

For Immediate Release



## 2019 BLACK WOMEN FILM NETWORK SUMMIT IS MARCH 7-9 IN ATLANTA; HBO AND GEORGIA POWER JOIN AS PARTNERS

### SHORT FILM FESTIVAL SELECTIONS ANNOUNCED

# BWFN SUMMIT 2019



- \* OPENING RECEPTION
- \* SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS
- \* BWFN SHORT FILM FESTIVAL
- \* BWFN BOOK FESTIVAL
- \* WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS!

**MARCH 7-9, 2019**  
**ATLANTA**

REGISTER: [BlackWomenFilmSummit.org](http://BlackWomenFilmSummit.org)



(ATLANTA) – February 21, 2019 - **Black Women Film Network (BWFN)** has announced that its **2019 Black Women Film Summit** will take place **March 7–9, 2019** in Atlanta. **HBO** and **Georgia Power** have signed on as Summit partners. **Atlanta Technical College** returns for the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year as a venue sponsor.

The annual three-day event, taking place during Women’s History Month, will celebrate the work of women of color in film and television and provide attendees with networking opportunities, information and resources to further their careers in the industry.

The Summit kicks off **Thursday, March 7** at 6:30pm with an invitation-only **Welcome Reception and Scholarship Awards Presentation** hosted by Georgia Power at their headquarters (241 Ralph McGill Blvd NE, Atlanta, GA 30308).

Just in time for **International Women's Day**, on **Friday, March 8** at 6:00pm, the **BWFN Short Film Festival**, sponsored by HBO, will take place at the World of Coca-Cola Theater (121 Baker St. NW, Atlanta GA 30313). Eight films – produced, directed by or starring black women -- will be screened Friday night. Over 100 entries were received from Africa, Australia, Brazil, Canada and the U.S. A cash prize will be awarded to the “Best in Festival” winner on Saturday at 1:30pm during the Summit.

The Summit continues **Saturday, March 9** from 9:00am to 4:00pm at **Atlanta Technical College** (1560 Metropolitan Pkwy SW, Atlanta, GA 30310) with a full day of workshops as well as the **BWFN Book Festival** (11:00am – 1:00pm) featuring over a dozen authors.

The day also includes a special talk-back and screening at 2:00pm of the PBS show “**A Seat at the Table**” hosted by **Denene Milner, Monica Pearson** and **Christine White**.

Register for passes to the Summit at [blackwomenfilmssummit.org](http://blackwomenfilmssummit.org). For media requests, visit <https://bit.ly/2NiQxSF>.

**BWFN announces that the following shorts** have been selected for the 2019 BWFN Short Film Festival.

#### **UTOPIA**

Director: Aimiende Negbenebor Sela

*Utopia is a surreal drama about a woman who wakes up from a coma in Uganda. And, no -- nothing is as it seems.*

#### **LALO'S HOUSE**

Director: Kelley Kali

*Inspired by true events. After being taken from their home in Jacmel, Haiti, two young sisters must escape a child sex trafficking ring, disguised as a Catholic orphanage.*

#### **THE CURE**

Director: Kristian King

*Lisa has been blessed with a gifted child, but must grapple with the costs of utilizing the miracle to keep a roof over her family's heads.*

#### **OATH BOUND**

Director: Ola Laniyan

*Four years after being tricked, sold and mentally entrapped into the Nigerian sex slave industry, Nneka decides she has had enough. Today, she breaks the Oath with the African Gods.*

#### **THE CHECK LIST**

Director: Bobby Huntley

*If God laughs when we plan, then Desiree's love life is comedy gold. But when it comes to happiness, will Desiree trust her Checklist or her heart?*

#### **FLIGHT**

Director: Kia Moses, Adrian McDonald

*From the little island of big dreams comes Kemar. An inner city youth from Kingston, Jamaica, with possibly the biggest dream of all. To fly to the moon. A story that explores dreams bigger than us, what fuels them, what stands in the way of them, their ability to transport us and those around us, if they take FLIGHT.*

## **BLACK GIRLS GUIDE TO FERTILITY**

Director: Crystle Roberson

*Black Girls Guide to Fertility tackles infertility in a profoundly intimate way that's both dramatic and comedic without ever feeling rigid. It focuses on Ava, a 37-year-old romance novelist, who faded into obscurity after finding love-and now finds herself on the rise again after self-publishing a diary detailing her fertility woes. Each episode is a recreation of Ava's diary entry, adding a unique and compelling touch to the everyday struggle of infertility.*

## **NOVELLA**

Director: Terayle Hill

*Through colorful literature, we enter the creative mind of an Author who sets off to write her first Black romance novel.*

The schedule for the 2019 BWFN Summit classes is as follows:

- 9:00 to 11:00 AM - **Screenwriting with AZ Yeamen** - *In this two-hour workshop, writers will learn how to create dynamic 3-dimensional characters, the superhuman antagonist to intensify your story, and the science of loglines to master your 90-second pitch.*
- 10:00 to 12:00 PM - **Kids Acting Class with Jonna Johnson** - *For kids ages 7-17. Actors will gain confidence in auditioning using the Primal 5 tool of the Chubbuck Technique.*
- 10:00 to 12:00 PM - **Red Carpet Hosting with Summer Jackson and Jasmine Adams** – *Gain tips on how to host and interview celebrities on the red carpet.*
- 10:00 to 12:00 - **The Art of Engagement: Social Media and Brand Building with Tahira Wright and Lexi Felder** – *Learn from the experts on how to be successful in the digital marketing and blogging world.*
- 11:00 to 1:00 PM - **BWFN Book Festival** - *Over 15 authors will discuss their books covering a wide range of topics.*
- 11:30 to 1 PM - **Hair, Makeup, and Wardrobe Panel with Hope Searcy, Kelvin Myers, Kash Howard** - *Learn from experienced professionals on how to enter and be successful in the film industry for hair, makeup, and wardrobe.*
- 12:30 to 2:30 PM - **How to Pitch to Networks with Armani Martin and Breion Moses** – *Learn the art of pitching to networks and production companies from a creator perspective.*
- 12:30 to 2:30 PM - **The Art of the Cut with Deanna Nowell** – *Editing is one of the most rewarding parts of filmmaking and is where the script comes to life. In this workshop, learn the basic principles of editing and how to use them in your own project.*
- 12:30 to 2:30 PM - **The Making of a Leading Lady Workshop with Dennis White and Reece Odum** – *Working actors share their experience and techniques to improve your craft.*
- 1:30 PM to 1:50 PM – **BWFN Short Film Festival Awards Presentation**
- 1:30 to 3:30 PM - **Intro to the Assistant Directors Team with Alicia Hailey Daniels** – *Learn key essentials to being an effective member of the AD Team.*
- 2:00 to 2:55 PM - **“A Seat at the Table” Screening with Monica Pearson, Denene Miller, and Christine White** – *Enjoy a screening of the PBS show “A Seat at the Table” followed by a Q&A with the hosts.*

- 3:00 to 4:00 PM - **SAG-AFTA Who, What, and Why with Ruth T. Paul** - *Learn the benefits and what it means to be a part of the Screen Actors Guild. Registration for this session is FREE.*

For all-access passes to the Summit, register at [blackwomenfilmsummit.org](http://blackwomenfilmsummit.org). For media requests, visit <https://bit.ly/2NiQxSF>.

**About Black Women Film Network**

*Established in 1997, the Black Women Film Network (BWFN) was founded to prepare black women to enter the film and television industries. The organization seeks to preserve the voice of these women through film and educational programs that empower and inform. A 501(c)3 non-profit, BWFN provides student scholarships, hosts screenings and workshops, and honors individuals who have excelled in this difficult industry.*

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