

Elli Morris
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School of Forestry, Northern Arizona University
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EDUCATION

- Master of Forestry program, 2022 anticipated commencement, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ
- Non-degree Graduate Student, 1991-1993. in Photography, University of Nevada-Reno, Reno, NV
- B.S., 1979, Forestry, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS

- CR Krimminger Scholarship, 2021-2022, School of Forestry, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ
- Conservation Connect Fellow, 2021, National Forest Foundation, Colorado Regional Communication Team, Denver, CO
- CultureWorks Micro Grant, 2016, “Drains to the James” public art project connecting Arts & Culture District to the James River, Richmond, VA
- Scholarship Recipient, 2014, Adventure Filmmaker’s Workshop, Banff Mountain Film Festival, Banff, Canada
- Hermes Platinum Creative Award, 2008, for self-published book *Cooling the South: The Block Ice Era, 1875-1975*.
- Gold Achievement of Excellence Communicator Award, 2008, for self-published book *Cooling the South: The Block Ice Era, 1875-1975*.
- Films
- 1st Place, 2017, District Toastmasters International Speech Competition, Richmond, VA
- 2nd Place, 2018, Area Toastmasters Table Topics Competitions, Richmond, VA
- 2nd Place, 2017, Richmond Environmental Film Festival, Richmond, VA
- 3rd Place, 2016 Richmond Environmental Film Festival, Richmond, VA
- Honorable Mention, 2015, Richmond Environmental Film Festival, Richmond, VA
- “Trees for People” Grant recipient/writer, 1995. Keep Jackson Beautiful Program, Jackson, MS

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Publications

Book

- *Cooling the South: The Block Ice Era, 1875-1975*, 2008. Author & photographer. Wackophoto Press

Articles

- Southern Funeral Directory, 2009-2018, Assistant Editor and “Women in Funeral Service” monthly columnist, Yopp Publishing, Atlanta, GA

- Richmond Outside, 2015-2016. Featured Contributor (articles & videos), Richmond, VA
- Chesterfield Observer, 2005-2012, Contributing Columnist, Chesterfield, VA
- Refrigeration Magazine, 2006-2010, Monthly feature writer and photographer, Yopp Publishing, Atlanta, GA
- SludgeBlog 2011 - 2012. Weekly Columnist, Richmond, VA

Photographer

- Elli Morris stills and motion, independent professional businesswoman, 2005-2018. Editorial (trade journals, business & sports magazines, & newspapers) environmental, portrait, advertising and commercial work. Clients include Carytown Optical Shoppe, Carytown Optometry, Farm to Family, Good Foods Grocery, Kroger Mid-Atlantic, Ice World Journal, International Packaged ice Association, La Grand Dame, Latin Ballet, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Organic Blueprints, Retail Merchants Association, Richmond Signscape, Robinson Community Theater, Solar Guard, Sports Backers Quarterly, SunTrust Bank, Urge, Waverly Farms, Workplace, and Yerkes National Primate Research Center.
- Fine Art Photographer, 1995-2004, including shows in VA, MS, FL and LA
- Photography assistant for 20 Commercial photographers, New York City, 1999
- Expedition photographer, 1991. Yerkes Research Center team studying Spider and Howler monkeys, Belize, CA

Filmmaker

- Independently produced more than 50 environmental film shorts, 2013-2018, Richmond, VA Editor, videographer for television, web, & radio program, 2018.
- "Active RVA," 2015 monthly video series promoting alternative exercises for Sportsbackers, Richmond, VA
- "*The Great Return of the Atlantic Sturgeon*," 2014-2015 Documentary Producer, Videographer, & Editor for James River Association, Richmond, VA
- *Affair with the James*, 2013, premiere of my first film with over 300 participants. Community response inspired area nonprofits to the annual event "Films on the Canal Walk," showcasing locally produced photography & films celebrating the James River, Richmond, VA
- Film Awards and Acceptances include:
 - *Bike Your Boat*, Runner Up at the 2017 RVA Environmental Film Festival & Official Selection at the 2017 Boats & Brews Festival.
 - *The Great Return of the Atlantic Sturgeon*. Third-place winner at Richmond Environmental Film Festival, 2015. commissioned by James River Association.
 - *Affair with the James* Third place winner at RVA Environmental Film Festival, 2014
 - *The Balancing Act*, Screened at James River Film Festival's Microcosmic Shorts, Boats & Brews Festival, & Retro Night Films.
 - *On the James, with Mitch*. Screened at Films on the Floodwall, Boats & Brews Festival, & Richmond Environmental Film Festival.

- *Nature Awaits, #Participate!*, 2017, screened at RVA Environmental Film Festival
- *Science Matters Because: Bennet Clark*, 2018. PBS Community Idea Stations, Richmond, VA
- TV segment producer 2007, 2001. *Mississippi Roads* for MS Educational Television, PBS, Jackson, MS
- On-location television audio tech 1999-2000, *Mississippi Roads and Mississippi Outdoors*, MS Educational Television, PBS, Jackson, MS.
- Studio television audio tech, 1999-2000, on “Funny Bones” and “Tictock Minutes,” the first Mississippi ETV show to ever win a national Emmy. MS Educational Television, PBS, Jackson, MS

Presentations

Video Broadcasts

- Weekly Wrap-Ups, 2021. Semester-long wrap-ups on Northern Arizona University second semester classes in the Master of Forestry program, YouTube Dirtfloor Chats
- Dirtfloor Chats, 2021. YouTube shorts on #RecreateResponsibly
- Dirtfloor Chats, 2019-2021. YouTube series of travel stories.

In-Person

- Master’s Project, 2021. The Nature Conservancy tour, Northern Arizona University
- Creator and presenter of slide shows at schools and for after-school programs, including shows on Asia; Rainforests and Deserts; and The World of Trees.
- Environmental Presenter and Facilitator, 2018-2020. Engaged the public in discussions about sustainability, ID, MS, VA
- Public Schools, Community Centers, 2007-2016. Developed multimedia presentations that connected biology lessons to near-by nature. MS, SC, VA
- International Tree Presentation for Chesterfield County Master Gardeners, sharing beauty of trees, type 2009
- Keynote speaker at four regional conferences with up to 350 attendees, 2009-2010. **RI, CA, FL, MI.**
- Regional & local Television & Radio guest including CBS Good Morning Show, New Orleans, LA, 2008. Four-month book tour giving over 120 speeches on *Cooling the South: The Block Ice Era, 1875-1975* throughout South & mid-Atlantic
- Featured speaker for month-long festival, 2009-2014. “Ice, Ice Baby,” Apalachicola, FL
- Multi-media Presenter, 1994-1999, Environmental programs to area public schools, Jackson, MS
- Keep Jackson Beautiful Program, 1994-1998. Community events, Elementary and Middle school classes. Jackson, MS
- Toastmasters International, 2016-2018. Speech topics include forests as business role models, concepts of circular economy, & nature as emotional healer; Attained Competent Communicator designation. Richmond, VA *Toastmasters International. Awarded 1st Place at 2016 District 66 Table Topics competition. 2nd Place winner in 2016 Area C33 competition. 1st Place for Table Topics, Charlotte, NC, 2017.

- ElderHostel Student Coordinator, Weekly welcome speeches, general office manager, produce magazine advertisements.

RELEVANT COURSE WORK

- Human Dimensions of Natural Resources
- Wilderness Management
- Ecological Economics
- GIS

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Ambassador

- Ambassador, National Forest Foundation, 2021. Communications Team, Rocky Mountain Region, as part of Conservation Connect Fellow
- Ambassador and Sponsored Athlete, 2017-2018. Whitewater SUP (Standup Paddleboard), KPO Designs, Steamboat Springs, CO
- Ambassador, University of Kentucky in People's Republic of China, 1983. One of 16 students invited on inaugural Chinese-sponsored Agricultural-Business Exchange

Liaison

- Political Liaison and Advocate, 2011 - 2012 SludgeBlog. Advocated for reform of sludge laws and harmful practices, Richmond, VA
- Legislative Liaison, 1998, Television news program, MS Educational Television, PBS, Jackson, MS.
- Liaison with the public, 1991. Loggerhead Turtle beach and nest patroller, South Carolina Dept of Natural Resources, Hilton Head Island, SC
- Green room hostess and phone screener for live broadcasts, 1996-1998. MS Educational Television, PBS, Jackson, MS.
- Ski Lift Operator, Alpine Meadows, 1990. Lake Tahoe, CA

Guide

- Horseback trips with Bogong Horseback Adventures, 1987. Mt Beauty, Victoria, Australia
- Kayak Ecotours with Chesterfield Outdoor Programs
- Mountain backpacking trips, Middle-schoolers, Chesterfield Outdoor Programs
- Media Escort, 1997-1998. Literary and music festivals, Jackson, MS

Food and Beverage

- Waitress, Cocktail Waitress, Bartender. Intermittently 1979 – 2005. Charlotte, NC; Jackson, MS; Atlanta, GA; Hilton Head Is, SC; Aspen Colorado; Lake Tahoe, CA; Reno, NV; Mexico Beach, FL; Richmond, VA.

Sales

- Model, Window clothing model, 1983, Aspen, CO
- Music promotional materials salesperson, various bands, 1996-1998, Jackson, MS

General

- Art class model, 2003-2005. Various organizations and state institutions, Richmond, VA
- Receptionist, 2004-2005. Richmond Ballet, Richmond, VA
- Office Temp, 1995-1996. 50 offices, Jackson, MS
- Reader for the blind, 1992. University of Nevada Reno, Reno, NV

- Film Festival coordinator

TEACHING AND EDUCATION

Photography Courses

- Robinson Theatre Community Center, 2011-2012. Designed & taught to inner city youth, Richmond, VA
- Elementary & Middle After-school Teacher, Robinson Theater Community Center, 2014-2015
- Girl Scouts courses Developed and implemented instruction for daily photography classes at a Girl Scout summer camp, Brandon, MS
- #TreeADay #Photo, Elli Morris stills & motion, 2016. A year of daily Twitter posts connected trees to clean air & water. Richmond, VA
- Digital nature photography workshops for teens and adults, Chesterfield, Virginia. workshop instructor at county & state parks, 2009-2010.

Environmental Instructor

- Curriculum Developer, Instructor, 2006-2008. Executed Children's Garden's first outreach program. Orchestrated seven six-week outdoor science lessons for 70 inner city and at-risk third and fourth graders. Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Richmond, VA
- Nature photography workshops, 2012-2018. Attended by teens and adults, Richmond and Chesterfield, VA
- Instructor, 2006-2018. Chesterfield County Outdoor Programs. Programs include flat-water and whitewater kayaking, rock climbing, ropes challenge course, mountain wilderness backpacking, adventure racing and cycling.
- Design and conduct guided nature walks to introduce family groups to safe and accessible summer activities along the James River.
- Pocahontas State Park, Rockwood Nature Center, Richmond, VA 2009-2018
- Designed & taught nature photography workshops for teens & adults.
- Sportable, thru Chesterfield Outdoor Programs, 2013-2018
- Assist with pool training & outdoor kayak programs for disabled & visually impaired athletes.
- YMCA, Afterschool tutoring
- Chesterfield Outdoor Programs, middle school and high school
- Professional Mentor, 2016. James River Leadership Academy Program
- Trainer, 2017. Whitewater kayak races for high school students, Richmond, VA

MANAGEMENT AND RESEARCH

Research

- Researcher, 2021. Conducted in-person exit surveys and collected GPS data for Northern Arizona University Master of Forestry capstone research project, AZ, CO, ID
- Researcher, 2003-2008. Conducted interviews and examined historical information at museums, magazine headquarters, libraries in seven states resulting in 100+

bibliography citations for award-winning seminal coffee-table history book, *Cooling the South: The Block Ice Era, 1875-1975*.

- Urban reforestation program Monitoring field data, 1996-1998. Updated and catalogued three years of data on trees planted on public property, Keep Jackson Beautiful, Jackson, MS

Managerial

- Program Developer and Sustainability Coordinator, 2019. Twende Maasai Tours, Arusha, Tanzania
- CEO, Creative director, Marketing, Accounting, and Social Outreach, 2005-2018. Elli Morris stills and motion. Photography and film clients included newspapers, magazines, corporations, environmental nonprofits, ethically-minded small businesses, and individuals. FL, VA
- Manager, 2000-2001. Southern Lights Photography Studio, New Orleans, LA
- Manager, Gallery Kirkpatrick Wildlife Photography, 1997-1999, Jackson, MS.
- Director, 1997-1998. Gallery 108 art gallery, Jackson, MS
- Coordinator, 1995-1996. Elderhostel Program in art school, Canton, MS
- Publisher, promoter, 2007-2009. Award-winning seminal coffee-table history book, *Cooling the South: The Block Ice Era, 1875-1975*. Organized over 60 interviews with local newspapers, magazines, and television and radio shows.
- Supervised 50 3rd-9th graders PLANTING 250 TREES. Delivered three speeches at middle school assemblies.

WORKSHOPS

- Adventure Filmmaker's Workshop, 2014. Banff Mountain Film Festival Scholarship attendee.
- Main Media Workshops, 1998, 2001. Fine art, Black & White, Rockport, ME.
- Pew Charitable Trust, 1993. Media Action and Communication, Jackson, MS

CERTIFICATIONS

- American Canoe Association, 2017 – 2020. ACA Level 4 whitewater kayak instructor. Richmond, VA.
- US Forest Service Crosscut A Buckler, Chainsaw A Buckler and Feller, 2019. Sawtooth Valley Work Center, ID
- US Forest Service fire Red Card, 2020.
- SOLO Wilderness First Aid Certification, 2016, 2018. Richmond, VA.
- Leave No Trace, Trainer Course Certification, 2018. Shenandoah National Park, VA.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Secretary, 2021. Forestry Graduate Student Association (FGSA), School of Forestry, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ
- Public Lands trail maintenance volunteer, 2018. American Hiking Society, Trinidad, CA; Pacific Crest Trail Association, Mt Hood, OR; United States Forest Service, Sawtooth National Forest, ID

- Spokesperson, 2010. Spearheaded tri-county Save Chesterfield Outdoors campaign that reversing Board of Supervisors 100% budget cut to 3%, Chesterfield, VA **Grassroots Initiative,**
- “Mardi Gras RVA!” event creator and artistic director, 2011-2018. Dogtown Dance Theatre’s annual signature event featuring a neighborhood parade followed by indoor performances
- Dance performances, 2012-2018. Claves Unidos Community Dance Class performances at Que Pasa Festival, Hispanic Cultural Celebration, The Valentine Museum, & Cardinal in the Snow among others, Richmond, VA
- Women’s shelter food delivery, 1980. Lexington, Kentucky
- Recycling coordinator, 1990. Lake Tahoe, CA
- 7000 Car Miles, 2017. Year-long challenge with monthly social media updates, Richmond, VA
- Treasurer and Board Member, 2015-2017. ASMP (American Society of Media Photographers), Central VA Chapter
- Morris Ice Company, Board Member

TRAVEL

- Countries visited: Antigua And Barbuda, Austria, Australia, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Canada, China, Cuba, Denmark, Dominica, England, Finland, France, Germany, Guatemala, Iceland, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malaysia, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Scotland, Singapore, Spain, St Vincent and the Grenadines, St Kitts and Nevis, St Martin, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania, Thailand, United States of America (all 50 states)
- Traveled, worked, and summited Mt Kilimanjaro in East Africa, 2019
- Traveled and worked in Central America, 1993
- Backpacked and hitchhiked through Oceania and Southeast Asia, 1987
- Traveled throughout Western Europe, 1984-1985
- Hitchhiked through 18 islands in the Caribbean, 1983-1984
- Traveled in Asia, 1983
- Traveled in North America, 1979