Red Horse Native Productions and Valhalla Entertainment for a presentation of Vision Maker Media with major funding provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting presents

MANKILLER

Directed and Produced by Valerie Red-Horse Mohl
Executive Produced by Gale Anne Hurd

Publicity:
Valhalla Entertainment
3201 Cahuenga Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90068
Lyndsey Miller
lm@valhallarent.com
(323) 850-3034

Educational Sales/Distribution
Good Docs
Sarah Feinbloom
orders@gooddocs.net

Home Sales
Vision Maker Media
1800 N 33rd St
Lincoln, NE 68503
Shirley Sneve
ssneve@netad.unl.edu
(402) 472-3522

All Other Territories
Valhalla Entertainment
3201 Cahuenga Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90068
Julie Thomson
jt@valhallarent.com
(323) 850-3030

Red-Horse Native Productions
Valerie Red-Horse Mohl
valerier@valerieredhorse.com

Not yet Rated, 74 min, Color
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MANKILLER is the powerful story of Wilma Mankiller, who found her voice in San Francisco’s civil rights movement and returned to lead the Cherokee Nation as the first woman to be elected Principal Chief. As a Native American woman myself, I am honored and humbled to be directing and producing this documentary in collaboration with my tremendous production team, especially Executive Producer Gale Anne Hurd (THE TERMINATOR trilogy, ALIENS, ARMAGEDDON, THE ABYSS, THE WATERDANCE). I have been very fortunate to be reunited with Gale. Despite her incredibly busy production schedule (she currently Executive Produces AMC’s THE WALKING DEAD, Amazon’s new series LORE and USA’s FALLING WATER), her creative drive has enabled us to produce our third Native American themed documentary together. Through crowdfunding, we were able to raise more than half our budget for MANKILLER from supporters around the world! We have fostered trust within Native communities as filmmakers who are true to our subjects, fair and honest in our portrayals and accurate in our storytelling. As we complete this film with news of world events unfolding around us, we realize how Wilma Mankiller’s leadership style, her focus on consensus building and her ability to organize a community with quiet influence and humility, are all qualities that are extremely topical. I truly believe we can learn rich and valuable lessons from her story and her legacy. I see this film as so much more than a biography; I believe it actually is a wakeup call. Wilma lived her life with the philosophy of “Ga-Dugi” which translated means “in a good way” – and our goal is that we embody “Ga-Dugi” on this project to honor her.

**Director’s Statement**

**Gale Anne Hurd**

*MANKILLER Executive Producer*

Hurd’s career as a Producer was launched when she produced and co-wrote THE TERMINATOR. Hurd’s additional feature credits include the Academy Award winning films THE ABYSS, TERMINATOR 2: JUDGMENT DAY, and THE GHOST AND THE DARKNESS as well as the Academy Award-nominated ARMAGEDDON, THE INCREDIBLE Hulk, TREMORS, DANTE’S PEAK, Aeon Flux, The Punisher, Dick, and THE WATERDANCE. She has also produced two other documentaries on Native American subjects, TRUE WHISPERS: THE STORY OF THE NAVAJO CODE TALKERS and CHOCTAW CODE TALKERS. Hurd is currently an Executive Producer on THE WALKING DEAD, which reigns as the most watched scripted cable drama, as well as the AMC companion series, FEAR THE WALKING DEAD. In 2015, Hurd was awarded the prestigious David O. Selznick Award for Achievement in Motion Pictures by the Producers Guild of America, and she was inducted into the International Women’s Forum Hall of Fame. In 2012, Hurd received her star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

**Valerie Red-Horse Mohl**

*MANKILLER Director/Producer*

A filmmaker of Cherokee ancestry, Red-Horse Mohl’s body of work spans over three decades of film and television content creation and production. A graduate of UCLA’s Theater/Film Program, she has produced, directed and written over a dozen award winning films and television programs including, NATURALLY NATIVE (Sundance Feature), TRUE WHISPERS: THE STORY OF THE NAVAJO CODE TALKERS (PBS-also with Hurd), CHOCTAW CODE TALKERS (PBS-also with Hurd), POP HUNTER’S DEW DROP INN (PBS), DIVERSITY IN THE DELTA (PBS), MY INDIAN SUMMER (CBS) and BEAUTY (NBC). Red-Horse Mohl is a member of the Directors Guild and Screen Actors Guild and was inducted into the NAWBO (National Association of Women Business Owners) Hall of Fame in 2004. In addition to her entertainment expertise, Ms. Red-Horse is an investment banker serving as owner/founder of Red-Horse Financial Group, Inc.; she holds seven FINRA securities licenses and has raised/structured over $3 billion in capital for American Indian Tribal Nations. Red-Horse Mohl is also the founder of three non-profit organizations.

**About the Filmmakers**

On location in San Francisco, the Mankiller Documentary crew interviews Roxanne Dunbar Ortiz. Pictured from left to right: Ms. Dunbar Ortiz, Valerie Red-Horse Mohl (Director/Producer), Tarin Anderson (Director of Photography), Robert Swanson (B-Camera Operator). Photo by Curt Mohl.

Mankiller Press Notes
Synopses

LONG FORM SYNOPSIS
This is the story of an American hero. One who stands tall amongst the likes of Robert Kennedy, Harriet Tubman and Martin Luther King, Jr. Someone who humbly defied the odds and overcame insurmountable obstacles to fight injustice and gave a voice to the voiceless. And yet few people know her name. This is the story of an American legend, Wilma Mankiller, who overcame rampant sexism and personal challenges to emerge as the Cherokee Nation’s first woman Principal Chief in 1985.

MANKILLER examines the legacy of the formidable Wilma Mankiller and reunites the documentary team of Gale Anne Hurd and Valerie Red-Horse Mohl for their third and most powerful film.

As a child, Wilma’s family was relocated from Oklahoma to San Francisco, and although the move was traumatic, it was in the Bay Area during the turbulent 1960s that she became involved in the fight for civil rights and joined the Alcatraz Occupation.

Wilma brought this passion back to the Cherokee Nation where she was re-elected by her people to serve three terms as the Cherokee’s highest leader. While in office, she provided the foundation for the Nation’s current economic and cultural status as one of the most successful tribes in America.

Although she considered herself a liberal Democrat, as Deputy Chief she was chosen by a conservative Republican and was known as a uniter of all people. Wilma launched many cutting edge initiatives that substantially improved living conditions during her tenure, and in 1990 she signed an unprecedented Cherokee Nation self-determination agreement with the federal government, in which the Nation took control of its funding, programs and services from the Bureau of Indian Affairs. In 1998, recognizing her impressive leadership and achievements, President Bill Clinton awarded her the Medal of Freedom.

Women’s March on Washington as one of the most important leaders in America’s movement for equality. MANKILLER reminds audiences of the true meaning of servant leadership and serves as a wake-up call to take action for positive change.

MEDIUM SYNOPSIS
In 1985, after serving as Deputy Chief under a conservative leader, Wilma Mankiller took office as the Cherokee Nation’s first woman Principal Chief. Having relocated from Oklahoma to San Francisco earlier in her life, Mankiller worked with both the nascent Black Panther and the Alcatraz occupation movements, eventually bringing the passion and experience she gained there back to her people.

During her decade-long tenure as Principal Chief and beyond, Mankiller’s leadership enabled the Cherokee Nation to become one of the most economically and culturally successful tribes in America.

Through rare archival footage and intimate interviews with activists including Gloria Steinem, as well as with Wilma herself, MANKILLER gives us insight into how this remarkable woman successfully navigated through the minefield of bipartisan politics. Veteran filmmaker Valerie Red-Horse Mohl and Executive Producer Gale Anne Hurd present a portrait of a composed and assured leader who persevered through sexism and devastating personal setbacks to become one of the greatest leaders in American history.

SHORT SYNOPSIS
This is the story of an American hero. One who stands tall amongst the likes of Robert Kennedy, Harriet Tubman and Martin Luther King, Jr. Someone who humbly defied the odds and overcame insurmountable obstacles to fight injustice and gave a voice to the voiceless. And yet few people know her name. This is the story of an American legend, Wilma Mankiller, who overcame rampant sexism and personal challenges to emerge as the Cherokee Nation’s first woman Principal Chief in 1985.

MANKILLER examines the legacy of the formidable Wilma Mankiller and reunites the documentary team of Gale Anne Hurd and Valerie Red-Horse Mohl for their third and most powerful film. MANKILLER reminds audiences of the true meaning of servant leadership and serves as a wake-up call to take action for positive change.
Credits

Front Credits

Editors
Ken Schneider
Joe LaMattina
Lisa LaMattina

Producers
Stacy Mahoney
Charlie Soap
Kristina Kiehl

Executive Producer
Gale Anne Hurd

Director/Producer
Valerie Red-Horse Mohl

End Credits

Co-Producers
Gina Olaya
Felicia Olaya

Associate Producers
Philip Robyanski
Dawn Jackson

Valhalla Entertainment
Julie Thomson
Marisa Stotter

Red-Horse Native Productions
Chelsea Red-Horse Mohl
Kendall Woirhaye

Composer
Jesse Friedman

Sound Design
Joe LaMattina

Production Assistants
KC Mackey
Corey Soap
Sylvia Soap
Daniel Anishta
Justin Branch
Amanda Cuellar
Matt Klawer
Stephanie Moore
James Becker
Melissa Sweeney

Co-Producers
Gina Olaya
Felicia Olaya

Associate Producers
Phillip Robyanski
Dawn Jackson

End Credits

Assistant Editors
Aaron Merrill
Mary Helen Phelan
Daniel Pico

Clearances
Elizabeth Kuriakose

Post Production Supervisors
Adria Schneider
Kenneth Regua

Graphics
Richard McNealy

Still Photographers
Evan Taylor
Curt Mohl
Alex Lopez

Research
Vanessa Brown
Dan Agent

End Credits

Sound Design
Joe LaMattina

Associate Editors
Asako Ushio
Jeffrey Asher
Julie Anne Koehnen

Composer
Jesse Friedman

Theme Composed by
Tyler Strickland

Production Assistants
KC Mackey
Corey Soap
Sylvia Soap
Daniel Anishta
Justin Branch
Amanda Cuellar
Matt Klawer
Stephanie Moore
James Becker
Melissa Sweeney

Art Editors
Asako Ushio
Jeffrey Asher
Julie Anne Koehnen

Assistant Editors
Aaron Merrill
Mary Helen Phelan
Daniel Pico

Clearances
Elizabeth Kuriakose

Post Production Supervisors
Adria Schneider
Kenneth Regua

Graphics
Richard McNealy

Still Photographers
Evan Taylor
Curt Mohl
Alex Lopez

Research
Vanessa Brown
Dan Agent

On Camera Interviewees

Ada Deer
Betty Parent
Bob Blackburn
Bob Friedman
Candessa Tehee
Cara Cowan Watts
Chad Smith
Charles “Chief” Boyd
Charlie Shell
Charlie Soap
Chris Carlson
Chuck Garrett
Corey Soap
David Walkingstick
Dean Chavers
Doris Shell
Dr. Thomas Dullien
Eloy Martinez

Ernie Stevens, Jr.
Felicia Olaya Wing
Frida Vann
Gina Olaya
Gloria Steinem
Gwen Grayson
Ilka Hartmann
Ira Phillips
Jaye Hannah
Joe Byrd
Joe Grayson
Kimberly Treehee
Kristina Kiehl
Lou Kerr
Mark Downing
Mary Crowley
Mary Jean Roberston
Mary Smith

Melissa Gower
Meredith Frailey
Michael Wallis
Nita Cochran
Pamela Iron
Pastor Duke Pickup
Pat Ragsdale
Philip Viles, Jr.
Principal Chief Bill John Baker
Ralph Reen
Rennard Strickland
Rodger Vann
Ross Swimmer
Roxanne Dunbar Ortiz
Representative Tom Cole
Virginia Carey
Wallace Coffey

On location, the Mankiller Documentary crew interviews Felicia Olaya, Wilma’s daughter at the Mankiller home in Oklahoma. Pictured from left to right: Felicia Olaya (Interview Subject), Andy Theiss (Audio Mixer), Valerie Red-Horse Mohl (behind cameras) (Director/Producer), Tarin Anderson (Director of Photography). Photo by Evan Taylor.
Reviews

Capsule reviews from the L.A. Film Festival 2017
by People’s World

The Movies at the San Diego International Film Festival
by FOX’S San Diego

LAFF Review
by Hollywood Progressive
http://hollywoodprogressive.com/mankiller/

Mankiller Documentary Film Review
by ICMN’s @VincentSchilling

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Executive Producer for Vision Maker Media
Shirley K. Sneve

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