Government of the District of Columbia OFFICE OF CABLE TELEVISION FILM, MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT



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OCTFME RECOGNIZES RICARDO VILLALBA AS THE AUGUST 2021 FILMMAKER OF THE MONTH



This DC-based filmmaker's ultimate vision is to make DC the next film making destination that competes with both LA and Atlanta

Washington, D.C. – The District of Columbia Office of Cable Television, Film, Music, and Entertainment (OCTFME) is pleased to recognize Ricardo Villalba as the August 2021 Filmmaker of the Month. Ricardo Villalba is a longtime DC resident with nearly two decades of experience in the film and entertainment industry. He is a graduate of the New York Film Academy and he founded <u>Washington Digital Media</u> in 2014. Since then, he has produced more than 300 films in both Spanish and English.

"I see my business as a sort of solution in this digital age for my community to generate growth and feel empowered as we tell their stories to a wider audience," said Ricardo Villalba. "This business has allowed me to take my expertise and knowledge to best serve my community and bring the result that my clients need to reach their next milestone."

Ricardo recently acquired 12,000 sq. ft of studio space in Brentwood NE (Ward 5), site of the former BET Networks campus. Washington Digital Media will partner with <u>WEG Studios</u> on this venture, and it is Ricardo's ultimate vision to make the District of Columbia the next major filmmaking destination that competes with both Los Angeles and Atlanta.

What stands out the most about Ricardo and Washington Digital Media is the human connection that they make with each one of their clients. Ricardo takes the time to not only see the concept, but to understand the client and ensure that their vision is fully developed. Whether it be a political campaign, a film, a music video, company ad, or outreach to the community, Washington Digital Media always represents its clients with integrity and authenticity.

FILM CREDITS:

In 2018 Ricardo and his team produced a highlight video of the event "The DC World Reggae Festival." <u>Video link below</u>: DC World Festival link

Social Media Handles:

FB: facebook.com/WashingtonDigital

IG: instgram.com/WashingtonDigital

Website:

Washingtondigitalmedia.com

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About Filmmaker of the Month

The Office of Cable Television, Film, Music and Entertainment (OCTFME) launched the "Filmmaker of the Month" initiative as a vehicle for highlighting the talents and creative contributions of filmmakers that make the District of Columbia their home. The "Filmmaker of the Month" initiative is part of OCTFME's mission to elevate the national and international profile of the District's talented filmmakers.

***If you know of a filmmaker that would make a great future "Filmmaker of the Month," you can send OCTFME your recommendations using this <u>nomination form.</u>

About OCTFME

The Office of Cable Television, Film, Music and Entertainment (OCTFME) produces and broadcasts programming for the District of Columbia's public, educational, and government access (PEG) cable television channels and digital radio station; regulates the District of Columbia's cable television service providers; provides customer service for cable subscribers; and supports a sustainable film, music, and entertainment creative economy and labor market in the District of Columbia.

OCTFME operates and manages the District's government television access channels: the District Council Channel (DCC), the District of Columbia Network (DCN), and the District Knowledge Network (DKN). OCTFME's award-winning content provides resourceful information on government activity, education, current events, history, music, arts, and entertainment. OCTFME manages and programs DC Radio 96.3 HD4 digital radio station, the District of Columbia's first government radio station in partnership with Howard University's WHUR. It is one of only two full-power, city-managed and programmed radio stations in the country

OCTFME provides production support services that advance film, television, video, entertainment, interactive, multimedia, and digital media content creators. These services include permitting; location scouting; production support; job placement assistance; workforce development; and the DC Film, Television and Entertainment Rebate Fund.

OCTFME supports the creative economy through Mayor Muriel Bowser Presents: 202Creates initiative, administering programs supporting the growth and sustainability of the creative industries in all 8 Wards of the District.

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OCTFME provides additional support to the Creative community through the Creative Affairs Office (CAO). CAO showcases and preserves the District of Columbia's rich creative communities throughout all 8 Wards. CAO builds sustainability in the creative community through policy, programming, and education which further expands the pathway to the middle class for the creative workforce. CAO coordinates public, private, and community partners to accomplish all goals and create equitable and inclusive opportunities for the District's creatives.

For more information, contact the Office of Cable Television, Film, Music, and Entertainment at (202) 671-0066, visit us online at: <u>entertainment.dc.gov</u>, and follow us on <u>Facebook.com/entertaindc</u>, <u>Instagram.com/entertain_dc</u> and <u>Twitter.com/entertain_dc</u>.

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