STORY OF WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT THROUGH MEDIA:
THE ROLE OF PRODUCERS

Date: Tuesday, 20 March 2018
Time: 6:30 – 7:45 p.m.
Venue: Ex-Press Bar, United Nations Headquarters, New York
Contact: creative@un.org

As part of the 62nd session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW62), the United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI) and the Producers Guild of America (PGA) are co-hosting a side event to highlight the role of producers, as agents of change, in advancing gender equality and women’s empowerment, including as a catalyst for better social inclusion.

The panel discussion will focus on how producers can affect change, not only in the workplace, but also through their content creation, in particular, the creation of positive role models for women. Experts from the PGA Women’s Impact Network (WIN) and the UN will explore the dynamics involved in culture and storytelling, the production process, and examine explicit, implicit, and unconscious bias in content, with insights from their recent studies.

The panel is moderated by Grace Rauh.
About Grace Rauh
Grace Rauh is an award-winning political reporter and Emmy-nominated moderator for NY1 News and guest host of “Inside City Hall,” NY1’s public affairs show. She also appears on MSNBC as a political commentator. Her investigative reporting on New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio was awarded the Society of Professional Journalists’ national Sunshine Award in 2017, which honors contributions in the area of open government. In 2016, Rauh covered President Trump’s campaign for NY1, reporting from key primary states, the Republican National Convention and Trump’s election night party. Rauh graduated with honors from Stanford University and lives in Brooklyn with her husband and two daughters.

About Donna Gigliotti
Ms. Gigliotti is one of only nine women to win an Academy Award for Best Picture. She received the 1998 Oscar for producing SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE. Ms. Gigliotti received three additional Academy Award nominations for Best Picture for HIDDEN FIGURES (2016), SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK (2013), and THE READER (2008). She is President of Tempesta Films, a film production company based in New York. Ms. Gigliotti is a member of the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Science and the Producers Guild of America. She is a graduate of Sarah Lawrence College.

About Tia A. Smith
Ms. Smith is an award-winning producer and network executive with over 3,000 hours of television and film, develops culturally shifting projects that leave lasting imprints on audiences around the world whose work spans the spectrum of digital media, independent, corporate, scripted & unscripted television, film, development/current, and live events. For the past six years, Ms. Smith has served as Network Executive at TVOne and has launched some of its most successful and record-breaking programming. Prior to her post at TVOne, Ms. Smith founded talentedSOL Productions in 2006 which produced and consulted on projects for MTV, VH1, BET, TVOne, Lifetime Networks, Burrell, Uniworld, Verizon, SONY Music Group and the Bill Gates Foundation, among others. Ms. Smith holds a BS from Ithaca College in television & radio with a double minor concentration in African American & Gender Studies from Cornell University. She is a member of the Producers Guild of America.

About Nanette Braun
Ms. Braun is Chief of Communications Campaigns Service at the Strategic Communications Division of the UN Department of Public Information. Previously, she was Chief of Communications and Advocacy at UN Women, the global champion for women and girls and newest member of the UN family. She has worked on women’s rights for over 15 years. Before joining the UN, she worked as a journalist, mainly for print media in her native Germany and abroad, with a focus on humanitarian and development issues.