DJ and music education for kids will spin the music. Tickets (tax deductible according to law) are available for \$250 at www.womenfashfilm.com

To inspire teenage girls to focus on leadership and contributing to society, the Girls Film Festival (GFF) will include a panel on June 6th, 6pm at LIM College (216 East 45th St.) with top models talking about their philanthropic efforts, including **Sessilee Lopez** on her work with Operation Smile, **Nykhor Paul** on promoting peace in Sudan through her initiative “We Are Nilotic,” **Grace Bol** on The Roots Project that teaches arts and crafts to South Sudanese communities, and **Crystal Renn** and **Claudia Mason** on women’s health and body image. The program also includes the premiere of [The Civic Life Project](#)’s documentary on human trafficking made by high schools students, as well as other short films made by teenage girls in partnership with several nonprofit organizations – including [Reel Works](#) and [Scenarios USA](#).

WFF will conclude on June 7th with the Girls Empowerment Fashion Runway (GEFR), a fashion show sponsored by [True Model Management](#) and [Runway The Real Way](#) at the Yotel Hotel (570 Tenth Ave.). The show will feature designs by young designers from the [United Colors of Fashion](#), a non-profit organization that provides free fashion education to under-resourced youth.

For updates and a complete schedule of festival events, locations, times and participants, and to purchase tickets, visit www.womenfashfilm.com. Festival passes are \$120, and include admission to the Closing Party on June 6th, 8.30pm, at the Gold Bar (389 Broome St.) with DJ Juli-Lee. Student passes are \$68. 1-Day Passes are also available. Girls Film Festival tickets are \$38, and \$20 for students with a valid student ID.

About the Women & Fashion FilmFest™ (WFF)

Founded in 2013 by Jeanine Jeo-Hi Kim, the Women & Fashion FilmFest™ (WFF) is an annual film festival and conference that gathers leaders in fashion, entertainment and media to examine social issues and foster social responsibility, especially toward women and girls. WFF also provides information, tools and creative opportunities for women and students, and honors leaders for their societal as well as their artistic contributions. WFF is a Partner of MARITAGE



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International, a new UNITED NATIONS affiliated platform focusing on empowering women and addressing poverty by creating employment opportunities for women artisans and artists. WFF is also a growing dynamic online Community that will share its panels online as part of its global outreach.

About LIM College

LIM College, founded in 1939, is focused exclusively on the study of business and fashion, offering an MBA program with concentrations in Fashion Management and Entrepreneurship, MPS programs in Fashion Merchandising & Retail Management, Fashion Marketing, and Visual Merchandising, a BS degree in International Business, bachelor's degrees in Fashion Merchandising, Visual Merchandising, Marketing, and Management, and associate degrees in Fashion Merchandising. LIM College provides a well-rounded education through the combination of in-class instruction and required internships. Located in four buildings in Manhattan -- the nation's fashion and business capital -- LIM College gives students vast opportunities for hands-on experience and professional development. Alumni have gone on to excel at top companies, including The Jones Group, Saks Fifth Avenue, Barneys New York, Macy's, and Neiman Marcus.

Partners: [LIM College](#), [MARITAGE International](#), [Ovation](#), [Sony Creative Software](#), [Makeup Forever](#), [TRUE Model Management](#), [Sandi Bass International](#), [Runway The Real Way](#), [FashionTVNetwork](#), [Gold Bar](#), [Sensation of House](#), [Small Victory Press](#), [United Colors of Fashion](#), [Harmonia Holdings](#), [Beau Monde Society](#), [Lumiere Magazine](#), [Brokenness](#), [Company Agenda](#), [Bahr Che](#), [Black + Black](#), [Building Beats](#), [E.L.F.Circle](#), [Spark Summit](#), [The Civic Life Project](#), [ScenariosUSA](#), [FashionOne](#), [Beauty 4 Empowerment](#), [United Nations Association Film Festival](#)

WFF'14 PROGRAM

Day 1- Film & Television - June 4, 2014 (Wed.) – at LIM College, 216 E. 45 St., NYC

5pm Session1: Fashion Films

Student Fashion Shorts: Screening & Talk-Back with Student Filmmakers moderated by Lisa Donofrio-Head of the Women & Fashion FilmFest Student Fashion Shorts Program

6pm Session 2: Filmmaking

Indie Filmmaking in NYC: A Panel Discussion with Women Leaders on Opportunities & Resources in NYC for Independent Filmmakers with **Hoong Yee Krakauer**- Executive Director of The Queens Council on the Arts, **Joana Vicente**- Executive Director of the Independent Filmmaker Project and the Made in NY Media Center by IFP, and **Rose Ganguzza**- President of Rose Pictures, moderated by **Michelle Handelman**, Filmmaker and Associate Professor of Film & Media at the Fashion Institute of Technology

7pm Session 3: Television & Online Media

The Small Screen Renaissance: A Panel Discussion with Women Leaders in Television & Online Distribution with **Laura Michalychshyn**- President of Sundance Productions, **Dae Mellencamp**-



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President of Vimeo, **Stephanie Sharis**- COO of SnagFilms, **Liz Janneman**- EVP, Network Strategy of Ovation, moderated by award winning actress **Heather Matarazzo**

8pm **Session 4: Fashion Preview**

Tangled Thread

A special preview of *Tangled Thread*, the latest documentary by **Sara Ziff**, Founder of the Model Alliance, followed by a talk-back with the filmmaker.

About *Tangle Thread*: The runway of New York and the factories of Bangladesh could not seem further apart. Yet they both drive a global, multi-trillion dollar industry: the fashion industry. And, in both cases, the work is performed overwhelmingly by young women and girls who are struggling to assert their rights in a hostile labor environment. *Tangled Thread* tells the story of two labor activists who become unlikely allies: runway model Sara Ziff and former garment worker Kalpona Akter. Together, they attempt to organize across the supply chain to unite fashion's most and least visible workers. *Tangled Thread*: labor rights, women's rights & a call to action.

Day 2- Fashion & Beauty - June 5, 2014 (Thurs.) at LIM College, 216 E. 45 St., NYC

3pm **Session 5: Fashion & Retail Careers**

Getting Your Foot In The Door & More: A Panel Discussion on Having a Successful Career in Fashion and Retail with **LaVelle Olexa**- Former Chair of Fashion Group International, **Terre Simpson**- President of Simpson Associates, a major fashion and retail executive search firm; and **Gail Monroe-Perry**- President of BRAG and Executive Search Consultant with Martens & Heads, moderated by **Nicole Kirpalani**, Ph.D.- Assistant Professor of Marketing, Management & Finance of LIM College

4pm **Session 6: Diversity in Fashion & Entertainment**

African American Women in Fashion & Entertainment: A Panel Discussion with Prominent Women as African American Female Role Models and the Status of Their Industries from Their Perspective with **Carla Hall** – Chef & Star of ABC's "The Chew," **Devyn**- 1st Winner of Naomi Campbell's *The Face*, **Vivian Reed**– Tony Award Nominated Actress, and **Audrey Smaltz**- CEO of Ground Crew, moderated by **Harriette Cole**– President of Harriette Cole Media and Former Editor-in-Chief of *Ebony* Magazine.

5pm **Session 7: Magazines**

Magazines Behind the Scenes: A Panel Discussion with Top Magazine Editors with **Andre Leon Talley**- Consulting Editor and Former Editor-at-Large of *Vogue*, **Constance White**- Consulting Editor of Ozy.com and Former Editor-in-Chief of *Essence*, **Sasha Charnin Morrison**- Fashion Director of *US Weekly*; and **Lynn Yaeger**- Contributing Fashion Editor of *Vogue*, moderated by **Michael Palladino**, Director of Student Life of LIM College

6pm **Session 8: Emerging Designer Resources in NYC**

Can You Make It In NYC?: A Panel Discussion on Resources Available to Emerging Designers in NYC with **Eric Johnson**- Director of Fashion, Arts & International, Center for Economic Transformation of NYC Government; **Debera Johnson**- Executive Director of the Brooklyn Fashion & Design Accelerator; and **Gary Wasner**- CEO of the Hilldun Corporation, moderated by **John Johnson**, Host of #1 show on LA Talk Radio, *LIVE Today with John Johnson & Dr. Estella*.

7pm **Session 9: Special Advance Preview Screening**

Make It In America: Empowering Global Fashion: A Special Advance Preview Screening of the latest documentary by **James Belzer** (*The Tents*), followed by discussion with the filmmaker and Q&A Panel,



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with **Dennita Sewell**- Curator of Fashion Design at The Phoenix Art Museum (www.phxart.org), **Michelle Vale**- Handbag Designer and Associate Producer of the film, and other special guests. Moderated by **Jacqueline Jenkins**- Graduate Studies Director of LIM College.

Day 3- Girls Film Festival™ - June 6, 2014 (Fri.) at LIM College, 216 E. 45 St., NYC

4pm **Session 10: GFF Red Carpet**

A fun opportunity for girls to walk the red carpet!

5pm **Session 11: Mothers & Daughters**

Building Bridges to Understanding: a Discussion with mother and daughter teams on how they have helped each other through life's challenges with **Stacey Schieffelin**- Former Ford Model & Founder and President of ybf, **Sandi Bass**- a renown Casting Director and Muse to Hubert de Givenchy and her daughter **Christina Millar**, and legendary Supermodel **Pat Cleveland & daughter Anna Cleveland**, moderated by **Dr. Estella Sneider**, Co-Host of *LIVE Today with John Johnson & Dr. Estella*, #1 Talk Show on LA Talk Radio, Licensed Psychologist, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT) & Certified Sex Therapist

6pm **Session 12: Inspiring Girls**

Finding Your Passion, Building a Bright Future: A Panel Discussion with Supermodels Models on their Philanthropic Projects & Social Enterprises to inspire girls to focus on developing skills & talents & contributing to society with **Supermodels Sessilee Lopez** talking about her work with Operation Smile, **Nykhor Paul** on her work promoting peace in Sudan through her initiative "We are Nilotic," as well as **Grace Bol, Crystal Renn, and Claudia Mason** on promoting strong body and minds.

7pm **Session 13: Girls Film Festival**

Girls Calling the Shots: A Screening of Short Films by Girls in collaboration with Reel Works, Scenarios USA, and the Civic Life Project, including premiere of its documentary *Human Trafficking* by Kemani Harriot and Ayla Albright, students of the Classical Magnet School in Hartford, CT.

8.30pm **Closing Party - June 6, 2014 (Fri. night) at the Gold Bar, 389 Broome St., NYC**

DJ Juli-Lee spins the music for the closing party of the Women & Fashion FilmFest'14 at the Gold Bar produced by Eleonora Quizmolli and Sensation of House.

Day 4- Girls Empowerment Fashion Runway Show - June 7, 2014 (Sat.) at Yotel Hotel, 570 10th Av.

WFF will conclude with the Girls Empowerment Fashion Runway (GEFR), a fashion show sponsored by True Model Management and Runway The Real Way at the Yotel Hotel during its Fashion Brunch.

From 2.30-3.30pm, the event will showcase a live fashion show featuring designs by students of the United Colors of Fashion (UCOF Academy) as well as outfits from Best Dressed NY. DJ Marcus will spin music for a Girls Dance Party after show. Students from LIM College will style the show. Make-up & hair styling provided by Make Up For Ever Academy. Backstage workshops by: The Luminous Foundation, Karen Lee Group, Model Moves/iModelSchool, Divine Life Styles, Be Your Best Health, Gerardo Porteny Backal, Admittedly & more. To attend GEFR, please e-mail Events@TRUModel.net, or stop by on a first-come, first-served basis until capacity is reached. For full brunch and seating admission, call Yotel: [646.449.7790x1](tel:646.449.7790x1).