

THE CORAL KEEPERS

Directed by Eilish M. Nobes

THE FILM

RUN TIME 11 Minutes

RELEASE 2019

GENRE Documentary Short

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RATING (G) General Audience

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The oceans need your help, they need all of our help, but how? How can you help people understand just how vitally life sustaining the great big blue is when they can't dive below the surface because they don't have the resources to do so, a nonprofit located in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary has decided to take up the task, by teaching the youth to become scuba divers. Sorry Scientific Divers, yeah that's right. The kids in Dive N2 Life range from ages 10 to 16 and they are scientific divers, who have been diving with NOAA scientist, assisting with research on anything from marine species, to the new coral disease that just broke out in the Keys.

Jealous yet? Well you should be, however this really isn't the time to wish that you could do this (because you can - Your just going to have to watch to find out how), but with our current climate the oceans need us more than ever, the next generation needs to be inspired, given opportunities, as this is their future that they are coming into and currently it isn't looking to bright.

Conservation through education has always been the moto, of scientist and conservationists alike.



**“Why are we taught Shakespeare and Algebra, before we are taught conservation, before we are taught how to survive on the planet? Especially when we know that by mid-century our survival is very much in jeopardy”
— Rob Stewart**



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

If it weren't for my mother, I would not be writing this statement; if it were not for my mother, I would not have gone to college. If it were not for my mother, I would have been left behind in the public school system. My mother has taught in Title I schools for as long as I can remember, she educates young minds, but most importantly she inspires students who told that this is their last chance for an education, students who have no one to believe in them at home, students who face the pressures of joining gangs just to provide rather than going to school. She inspires students and pushes them to be better, to achieve things they thought were never possible.

Being an educator is one of the most important jobs that there is in the world, and it is also one of the most underacknowledged roles. Growing up my mother worked night and day to make sure that I could attend a private school because our public schools did not have the support system I needed as a student with learning disabilities. She sacrificed everything so that I could get ahead, she pushed me to learn about our world, to think deeper about how we treat the planet, and she made sure that I could take part in outside learning opportunities. She did all of this for me, and she puts the same care into her students. There have been times where she couldn't afford to keep the power on, times where she didn't have the funds to buy groceries so I would then go to stay at a friend's house. Without her sacrifices, I would not be here making this film on an organization that has gone above and beyond to help students like me or who are far off worse.

My mother inspired me to be the person I am today. Diven2life is inspiring and training the youth to be better than the generation before them. DiveN2Life provides a unique support system for underprivileged youth who lack the resources to expand their learning, and who lack the financial means to be afforded such opportunities such as scuba diving. Kama Cannon, the founder of this program, reminds me of the hard work that my mother does. The Kama created this nonprofit out of love for the ocean and youth who may not have the opportunities to explore it. It is a luxury to care about the ocean when you are worried about where your next meal is coming from. Kama has created a free program that teaches students to be scientific divers and affords them a leg up but also curates a group of environmentally conscious young minds.

I made this film because there is a need for programs such as DiveN2Life. It's time we start teaching the youth how to protect the Earth.

PRODUCTION STILLS



INTERVIEWEES



Kama Cannon
Founder of
DiveN2Life



Emma Norman,
Age 11
Advanced Open
Water Diver



Marsella Munoz,
Age 15
SSI Dive Master
Candidate



Zoe Hays,
Age 14
SSI Jr. Master
Diver



Kara Norman,
Age 13
SSI Jr. Master Diver



Sarah Fangman
Superintendent
of the Florida
Keys National
Marine Sanctuary



Haley Tucker,
Age 16
Advanced Open
Water Diver

MEET THE CREW



EILISH M. NOBES DIRECTOR / PRODUCER

Eilish is originally from Danbury, Connecticut. She is constantly on the road for work, but when she has a minute she can be found in Savannah, GA. Eilish is a documentary filmmaker and photographer, who specializes in field producing. Eilish and her close friend Addie Ross run a small start up called [Fat Panda Production](#) which is geared towards helping those who have a passion for helping others. When not working with Addie, she is working on environmental pieces whether it be photo or film based. Eilish's focus and love is documentary filmmaking. She has worked on several films that have dealt with cultures in other countries as well as environmental issues. Recently she has traveled to Cuba to document the forgotten island [Isla de la Juventud](#) for the series *Unseen Cuba* by [Kevin McCarey](#), which is being pitched to major networks.



DARLIEN MORALES DIRECTOR, PRODUCER, DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Darlien Morales is an internationally celebrated director, producer and cinematographer with small town roots from Caguas, Puerto Rico. Winner of multiple awards in the documentary field, her works have shown in industry's premiere film festivals, and honored at special screenings on esteemed world stages that range from the Oceanographic Museum of Monaco to the Escola Superior de Designo Industrial of Brazil. Her works offer memorable narratives with palpable characters and poignant photography. When not making films or exploring nature, she is drawing. Her illustrations have made it to book covers, scholarship auctions, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services programs to protect endangered species.



KEVIN MCCAREY EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Kevin McCarey is an Emmy Award winning filmmaker whose films have been shown on the National Geographic Channel, PBS, NBC and the Turner Networks. McCarey was hired as a documentary writer-director for Turner Broadcasting where he worked on the [Peabody Award](#) winning series *Portrait of America* featuring Hal Holbrook. He garnered three Emmy nominations, an Emmy Award and three [CINE Golden Eagle Awards](#). This was followed by *Trumpet of Conscience*, a visual and musical interpretation of the last Christmas sermon by Martin Luther King Jr. - which he refers to as "the world's first and longest black gospel music video." The film won the prestigious [Chris Award](#) and an Emmy. *Trumpet of Conscience* aired every Christmas for twelve years on the Turner Networks.



MEET THE CREW



KYLE MADDUX-LAWRENCE DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Born in Nashville, raised in the sleepy foothills of the Appalachian mountains, Kyle fell in love with the art and science of cinematography in college. After quitting a thankless job with no money in his savings account to pursue his new found passion, his journey began. Years later after many adventures around the world, Kyle enjoys bringing the unexpected beauty of the world and its people through his unique perspective to audiences far and wide. Kyle's passion for documentary style filmmaking has allowed him to engage with some of the most interesting people and places around. Kyle's goal is to tell stories that matter and to create positive change through storytelling.



ELIZABETH KAISER EDITOR

She is a lover of funfetti cupcakes and a Northern Michigander at heart, Elizabeth is a connoisseur of taking many tiny pieces and weaving them into a concise whole. Elizabeth is an award-winning video editor, motion graphics designer, producer currently based in Savannah, Georgia.

Elizabeth made her directing debut in 2018 with *The Big Five Dive*, a short documentary championing women in SCUBA diving.

Elizabeth is a member of Savannah Women in Film and Television (SWIFT).



Directed & Produced

Associate Producers

Executive Producers

Edited by

Directors of Photography

Colorist

Musical Composer

Sound Supervisor

Ariel Photography

Archival Images Provided by

Featuring

Underwater Cinematography by

Still Photographer

Motion Media

Transportation Coordinators

Production Assistants

EILISH M. NOBES

DARLIEN MORALES

KYLE MADDUX- LAWRENCE

ALE SANTANA

KEVIN MCCAREY

SANDY PETERSON

ELIZABETH KAISER

DARLIEN MORALES

KYLE MADDUX- LAWRENCE

CALVIN BELLAS

MILES KREDICH

RYAN SULLIVAN

BENJAMIN MCGONALL

NOAA

ZOE HAYS

PAUL CHETRIKIN

KARA NORMAN

LINDSEY REISZ

MARSELLA MUNOZ

KARA NORMAN

HALEY TUCKER

ZOE HAYSEMMA NORMAN

KAMA CANNON

SARAH FANGMAN

DARLIEN MORALES

KYLE MADDUX- LAWRENCE

EILISH M. NOBES

DAYNA REGGERO

GRANGER ELTRINGHAM

KAMA CANNON

MICHAEL QUINONES

ZOEY HAYES

KARA NORMAN

Produced by **FAT PANDA PRODUCTIONS, MADLAWMEDIA, and KIRUTUNGO PRODUCTIONS**

PARTNERS

The Coral Keepers has been produced with the support of Canon, Kirutungo Productions, MADLAWMEDIA, DiveN2Life, and Looe Key Reef Resort & Dive Center



KIRUTUNGO
PRODUCTIONS



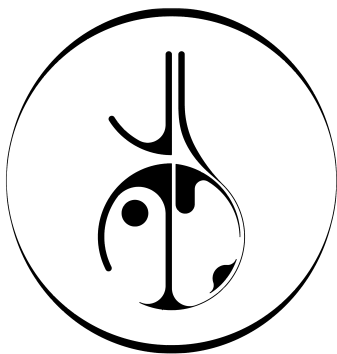
MADLAWMEDIA

WE TELL STORIES THAT MATTER.



www.MADLAWMEDIA.COM

Canon



Atabey Divers



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