



Polita Cohen Glynn  
St. Petersburg, FL  
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**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.

**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 - 2026**

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

- [Brick Roads of St. Petersburg](#): Short film an iconic historic legacy of St. Petersburg
- [Underground History](#): Documentary on erased histories in the Tampa Bay region
- [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**

Films selected for: Sunscreen Film Festival, Tampa Bay Black Art & Film Festival,

Queens Underground International Black History Film Festival 2025

Creative Pinellas Beyond Placemaking grant for poetry visualizations 2024

Florida Humanities Community Projects grant for *Underground History* film 2024

St. Petersburg Arts Alliance Artist grant 2023

Florida Humanities Broadcasting Hope grant for *Underground History* film 2022

Sundance Institute Screenwriters Intensive Fellow 2015

Winner, Moondance Film Festival Screenwriting Competition 2009

Semi-finalist, Scriptshark Screenwriting Competition 2009

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