

**THE LIAISON OF INDEPENDENT FILMMAKERS OF TORONTO (LIFT)  
ANNOUNCES THE START OF FILM ACCESS PROGRAM**

**Toronto, April 15, 2016** —The staff at the **Liaison of Independent Filmmakers of Toronto (LIFT)** are excited to welcome six artists with disabilities to our facilities to begin **Film Access**, a six-month part-time mentorship program running from April 15 – September 16, 2016.

The participants will engage in a series of hands-on technical and creative workshops that will increase their understanding of film production. Each artist will be partnered with a local filmmaker to mentor them through the process of making a short film.

Film Access is funded with a grant from the **Ontario Arts Council** through the Media Arts Projects Access Initiative and will support the program and LIFT in its commitment to increasing accessibility to the means of making independent film. Film Access was developed with the consultation of Eliza Chandler of **Tangled Art + Disability**.

The participants of LIFT's Film Access program are **melannie g. campbell, Adam Roy Cohoon, Nicola DiCapua, Romeo Dontae Tresean Biggz Pierre, Clementine Morrigan, and Ali Saeedi**.

Confirmed mentors and instructors (to date) include **Jaene Castrillon, Franci Duran, Alexa Hickox, Chase Joynt, Tara Khalili, Kelly O'Brien, John Porter, Leslie Supnet, and Rolla Tahir**.

**The Liaison of Independent Filmmakers of Toronto (LIFT)** is Canada's foremost artist-run production and education organization dedicated to celebrating excellence in the moving image. LIFT exists to provide support and encouragement for independent filmmakers and artists through affordable access to production, post-production and exhibition equipment; professional and creative development; workshops and courses; commissioning and exhibitions; artist-residencies; and a variety of other services. LIFT is supported by its membership, Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Arts Council, Ontario Trillium Foundation, Ontario Arts Foundation, the Government of Ontario and the Toronto Arts Council. <http://www.lift.ca>

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For additional information please see <http://lift.ca> or e-mail **Special Projects Coordinator Terra Long** at [specialprojects@lift.on.ca](mailto:specialprojects@lift.on.ca)