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WIFTI MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

5th May 2020

Women in Film and Television International (WIFTI) was incorporated in the US in October of 2018 as a 501 3c) non-commercial organization with a Board of Directors. Previous to this date, a non-incorporated umbrella named WIFTI operated as a loose affiliation or umbrella for various WIFT chapters from a number of countries. When the new Board took over management of WIFTI in 2018, it was decided that it was the right time for the umbrella to become an actual registered organization with a Board of Directors, and to grow the organization internationally in promoting gender equality and organizing events and initiatives around the world.

Mandate: As an underpinning to WIFTI activities, the new Board voted to operate as an **open and inclusive organization** at the international level, to bring together women's industry groups from around the world. Together, women's voices would be stronger. The three main pillars of WIFTI's activities focus on Knowledge, Connection and Visibility for our members and women in the industry internationally.

Mission statement

WIFTI is a global network of Women in Film and Television Chapters and similar organizations worldwide, dedicated to advancing professional development and achievement for women working in all areas of film, video and other screen-based media, with a focus on three pillars – Knowledge, Connection and Visibility.

WIFTI Bylaws

Standard bylaws were filed as part of WIFTI's incorporation documents in 2018, and a Board committee was struck to review and provide a more relevant set of Bylaws reflective of WIFTI's mandate. The new set of Bylaws were voted on and approved by the Board in early 2020.

A full set of the WIFTI Bylaws can be found here: <https://www.wifti.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/WIFTI-BYLAWS-19-Mar-2020.pdf>

Standard Operating Procedures

At the same time as the Committee reviewed the Bylaws, many issues arose that were determined to be Standard Operating Procedures and so a new protocol for SOPs is in the works. However, some elements of what will become SOPs were voted on and approved, as below in Membership. WIFTI will finalize and release SOPs after the General Assembly in August and a new Board takes over in the fall of 2020.

Membership Types

WIFTI membership is open to all women's groups working in the screen-based industries around the world that meet the requirements laid out in the Bylaws. WIFT chapters in the USA **do not** need to be members of the WIFT US President's Group to become members of WIFTI. The US Presidents Group and WIFTI are two separate and distinct entities with different membership requirements.

There are two categories of membership for WIFTI – **WIFT Chapters** and **Partner Members**. The primary distinction is that WIFTI Chapter Members have **voting rights**, while Partner Members may be other women's groups (non-WIFT) that wish to join WIFTI as an open and inclusive international organization, but Partner Members **do not** have voting rights.

From WIFTI Bylaws:

WIFTI Chapters Members and Partner Members must:

- Agree with the WIFTI statement of purpose and mission to promote and enhance opportunities for women working in all screen-based media.
- Be an organization that works non-commercially
- Be led by women, those who identify as female and/or non-binary individuals

Standard Operating Procedures in place for New Chapters and Partner Members

The WIFTI Board approved the following principles regarding membership in 2019:

- a) Organizations wishing to join WIFTI and use the WIFT name must be pre-approved by the WIFTI Board and not be in conflict with an existing WIFTI Chapter.
- b) Each WIFTI Chapter Member must have a board of directors or governing body elected by the membership.