



# OCEAN 180 VIDEO CHALLENGE



## Winner Showcase and Panel Discussion

Tuesday, February 23 12:45 -1:45 pm  
Ernest N. Morial Convention Center Rm. 217-219



# View the 2016 Ocean 180 Winners and Hear from the Experts!

The **Ocean 180 Video Challenge** ([www.ocean180.org](http://www.ocean180.org)) encourages scientists to use video to share their latest discoveries with students and the public. Participants submit 3-minute video abstracts summarizing the findings of a recent paper and winners are selected by middle school students all over the world. This Town Hall session will include a screening of the winners of the 2016 Ocean 180 Challenge and a panel discussion featuring award winning video producers and storytellers.

## Panelists



**Alexa Elliott** is the creator of *Changing Seas*, a marine science series produced at public broadcaster WPBT2 in Miami, Florida. Now in production of its 8<sup>th</sup> Season, *Changing Seas* has been distributed to 90 percent of PBS stations and 34 countries. Alexa has worked in public broadcasting since 1996, both in public radio as well as television production. She has produced television programs of various genres, but nature, science and environmental programming have always been her favorite. Alexa has received numerous awards for her work, including the prestigious Communication Award presented by the National Academy of Sciences, five Emmy Awards, and others. In 2015 she joined the board of the Ocean Media Institute, a creative hub that works with various stakeholders to openly create and distribute media that promotes public understanding of ocean science and conservation. Alexa has two degrees in Broadcast Journalism – a BA from Morehead State University and a MA from the University of Florida.

**Dr. Karen L. McKee** is a Scientist Emeritus (retired) with the U.S. Geological Survey and an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Oceanography and Coastal Sciences at Louisiana State University. She received both a master's degree and doctorate in botany and has conducted research in the field of wetland plant ecology for forty years. While working for the U.S. Geological Survey, she studied the effects of elevated CO<sub>2</sub>, sea-level rise, and hurricanes on wetlands in the Mississippi River Delta (Louisiana, USA) as well as in other wetlands around the world. Her work has been published in over 100 journal articles and book chapters. A strong proponent of science communication, Karen has also produced several peer-reviewed videos that describe her research and why it's important to society ([USGS Multimedia Gallery](#)). She authored the book, *The Scientist Videographer*, which promotes science communication by teaching scientists and students how to use video to tell their science stories. Karen continues to share her insights and offers tutorials in video-making for scientists on her [website](#) and [YouTube channel](#).



**Dr. Patrick Rynne** is an Ocean Scientist & Engineer and the founder of [Waterlust](#), a purpose-driven brand that creates media to inspire scientific curiosity and sustainable products that support marine science research and education. Patrick discovered his love of videography and photography while earning a PhD in Applied Marine Physics at the University of Miami. He has developed an expertise in short form online filmmaking and teaching scientists to become creative storytellers. Patrick and his team from the University of Miami were first place winners in last year's Ocean 180 Video Challenge.

**Gianna Savoie** is an award-winning documentary producer, writer, and professor with over a decade of experience in Natural History filmmaking and a penchant for powerful storytelling that has led her to sink her teeth into some of the most critical conservation issues on the planet. Trained as an environmental biologist, she pairs her love of science with the art of filmmaking to craft stories that not only inform, but deeply resonate. Her work has been featured on PBS, National Geographic, Discovery, and the BBC among others, as well as in theatrical documentaries and in print and web publications. Dubbed *The Mountain Mermaid*, Gianna has recently established the [Ocean Media Institute](#), a global media collective that serves to enrich and expand the public's understanding of ocean science and conservation through the collaborative creation, exhibition, and open-distribution of innovative visual media and artistic approaches to ocean education.

