

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, Photography, University of Nevada-Reno, Reno, NV
- B.S., 1979, Forestry, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS

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

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Publications

Book

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

Articles

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

- Richmond Outside, Featured Contributor (articles & videos), Richmond, VA, 2015-2016.
- SludgeBlog, Weekly Columnist, Richmond, VA, 2011-2012.
- Chesterfield Observer, Contributing Columnist, Chesterfield, VA, 2005-2012.
- Refrigeration Magazine, Monthly feature writer and photographer, Yopp Publishing, Atlanta, GA. Annual travel features include Chincoteague Horse Roundup, Ottawa International Ice Festival and Competition, and Hurricane Katrina One Year Later, 2006-2010.

Photographer

- Elli Morris stills and motion, independent professional businesswoman. Genres include 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, 2005-2018.
- Fine Art Photographer, including shows in VA, MS, FL, and LA, 1995-2004.
- Photography assistant for 20 Commercial photographers, New York City, NY, 1999.
- Expedition photographer, Yerkes Research Center team studying Spider and Howler monkeys, Belize, Central America, 1991.

Filmmaker

- Independently produced more than 50 environmental film shorts, Richmond, VA , 2013-2018.
- "Active RVA," Monthly video series promoting alternative exercises, Sportsbackers, Richmond, VA, 2015.
- "*The Great Return of the Atlantic Sturgeon*," Documentary Producer, Videographer, & Editor for James River Association, Richmond, VA, 2014-2015.
- *Affair with the James*, premiere of my first film with over 300 participants. Community response inspired area nonprofits to create annual event "Films on the Canal Walk," showcasing locally produced photography & films celebrating the James River, Richmond, VA, 2013.
- Environmental films include:
 - *Bike Your Boat*, Second-place winner, RVA Environmental Film Festival and Official Selection, Boats & Brews Festival, 2017.
 - *Nature Awaits, #Participate!*, Screened at RVA Environmental Film Festival, 2017.
 - *The Balancing Act*, Screened at James River Film Festival's Microcosmic Shorts, Boats & Brews Festival, & Retro Night Films, 2016.
 - *On the James, with Mitch*, Screened at Films on the Floodwall, Boats & Brews Festival, & Richmond Environmental Film Festival, 2016.

- *The Great Return of the Atlantic Sturgeon*, commissioned by James River Association, third-place winner at Richmond Environmental Film Festival, 2015.
- *Affair with the James*, third place winner, RVA Environmental Film Festival, 2014.
- *Science Matters Because: Bennet Clark*, PBS Community Idea Stations, Richmond, VA, 2018.
- TV segment producer, *Mississippi Roads* for MS Educational Television, PBS, Jackson, MS, 2001, 2007.
- On-location television audio tech, *Mississippi Roads and Mississippi Outdoors*, MS Educational Television, PBS, Jackson, MS, 1999-2000.
- Studio television audio tech on “Funny Bones” and “Tictock Minutes,” the first Mississippi ETV show to ever win a national Emmy. MS Educational Television, PBS, Jackson, MS, 1999-2000.

Presentations

Video Broadcasts

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

In-Person

- Master’s Project, The Nature Conservancy tour, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ, 2021.
- Master’s Project, Seminar Series, School of Forestry, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ, 2021.
- Environmental Presenter and Facilitator, Engaging the public in discussions about sustainability, ID, MS, VA, 2018-2020.
- Toastmasters International, Speech topics include forests as business role models, concepts of circular economy, & nature as emotional healer; Attained Competent Communicator designation. Richmond, VA, 2016-2018.
- Toastmasters International, 1st Place, District 66 Table Topics competition, 2016; 2nd Place, Area C33 competition, 2016; 1st Place, Table Topics, Charlotte, NC, 2017.
- Multimedia presentations connecting biology lessons to near-by nature, Public Schools, Community Centers, MS, SC, VA, 2007-2016.
- Featured speaker for month-long festival “Ice, Ice Baby,” Apalachicola, FL, 2009-2014.
- Featured Presenter, *Cooling the South: The Block Ice Era, 1875-1975*, St Augustine Distillery, Augustine, FL, 2013.
- Keynote speaker on *Cooling the South: The Block Ice Era, 1875-1975* at four regional conferences with up to 350 attendees, RI, CA, FL, MI, 2008-2010.
- Regional and local television & radio guest including CBS Good Morning Show, New Orleans, LA, as part of the four-month book tour giving over 120 speeches on *Cooling the South: The Block Ice Era, 1875-1975* throughout South & mid-Atlantic, 2008-2010.

- International Tree Presentation for Chesterfield County Master Gardeners, sharing beauty of trees, Chesterfield, VA, 2009.
- Environmental Multi-media Presenter, school and after-school programs on Asia; Rainforests and Deserts; Homes Across the Globe; and The World of Trees, Jackson and Clinton, MS; Beaufort SC; Richmond VA, 1990-2003.
- Keep Jackson Beautiful Program, Community events, elementary and middle school classes, Jackson, MS, 1994-1998.
- ElderHostel Student Coordinator, Weekly welcome speeches, general office manager, produce magazine advertisements, Canton, MS, 1995-1996.

RELEVANT COURSE WORK

- Human Dimensions of Natural Resources
- Wilderness Management
- Ecological Economics
- GIS and Spatial Analysis

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Ambassador

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

Liaison

- Wilderness Ranger, United States Forest Service, Stanley, ID, 2020.
- Political Liaison and Advocate, SludgeBlog, advocating for reform of sludge laws and harmful environmental practices, Richmond, VA, 2011-2012.
- Legislative Liaison, television news program, MS Educational Television, PBS, Jackson, MS, 1998.
- Green room hostess and phone screener for live broadcasts, MS Educational Television, PBS, Jackson, MS, 1996-1998.
- Liaison with the public, Loggerhead Turtle beach and nest patroller, South Carolina Dept of Natural Resources, Hilton Head Island, SC, 1991.
- Ski Lift Operator, Alpine Meadows, Lake Tahoe, CA, 1990.

Guide

- Horseback trips, Bogong Horseback Adventures, Mt Beauty, Victoria, Australia, 1987.
- Kayak Ecotours and Multi-day Mountain Backpacking Trips, Chesterfield Outdoor Programs, 2006-2018.
- Media Escort, literary and music festivals, Jackson, MS, 1997-1998.

Food and Beverage

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

Sales

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

General

- Trail Maintenance Crew, United States Forest Service, Stanley, ID, 2019.
- Art class model, various organizations and state institutions, Richmond, VA, 2003-2005.
- Receptionist, Richmond Ballet, Richmond, VA, 2004-2005.
- Crossroads Film Festival coordinator, Jackson, MS, 1999-2000.
- Office Temp, 50 offices, Jackson, MS, 1995-1996.
- Reader for the blind, University of Nevada Reno, Reno, NV, 1992.

TEACHING AND EDUCATION

Photography Courses

- Nature photography workshops for teens and adults, Richmond and Chesterfield, VA 2009-2018.
- #TreeADay #Photo, a year of daily Twitter posts connected trees to clean air & water, Elli Morris stills & motion, 2016.
- Professional Photography Mentor, James River Leadership Academy Program, 2016.
- Robinson Theatre Community Center, Designed & taught to inner city youth, Richmond, VA, 2011-2012, 2014-2015.
- Developed and implemented instruction for daily photography classes at a Girl Scout summer camp, Brandon, MS, 1994.

Environmental Instructor

- Curriculum Developer, Instructor, Chesterfield County Outdoor Programs. Programs include flat-water and whitewater kayaking, rock climbing, ropes challenge course, mountain wilderness backpacking, adventure racing, and bicycling, Chesterfield, VA, 2006-2018.
- Whitewater and flatwater adaptive sports kayak instructor, Sportable (through Chesterfield Outdoor Programs), Richmond, VA, 2013-2018.
- Trainer, Whitewater kayak races for high school students, Richmond, VA, 2017.
- Design and conduct guided nature walks to introduce family groups to safe and accessible summer activities along the James River, Richmond, VA, 2011-2012.
- YMCA, Afterschool tutoring, Richmond, VA, 2010.
- Curriculum Developer, Instructor, 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, 2006-2008.

RESEARCH AND MANAGEMENT

Research

- Researcher, conducting in-person exit surveys and collected GPS data for Northern Arizona University Master of Forestry capstone research project, AZ, CO, ID, 2021.

- Researcher, conducting 100+ interviews and examined historical information at museums, magazine headquarters, libraries in seven states for award-winning seminal coffee-table history book, *Cooling the South: The Block Ice Era, 1875-1975*, 2003-2008.
- Urban reforestation program monitoring field data, updated and catalogued three years of data on trees planted on public property, Keep Jackson Beautiful, Jackson, MS, 1996-1998.

Managerial

- Program Developer and Sustainability Coordinator, Twende Maasai Tours, Arusha, Tanzania, 2019.
- CEO, Creative director, Marketing, Accounting, and Social Outreach, Elli Morris stills and motion. Photography and film clients included newspapers, magazines, corporations, environmental nonprofits, ethically-minded small businesses, and individuals. FL, VA, 2005-2018.
- Manager, Southern Lights Photography Studio, New Orleans, LA, 2000-2001.
- Manager, Gallery Kirkpatrick Wildlife Photography, Jackson, MS, 1997-1999.
- Director, Gallery 108 art gallery, Jackson, MS, 1997-1998.
- Coordinator, Elderhostel Program in art school, Canton, MS, 1995-1996.
- Publisher, promoter of 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, 2007-2009.

WORKSHOPS

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

CERTIFICATIONS

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

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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

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

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