



Polita Cohen Glynn
St. Petersburg, FL
politamedia@gmail.com

- 1982** **University of Miami, School of Communication**
Film and Television Production
- 1980** **Harvard University, Graduate School of Education** **Ed. M.**
Administration and Planning
- 1975** **Bennington College** **B.A.**
History and American Studies

Merfolk Media Alliance, Inc., Founder and Director **2022 – present**
Freelance writer/media producer

Merfolk Media Alliance contributes to interdisciplinary conversations about diversity, community history and the connections between people through media production, multicultural programs and public outreach. Merfolk is currently producing *Underground History*, a film which explores stories of the erased communities of marginalized people in St. Petersburg, revealing layers of history under the city.

The Pew Charitable Trusts, Washington, D.C. **2005 - 2022**

Directed the [Pew Fellows Program in Marine Conservation](#) which supports international scientists and experts to advance innovation in ocean protection. Responsible for all aspects of the program, from fellowship selection to grants management, annual meeting programming, strategic planning and fundraising. Substantially increased diverse representation of global recipients and programming.

Freelance writer, producer and media educator **1985 - 2022**

Responsible for production, story development, scriptwriting, directing and editing of independent programs and contracted projects:

- [Polly the Hip Polyp](#): Short animation on coral reef ecology
- [Biscayne National Park](#): History of Florida-based marine national park
- Eco Explorers: Environmental program on the Florida Keys and marine issues
- Drum of Time: Program on art and technology work of [Christopher Janney](#)
- Tropicultura: Short film on Miami's cultural diversity
- Art in Public Places: Documentary on Dade County public art programs
- WPBT/PBS Television: Script writer/producer for New Florida series
- Varied production companies, advertising agencies, and public organizations

Marineland/Marine Studios Project **2003 – 2005**

Research, writing and media production for The Jacoby Group (Atlanta), previous owners of Marineland, a historic aquarium opened in north Florida in 1938. Associate producer and researcher for Chedd-Angier Production Company for historic Marineland documentary.

Non-profit organizations and media education

Miami-Dade County Public Schools / NextGen Film Festival 1999 – 2005
Curriculum writer and project director for media education programs including the NextGen Film Festival created to introduce young audiences to foreign language film and art cinema.

Rhythm Foundation 1989 - 1992
Program director for organization presenting World Music concerts and multi-cultural educational programs. Responsible for grant writing, programming and community outreach.

Film Society of Miami / Miami International Film Festival 1984 – 1996
Seminar Program director responsible for program design and production of educational workshops on international filmmaking and film screenings. Developed film education programs in partnership with Miami-Dade College and Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

U.S. Agency for International Development 1989
Designed and directed a Spanish-language training program for Latin American television reporters and media producers. Developed curriculum, taught classes, supervised training and production activities.

Rock Against Racism & El Pueblo Nuevo, Boston, MA 1978 -1981
Director, grant writer and event producer with non-profit organizations presenting multi-cultural music programs and bilingual arts events.

Massachusetts Department of Education, Boston, MA 1977 - 1981
Administered federally funded programs for Title IX and Title IV with responsibility for media arts, multi-cultural and student leadership programs designed to promote sex equity and intercultural communication in the Boston Public Schools.

Free-Lance Journalist on Latin/Caribbean Culture, Music & Film
Articles published in: The Real Paper (Cambridge, MA), Marquee Magazine, The Miami Herald, Vista Magazine, Miami Today, Times of the Americas, Backstage, Brazil Review.

PANELS & AWARDS

Florida Humanities Community Projects grant for <i>Underground History</i> film	2024
Creative Pinellas NEA Beyond Placemaking Artist grant	2024
St. Petersburg Arts Alliance Artist grant	2023
Florida Humanities Broadcasting Hope grant for <i>Underground History</i> film	2022
Sundance Institute Screenwriters Intensive Fellow	2015
Winner, Moondance Film Festival Screenwriting Competition	2009
Semi-finalist, Scriptshark Screenwriting Competition	2009
Chair/Member, Miami Beach Quality Education Committee	2003 & 2008
Chair, Miami-Dade Mayor's Film Advisory Board	1995 - 1999
Film & Entertainment Representative, Workforce Alliance	1998 – 1999
State of Florida Individual Artist Media Arts Fellowship	1996
Florida Arts Council, Media Arts Panel	1986 –'87, '97-'98
Louis Wolfson Media History Center Production Awards	1991, '96, '97
New Forms Florida / National Endowment for the Arts Grant	1993