

## **Southern Exposure: Documenting the Struggle for Environmental Protection in Alabama A Multimedia Summer Fellowship Sponsored by the Southern Environmental Law Center**

*June 18 – July 31, 2015*

Deadline to apply: February 9, 2015

Now in its fourth year, *Southern Exposure* provides a positive and challenging learning experience to exceptional film students and emerging filmmakers seeking to explore and develop their own voices as environmental advocates through nonfiction storytelling. This innovative summer fellowship equips students with the skills, equipment, content knowledge and contacts to create authentic, engaging films intended to raise public awareness about important issues facing Alabama's environment, from the mountains to the coast. To watch the films from previous fellowship years, visit: [www.SouthernEnvironment.org/SouthernExposure](http://www.SouthernEnvironment.org/SouthernExposure).

### **Components of Fellowship:**

- Visits to some of Alabama's beautiful natural resources
- Production of an original short film to document a contemporary topic of environmental concern
- Lecture series with practicing SELC attorneys and representatives from local conservation groups
- Examination of various styles and techniques of the documentary as a persuasive medium

### **Fellows Selection Process**

*Southern Exposure* seeks the best and brightest up-and-coming documentary filmmakers committed to protecting our natural resources, improving human health and achieving environmental justice through film, journalism and collective action. Selected fellows come from across the country and represent a broad base of backgrounds, including broadcasting, law, psychology, literature, science, anthropology, education and film production. Unlike typical academic fellowships, virtually no two students will have the same educational background. This makes for a thriving interdisciplinary environment in which filmmakers share skills and build long-lasting relationships.

Although participants are not required to have backgrounds that would necessarily lead to careers in filmmaking, applicants with experience in filmmaking or media-related fields will receive priority in the selection process. Applicants must have a demonstrated ability to work collaboratively, as this fellowship is a highly interactive, interpersonal experience. A \$600 stipend and dormitory style or other suitable housing will be provided.

**The following materials must be received via email by the Southern Environmental Law Center by February 9, 2015 in order for you to be considered for the program.**

1. **Cover letter** that answers the following two questions:
  1. What is it that you hope to gain from participation in this fellowship program?
  2. What is one environmental issue that you are passionate about and why?
2. **Resume**, including full name, current email address, mailing address, and cell phone number.
3. **Academic transcript** (unofficial is acceptable). To qualify, all applicants must have had at least two film production courses. Please remove or redact your birthdate and social security number from your transcript.
4. **Link to a film** for which you have had creative control. Upload a sample of your video or film work to YouTube or Vimeo and copy the link on a one-page summary of the creative work including a brief synopsis, running time of the clips, the circumstances of production and your role. Do not submit work on which you have had only a "production assistant" role. A submission may be 10 minutes or less of a single film or a compilation reel from several films. Please follow the YouTube or Vimeo guidelines for uploading so that you have the highest resolution and highest video quality possible for your video.
5. **Letter of recommendation (optional)** from an academic or professional reference that speaks to your accomplishments and potential.

All application materials should be combined into one pdf and emailed to [SouthernExposure@selcal.org](mailto:SouthernExposure@selcal.org). Films should be uploaded to YouTube or Vimeo as indicated above and jpgs can be emailed separately to [SouthernExposure@selcal.org](mailto:SouthernExposure@selcal.org). File sizes should be reduced so that no emails are larger than 8 MB. If you choose to submit a letter of recommendation, the letter should be emailed from the account of the person who writes the letter directly to [SouthernExposure@selcal.org](mailto:SouthernExposure@selcal.org).

Applicants will be notified of their status by **March 9, 2015**.

**Program Director: Katherine Gorringer**

Katherine Gorringer is a documentary producer, director and editor based in the San Francisco Bay area and a former fellow of *Southern Exposure*. Katherine believes in the power of storytelling to inspire dialogue and envision a better world. She has worked on nonfiction productions for The History Channel and independent filmmaker Laurie Collyer, and her short films have been featured in Smithsonian Magazine, LUNAFEST, Dam Shorts Film Festival, and the Festival International De Programmes Audiovisuels, among others. Katherine holds an M.F.A. in Documentary Film & Video from Stanford University.