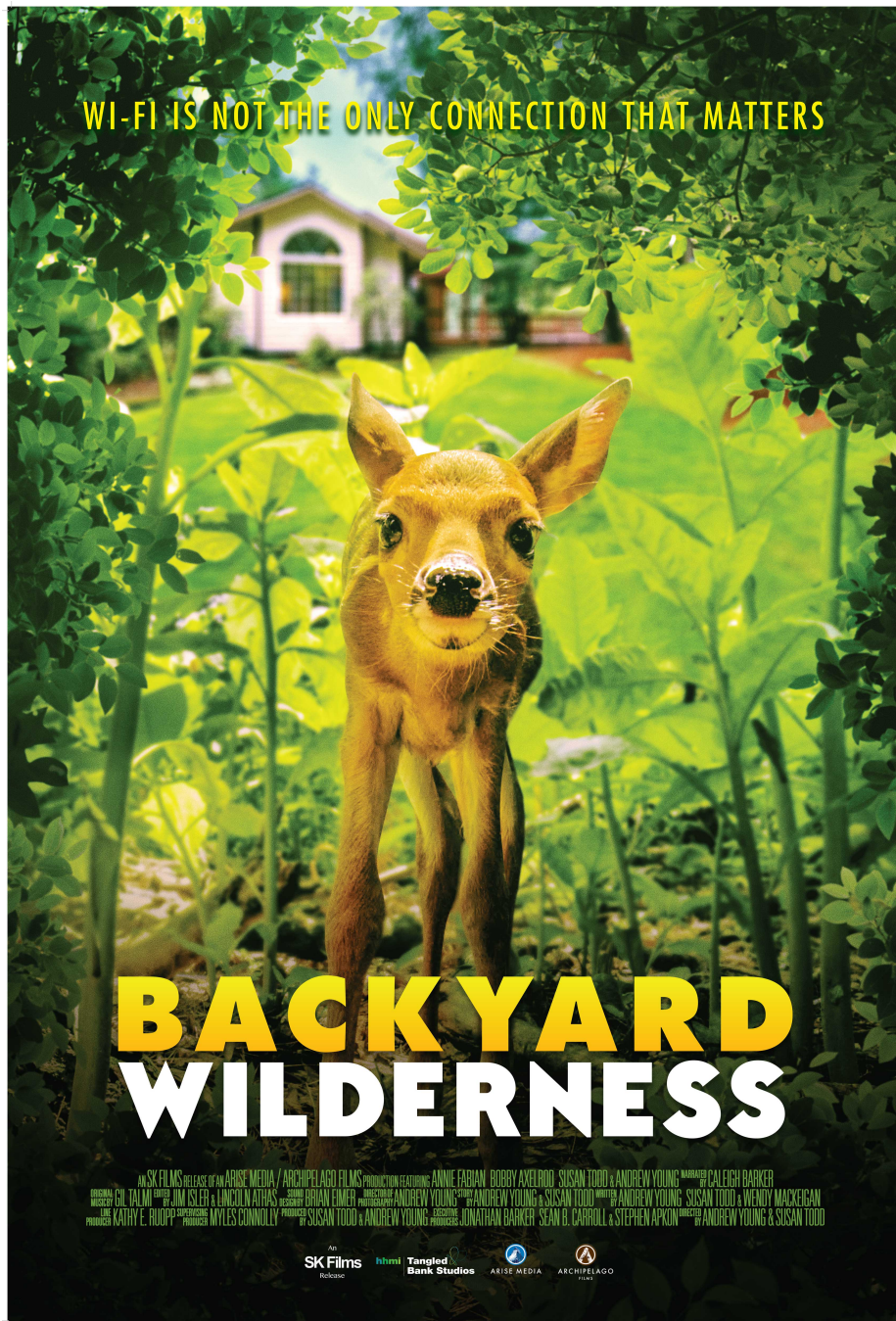


**BACKYARD WILDERNESS**  
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**WWW.BACKYARDWILDERNESSFILM.COM**  
**#BACKYARDWILDERNESS**

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NATIONAL PRESS RELEASE:



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SK Films to Release *Backyard Wilderness*,  
a New 3D Documentary for  
IMAX® and Giant Screen Theaters**

*From the award-winning company that brought you Amazon Adventure and Flight of the Butterflies, comes an inspirational story about observing the surprises nature delivers every day - right in your own backyard.*

Los Angeles – January 19, 2018 – *Backyard Wilderness*, an Arise Media / Archipelago Films production in collaboration with HHMI Tangled Bank Studios will be released by SK Films beginning March 2018 in museums, science centers and IMAX® theaters across the U.S. and Canada. The film arms explorers of all ages with the tools and inspiration to discover the wonders of nature at their fingertips. An extensive multiplatform educational outreach program to accompany the film, created by HHMI Tangled Bank Studios, will encourage and empower children and families to get outside and observe the changing world around them.

Created by Emmy Award-winning and Oscar® nominated filmmakers Andrew Young and Susan Todd, *Backyard Wilderness* will surprise and entertain viewers with the unexpected delights of nature that are in our own neighborhoods and communities. Spanning a seasonal year around a suburban home, the film displays a stunning array of unique wildlife imagery and behavior - all captured by cameras mounted inside dens and nests, and moving along forest floors and pond bottoms. The film reveals the animal inhabitants in rare and breathtaking detail. We follow Katie, a young girl, and her family who are absorbed by an array of electronic devices and, at first, oblivious to the natural world just outside their home. Katie gradually discovers the intricate secrets that nature has hidden so close to her front door and we experience the joy she finds in her interactions with this newly uncovered world. The film reminds us that Wi-Fi is not the only connection that matters and that sometimes in ordinary places, you can uncover extraordinary things that can transform you forever – you just need to step outside.

“The Giant Screen is the perfect medium to engage families of all ages and showcase the beauty of *Backyard Wilderness* – especially with Andrew Young’s outstanding cinematography and a compelling story of the transformation and discovery,” said Executive Producer and SK Films CEO, Jonathan Barker. “Our hope is for the audiences to become immersed in the splendor that the movie captures in this large format film.”

“Backyard Wilderness’, through breathtaking camerawork shows us an intimate portrait of the world around us,” said evolutionary biologist, Vice President for Science Education and Executive Director of HHMI Tangled Bank Studios Dr. Sean B. Carroll. “The goal of this film, coupled with our educational outreach effort, is to inspire the next generation of scientists and explorers to look closely and observe the natural world around them to better understand how it works.”

*Backyard Wilderness* is produced and directed by Andrew Young and Susan Todd, who wrote the film together with SK’s Wendy MacKeigan (*Flight of the Butterflies, Amazon Adventure*).

“We’re thrilled to have made this movie,” said Andrew and Susan. “We live in a world where we are consumed with technology and the notion of instant gratification. Our desire for this film is to incite parents and children alike to slow down and embrace the small marvels of nature. No matter where you live, we all have access to unique and amazing outdoor environments that we can explore together at any age.

HHMI Tangled Bank Studios will be producing an educational initiative to deepen the learning from the film and provide kids, families and educators with the tools and knowledge they need to get outside and observe the natural world around them. Resources will include toolkits, videos, exhibits and events around the U.S.

[www.BackyardWildernessFilm.com](http://www.BackyardWildernessFilm.com)

###



## ABOUT THE FILM

*“What makes our planet so special are the millions of living things on it. All life is connected to its environment: to the water, soil, sunlight, and other plants and animals. Each species has its own role to play, and they all depend on each other for survival, fitting together like pieces of a giant puzzle.”*

—Opening lines from Katie's report

### Main Messages

- Humans are part of ecosystems.
- There is a natural drama happening outside your own home and you can discover it, if you just take the time to explore the outdoors.
- We are changing the environment. Some organisms have been pushed out because of us, while others have successfully adapted to, and thrived with, human presence.
- You can make a difference, however small, to protect nature in your own backyard. We can all explore, understand, and protect the environment.

### Secondary Messages

- A habitat as small as a temporary vernal pool can support a large amount of biodiversity.
- Water is vital for all life to survive.
- Some animals can serve as “indicator species,” letting us know if an ecosystem is healthy.
- We are only just beginning to understand our impact on the environment.

### Synopsis (172 Words)

**Backyard Wilderness** will surprise and entertain viewers with the unexpected wonders of nature that are right under our noses - in our own backyards. Spanning a seasonal year around a suburban home, the film displays a stunning array of unique wildlife images and behaviour - all captured by cameras mounted inside dens and nests, and moving along the forest floor and pond bottom, to reveal its inhabitants in rare and breathtaking intimacy. We follow Katie, a young girl, and her modern family living next to the woods who are blind to the real-life spectacle around them, absorbed by an array of electronic devices in their busy lives. Katie gradually discovers the intricate secrets that nature has hidden so close to her front door and we experience the joy she finds in her interactions with this new world. The film reminds us that Wi-Fi is not the only connection that matters and that sometimes in ordinary places, you can uncover extraordinary things that could transform you forever – you just need to step outside.

## Key Film Credits

An SK Films Release of an Arise Media / Archipelago Films Production  
Featuring Annie Fabian, Bobby Axelrod, Susan Todd, & Andrew Young  
Narrated By Caleigh Barker  
Original Music By Gil Talmi  
Edited By Jim Isler & Lincoln Athas  
Sound Design By Brian Eimer  
Director of Photography Andrew Young  
Story By Andrew Young & Susan Todd  
Written By Andrew Young, Susan Todd & Wendy MacKeigan  
Line Producer Kathy E. Ruopp  
Supervising Producer Myles Connolly  
Produced By Susan Todd & Andrew Young  
Executive Producers Jonathan Barker, Sean B. Carroll, & Stephen Apkon  
Directed By Andrew Young & Susan Todd

### **BACKYARD WILDERNESS**

**Distributed Worldwide by:** SK Films  
**World Premiere: March 21, 2018 – In Celebration of the UN International Day of Forests at the Environmental Film Festival**  
**Film Length:** 45 Minutes  
**Rating:** Not currently rated  
**Formats:** Available in 2D and 3D, IMAX Laser, IMAX Digital, DCI-compliant Digital, Dome-customized 15/70



### **SOCIAL CHANNELS AND WEBSITE**

**Website:** [www.BackyardWildernessFilm.com](http://www.BackyardWildernessFilm.com)  
**Facebook:** @BackyardWildernessFilm  
**Instagram:** @BackyardWildernessFilm  
**Hashtag:** #BackyardWilderness #GetOutside

## PRODUCTION NOTES

### Q&A with Filmmakers Andy Young and Susan Todd



#### THE FILMMAKING PROCESS

##### **Why did you decide to make the film *Backyard Wilderness*?**

Our movie grew out of our experiences and observations in the woods around our backyard in Westchester County, New York. We've lived in the same place for two decades, and we've spent a lot of time outside with our two kids making gardens and exploring the ponds, wetlands, and forest. We also noticed that with the advent of personal electronics, our kids were spending a lot less time in nature than we did growing up. When we read Richard Louv's book, *Last Child in the Woods*, we realized that this was a growing phenomenon and we began to think about creating a movie that would inspire kids to get outside and reconnect to nature. The spring migration of the spotted salamander and all the other wildlife "miracles of nature" that we too often overlook became the subject matter that we wove into this story.

##### **Where did the idea come from?**

The story grew rather organically over the course of three years. We wanted to create a narrative about the yearly cycle of animals and plants that live outside a family's home. Like most families in the digital age, the one in our story live unaware of what's going on outside – until their 11-year-old daughter becomes tuned in to the wonders of nature around them. With input from our science advisors, we worked on filming scenes of the animals that actually live in



our backyard, which is part of the Eastern forest ecosystem. For the human characters, we drew on the experiences of our own family. We originally asked our kids to be in the movie, doing typical activities like mowing the lawn, watching TV and waiting at the bus stop, but we eventually had to cast actors because our kids grew up too quickly! The story was kept very simple and told as much as possible from the point of view of the animals and nature.

### **What were some of the challenges you faced during filming?**

Some of the challenges of the project were working in snow and freezing temperatures, filming at night, in the rain, 70 feet up in trees, and waist deep in vernal pools. Perhaps the most challenging thing of all was working with the timing of illusive events, like the laying of salamander eggs, the hatching of wood ducklings, and the births of raccoon kits and a fawn. We had to calculate gestation periods precisely, be in the right place at the right time, and be extremely patient. Capturing the growth and seasonal change of plants with time-lapse cameras was also a really challenging process that took many attempts before we got it right.



### **What was the most rewarding or memorable experience?**

It's always rewarding when, after many tries, you actually get the scene or the shot that you've had in your mind. One of the most elaborate scenes in the film is the hatching of wood ducklings and their subsequent 50-foot leap from their nest in a tree by our driveway. This was a natural event that actually occurred right next to our house, so it was a lot of fun, but also nerve racking because we only had one opportunity to get it right, so every detail of the shoot had to be meticulously planned. When the big day arrived, we had numerous remote control cameras rigged around the house and a crew of ten, all gathered around a live feed from the nest with knots in our stomachs. The feeling of amazement and relief after the last duckling made it to the pond was incredible.

#### **Duckling Hatch and Jump Sequence**

**Link:** <https://vimeo.com/257786411>

**Password:** wildyard

Working with the young actors who played the kids in the family was also rewarding because they had a chance to experience the butterflies, ducklings and spotted salamanders up close. We could see that they grew to better appreciate nature during the course of making the film and they loved being a part of something that would inspire other kids.



## Can you share any behind the scenes secrets?

One of the film's goals was to transport the audience into the riveting world of the animals —soaring with blue jays, inside a tree den with a raccoon family, on a chase with coyotes. This would allow people to experience familiar animals in a completely new and intimate way. Some of the shots in our film would simply not have been possible using traditional filmmaking techniques, so we had to come up with new ways of creating the images that would tell our story.

To film the jump of the wood ducklings, we used an old wood duck nest that had been high up in a tree by our house, but had been blown down by a storm. We removed the nest from the fallen tree, rigged it with cameras and bolted it to another tree, close to where the original nest had been. We had no guarantee that the wood ducks would return to the nest, so we were thrilled to see them exploring it just a few days after we put it up.



We also relied heavily on the latest digital technology to tell our story, including cameras that could shoot super slow motion, motion control time-lapse, and special probe lenses that could fit in tiny spaces.

## How did you find the transition into the Giant Screen industry from traditional film and television?

We have always taken a very visual approach to our storytelling, so it was a thrill to do that for the largest palette in the world. There was, however, a learning curve when it came to shooting for the giant screen, particularly in how to frame properly for dome theaters. No matter how much we studied framing charts it was always challenging to extrapolate from a small monitor to the Giant Screen, especially in fast moving wildlife situations. Secondly, we were new to the world of 3D imaging and had to learn to



focus on that aspect of every shot, which meant thinking about how to create a depth experience for the audience. Ultimately, though, it was well worth all the effort because the combination of 3D and Giant Screen is simply the best way to tell an immersive story like *Backyard Wilderness*.





## **What was your experience partnering with SK Films and HHMI/Tangled Bank Studios?**

We couldn't have done *Backyard Wilderness* without the involvement, support and creative input of SK Films and HHMI Tangled Bank Studios. Together with our Supervising Producer Myles Connolly, Executive Producer Jonathan Barker and co-writer Wendy Mackeigan, both of SK Films, joined the project over a year before completion and were instrumental in helping shape the story for Giant Screen audiences. They also brought on science leader HHMI, which had valuable insights on the film's story and science content, and in fostering positive engagement with digital technology. We are excited that HHMI and SK Films will be greatly enhancing the film's message through an extensive educational outreach and marketing campaign.

## **WORKING WITH WILDLIFE**

### **What was it like working with and filming the wildlife in the film?**

Some of the most enjoyable filming was done with Margueritte the blue jay. Margueritte hatched in the wild with a crippled foot that made it impossible for her to cling properly to a branch. She was rescued by the staff at the Sweetbriar Nature Center on Long Island, where she grew up accustomed to humans. Margueritte is very curious and loved filming *Backyard Wilderness* because of the opportunity to explore cameras, light stands and other equipment with her beak. Each day began with Margueritte landing on our heads and inspecting the buttons on our clothing.



Blue jays have the interesting habit of caching food—which means hiding it in a secret place for later. During the filming, Margueritte would take and wedge them into crevices in our equipment. Imagine our surprise when we unfolded a light stand many days later and found a bunch of meal worms tucked inside one of the legs!

The most thrilling filming situations were always in the wild—simply because one never knew what was going to happen!

Andy spent many dawns in a blind that was hidden on the bank of our pond. After many hours of waiting, stooped in the dark, it was always exciting when the wood ducks finally showed up, with their vivid colors glistening in the dawn light. But some mornings were rewarded by an unexpected visit from one of the resident beavers or muskrats on the pond, or the charming antics of river otters that occasionally visit.

## What can you tell us about Nature Deficit Disorder?

Nature Deficit Disorder is a term coined by Richard Louv to define a growing lack of contact with nature that children and adults are experiencing today. Our lives are now almost 90% indoors and we spend hours in front of computers and on our cell phones. There has been a huge increase in obesity, depression, diagnoses of ADHD, and there is clinical evidence that increased exposure to nature actually reduces these problems and helps people heal. We hope this film will help remind everyone to put down their screens and get outside to appreciate the nature around them.



## EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH OVERVIEW

**Backyard Wilderness** will bring nature to the classroom through its suite of educational materials and tools created by HHMI/Tangled Bank Studios and the California Academy of Sciences.

### EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

#### Educator Guide

Downloadable and printable educator guides for grades 3-8 with guiding questions for pre and post film viewing, classroom and outdoor activities, citizen scientist resources, all tied to the NGSS next generation science standards.



#### Family Guide: Nature-Play Inquiry Activities

For families with elementary aged children, activities target science practices such as observation skills and problem-solving. They focus on opportunities to touch, handle, and interact with nature, either through outdoor settings or the use of easily procured nature specimens. Materials include parent/guardian “cheat sheets” with tips for exploring nature with children, questions to ask, and things to point out, as well as ‘Most Common Local Species’ guides.

#### Pop-Up Lobby Display

The exhibit features digital and physical interactive activities, that promote outdoor exploration and excite participants to begin observing the natural world around them. Displays are designed as stand-alone, self-guided exhibits and will be featured in theater lobbies throughout North America.

## INTRODUCTION TO iNATURALIST

iNaturalist is a social media platform designed for citizen scientists of all ages to record their observations of other organisms, share them with other naturalists, and discuss the findings—not only with other citizen scientists but with professional researchers as well.

With smartphones or cameras, students and/or families can explore their local ecosystem to actively engage with the surrounding wildlife. In doing so, they are engaging in science and contributing to databases of research such as the Global Biodiversity Information Facility, which real experts use to track species migration! Thanks to iNaturalist everyone can explore their surroundings with new observation and identification skills.

## INTRODUCING SEEK!

Seek by iNaturalist is a new child-friendly portal into the iNaturalist species that was developed in partnership with HHMI/Tangled Bank Studios and **Backyard Wilderness**. The app uses iNaturalist data to create treasure hunts customized to your backyard. The app uses artificial intelligence to identify what you saw and award badges.

**Check out the species near you.** Interested in plants? Mammals? Birds? With Seek, you can select which type of organism you like the best, and then ask Seek to tell you what's likely to be growing or living near you.

**Collect your favorite organisms--Virtually!** Once you discover your favorite creature or plant, collect it virtually using Seek. Seek will also guide you on the best time of year to find your favorite animal or plant.

**Compete for Badges.** Find a scavenger hunt with a mission that interests you, or start your own. Compete with other youth and teams to see who can make the most identifications and complete the most challenging quests.



## CAST BIOGRAPHIES



**Caleigh Barker “Narrator/The Voice of Older Katie”** was born and raised in Toronto, Canada where she attended Wexford Collegiate School for the Arts in both the Musical Theater and Drama Focus programs. She then packed up her life, dreams in hand, and moved to New York City to study at NYU TISCH in the Department of Drama, from which she has just received her BFA. Along the way she studied with the Atlantic Theater Company, Stonestreet Studios and the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts in London. She spent a year working for Stonestreet Studios as an Editor and Assistant Teacher and has now moved back to Toronto where she splits her time between commercial acting, voice work and her budding career as a singer and songwriter. She recently composed music featured in the Giant Screen film, *Amazon Adventure*.



**Annie Fabian, “Katie”**, is thrilled to make her film debut in ***Backyard Wilderness***. She is an avid hiker and enjoys exploring her own backyard wilderness whenever possible. Previous stage roles include Belle in *Beauty and the Beast*, Mulan in *Mulan*, Wendy in *Peter Pan* and Sally Brown in *You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown*, in Croton Children’s Theatre productions, and Little Red in *Not So Grimm Fairy Tales* and Clara in *A Coney Island Christmas*, in Croton Academy of Arts productions. A dedicated dancer with ten years of ballet training, Annie performed for four

seasons in the Westchester Ballet Company’s production of *The Nutcracker*. Annie is currently in eighth grade in Dobbs Ferry, New York.



**Bobby Axelrod, “Ben”**, is a ninth grader in Montclair, New Jersey. He has been singing and acting since fourth grade, and has participated in many school and community theater productions including *Oliver!*, *Into the Woods* and *Bye Bye Birdie*. He has studied at Paper Mill Playhouse and Interlochen Arts Academy. ***Backyard Wilderness*** will mark his debut film role.





**Orlyne Garcia “Maria”**, is an American/Dominican actress from Little Ferry, NJ. Orlyne started acting at 8 years old, and at 9 years old, she was signed with KPT Talent in New York. She has appeared in several projects and prints, including The Hunt with John Walsh on CNN, and several films. Orlyne speaks fluent Spanish, and enjoys riding her skateboard, playing basketball, drawing, and dancing. Orlyne continues to pursue her passion for acting and has a bright future ahead.



## THE FILMMAKERS



### **Andrew Young, Director/Director of Photography/Writer**

Andrew Young is an Academy Award nominated, Emmy Award winning Director/Producer/Director of Photography. Drawn to stories where the lives of humans intersect with the nature, Young has just completed **Backyard Wilderness**, a 3D Giant Screen/IMAX® film, produced by Archipelago Films and Arise Media, a non-profit he co-founded to create ground breaking media about the most urgent social and environmental challenges of our time. Young's world class cinematography is shot primarily in 4K and 8K digital where he uses probe lenses, inventive motion-control rigs, time-lapse, and high-speed frame rates to capture wildlife

and landscape in never-before-seen ways. At Archipelago Films, he has directed and filmed both documentaries and fiction work, such as *Children of Fate*, *Americanos*, *The Last Royals*, *Deadly Messengers* and *Madagascar: A World Apart* with HBO, Cinemax, National Geographic, the BBC, and PBS. With a Master's Degree from Yale University in Physical Anthropology, he has extensive experience in science and animal behavior.



### **Susan Todd, Director/Producer/Writer**

Susan is an Academy Award nominated, Emmy Award winning Director/Producer. As co-founder of New York-based production company Archipelago Films, Todd has directed, produced and written television and theatrical films that explore cutting-edge stories about nature and people's lives, with the highest production value. Todd has just completed **Backyard Wilderness**, a 3D Giant Screen/IMAX® film, produced by Archipelago Films and Arise Media, a non-profit she co-founded to create groundbreaking media about the most urgent social and environmental challenges of our time. At Archipelago Films, she has directed, produced and recorded sound for

both documentaries and fiction work, such as *Children of Fate*, *Americanos*, *The Last Royals*, *Lives in Hazard* and *Madagascar: A World Apart*, broadcast on HBO, Cinemax, National Geographic, NBC, and PBS. Todd has worked previously as a producer at PBS WNET, holds a Masters in Journalism, from Columbia University and studied filmmaking at Harvard University.



**Wendy MacKeigan, Writer**, is one of Canada's most experienced and respected film executives, possessing both a strong creative and business background. She is the co-writer of SK Films' current IMAX®/Giant Screen film, *Amazon Adventure*, in partnership with HHMI's Tangled Bank Studios. Wendy also co-wrote the acclaimed and award-winning *Flight of the Butterflies*, was Senior Story Editor on the award-winning film, *Journey to Mecca: In the footsteps of Ibn Battuta* and is the Producer/Story Editor of the outstanding eco-adventure series, *The Water Brothers*, broadcast in over 50 countries with multiple award-winning awards.

For a decade, Wendy previously ran the film investment agency for Astral Media, now owned by Bell Media, and has served on various boards and advisory committees, including as the former Chair of Women in Film and Television and for the Toronto International Film Festival.



**Jonathan Barker, Executive Producer**, with over three decades of award-winning film and television experience, is a world leader in 3D film production and distribution. He specializes in IMAX®/Giant Screen films that combine human drama and natural history discoveries, such as his most recent multi award-winning release, *Amazon Adventure* and the internationally acclaimed, *Flight of the Butterflies*, starring Gordon Pinsent (*Away from Her*).

In addition to *Amazon Adventure* – taking home five of six possible awards from the Giant Screen Cinema Association and the *Lumiere Award for Best 3D Large Format Documentary* at Stereopsia in Brussels. *Flight of the Butterflies* was awarded Best Immersive 3D/Large Format film at the Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival – some of his outstanding productions include the Oscar® shortlisted IMAX® film, *Bugs!*, one of the most successful Giant Screen films of the past dozen years.

Jonathan successfully ran the film and distribution arms of IMAX Corporation before starting up his own company, SK Films and has produced films in of the deep ocean and in outer space.



**Sean B. Carroll, Executive Producer**, is Vice President for Science Education at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) and the architect of HHMI's science filmmaking initiative. Sean has served as Executive in Charge or Executive Producer of more than a dozen feature or short documentary films, including *Amazon Adventure* for IMAX® and Giant Screens, *Your Inner Fish* (PBS), *Mass Extinction* (Smithsonian Channel) and *Can Alzheimer's Be Stopped?* (NOVA/PBS). An award-winning author and one of the world's leading evolutionary

biologists, Carroll is also the Allan Wilson Professor of Molecular Biology and Genetics at the University of Wisconsin, and a member of the National Academy of Sciences.



**Myles Connolly, Supervising Producer**, has worked on more than 25 IMAX® and 70mm films including the acclaimed *Everest*, *The Living Sea*, *Samsara*, *Flight of the Butterflies*, and, most recently, *Amazon Adventure* with SK Films and *Wild Africa 3D* for the BBC. The films he's produced have garnered numerous awards including two Academy Award nominations, the Cine Golden Eagle, the Grand Prix du Festival at the Theater du La Géode in Paris, and the Best 3D/Immersive award twice at the Jackson Hole Wildlife Film

Festival. Myles is one of the top 3D Supervising Producers, with more than ten years of experience in this demanding field.



**Michael Male, Cinematographer / Associate Producer**, has over 30 years of experience filming natural history subjects from the tropics to the Arctic. He's spent months crouched in the wild, in blinds using telephoto lenses, and hours on his knees in the mud with macro lenses to capture animal behaviors, often for the first time. Michael is well-versed in the creative application of time-lapse, slow motion, night vision, infrared, probe lens and remote camera techniques. He was nominated for an Emmy Award in Cinematography for his work on the Nature episode *Crash* and again for *An Original DUCKumentary* which won the Emmy for Best Nature Program.

*Original DUCKumentary* which won the Emmy for Best Nature Program.



**Katherine van Hengel, Associate Producer / Production Manager**, has extensive experience as a Producer and Production Manager on both narrative and documentary feature films. After working in the New York City financial world for J.P. Morgan, Katherine followed her creative passions into the film industry. Having grown up in much of the same area where ***Backyard Wilderness*** was shot, joining the team was a natural choice allowing Katherine to combine her love of the environment, financial savvy and drive for impactful filmmaking into one project. Katherine has

worked with multiple productions including her most recent work on NBC Universal's remake of Francis Ford Coppola's, *Dementia 13*.

## SCIENTIFIC ADVISORS

### **Dr. Bernd Blossey**

Associate Professor, Department of Natural Resources, Cornell College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Ithaca, NY

<https://dnr.cals.cornell.edu/people/bernd-blossey>

### **Dr. Michael J. Rubbo**

Program and Science Advisor, Woodcock Nature Center  
Clinical Professor of Environmental Studies and Science, Department of Environmental Studies and Science, Pace University, Pleasantville, NY

<https://www.woodcocknaturecenter.org/meet-our-staff>

### **Dr. Eleanor Sterling**

Chief Conservation Scientist, Center for Biodiversity & Conservation  
Affiliated Professor, Richard Gilder Graduate School, American Museum of Natural History

<https://www.amnh.org/our-research/staff-directory/eleanor-j.-sterling/>

### **Dr. Douglas Tallamy**

Professor of Entomology, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Delaware

Author, Bringing Nature Home

<http://canr.udel.edu/faculty/tallamy-doug/>



## ASSOCIATED NATURE & WILDLIFE INSTITUTIONS

**Adirondack Wildlife Refuge**  
<http://adirondackwildlife.org/>

**Concord Field Station, Harvard University**  
<https://cfs.mcz.harvard.edu/>

**Department of Animal Science, PennState**  
<http://animalscience.psu.edu/>

**Hawk Creek**  
<https://www.hawkcreek.org/wp/>

**Mohonk Preserve**  
<http://www.mohonkpreserve.org/>

**New Jersey Audubon Lorrimer Sanctuary**  
<http://www.njaudubon.org/SectionCenters/SectionLorrimer/Introduction.aspx>

**On Earth Planet Care**  
<http://www.onearthplantcare.com/>

**Pace University Environmental Center**  
<http://www.pace.edu/a-z/2265>

**Sweet Briar Nature Center**  
<http://sweetbriarnc.org/>

**Sylvan Heights Bird Park**  
<http://shwpark.com/>

**Teatown Lake Reservation**  
<https://www.teatown.org/>

**The Caterpillar Lab**  
<http://www.thecaterpillarlab.org/>

**The New York Botanical Garden**  
<https://www.nybg.org/>

**Trailside Museum**  
<https://www.massaudubon.org/get-outdoors/wildlife-sanctuaries/blue-hills-trailside-museum>

**The Wolf Mountain Nature Center**  
<http://www.thewolfmountainnaturecenter.org/>

**THE BACKYARD SOUNDTRACK**

***I'm Alive (Life Sounds Like)***  
**Michael Franti**

***Free Fallin'***  
**Tom Petty**

***Into the Light***  
**Devyn Rush**



## KEY PARTNERS

### Arise Media / Archipelago Films

Archipelago Films is a production company created by Academy Award-nominated, Emmy-Award-winning filmmakers Susan Todd and Andrew Young. Arise Media is the non-profit they formed to make innovative media about the most urgent social and environmental challenges facing the planet, and to inspire a new appreciation for our own interconnected role in nature. With a well-established track record of directing, producing and filming, for television, theatrical and now 3D IMAX®/Giant Screens, Archipelago and Arise aim to bring passionate and entertaining films to global audiences through the highest quality visual storytelling. For more information, please visit [www.archipelagofilms.com](http://www.archipelagofilms.com), [www.arisemedia.org](http://www.arisemedia.org)

### SK Films

SK Films is an award-winning content provider and a global leader in the IMAX®/Giant Screen industry. SK works across various genres and platforms, including theatrical, television and digital media, with a special emphasis on creating high impact natural history and science related content. SK has a reputation as one of the most accomplished and respected producers and distributors supplying 3D, 2D and Dome product to IMAX and other Giant Screen theatres worldwide, with a mission to entertain and inspire audiences and immerse them in the awe and wonder of the world we live in. For more information, please visit [www.SKFilms.ca](http://www.SKFilms.ca)

### HHMI Tangled Bank Studios

HHMI Tangled Bank Studios is a production company established and funded by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) as an extension of its longstanding science education mission. Dedicated to the creation of original science documentaries for broadcast, theatrical and digital distribution, the company's award-winning programs address important contemporary issues and capture compelling stories of discovery across all branches of scientific inquiry. For more information, please visit [www.tangledbankstudios.org](http://www.tangledbankstudios.org). Follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). HHMI is a science philanthropy whose mission is to advance basic biomedical research and science education for the benefit of humanity. The institute is the largest private supporter of science education in the country.

