

MICHELLE LOTKER

DOCUMENTARY STORYTELLER

Enthusiastic, unique blend of grounded scientist + imaginative artist, using multimedia to tell stories of people, projects & places that inspire conversations, connection & change.

EDUCATION

M.A. in Mass Communication
recipient of Roy H. Parks Fellowship
UNC School of Media and Journalism
2017

**Continuing Education in
Documentary Studies**
Center for Documentary Studies,
Duke University
2013

B.S. Biology with distinction
(conc: Marine Biology)

B.S. Environmental Science
Duke University
2008

Certificate in Documentary Studies
Center for Documentary Studies,
Duke University
2008

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www.michellelotker.com

CORE SKILLS

8+ years experience producing and editing professional video, audio & photographic work with Canon and Sony camera systems

8+ years experience with the Adobe Creative Suite including Premiere, Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator, Light Room and After Effects

Ability to work as both a one-person crew and as part of a production team
Experienced at working in adverse outdoor conditions and producing media while traveling

Proficient at research, including archival and technical science research

Experienced in location scouting, shoot scheduling, and client management

Skilled at conducting on-camera interviews

Skilled at producing verite style documentary video

Adept at translating scientific topics into stories that engage the general public

Skilled at file management and audio transcription

Familiar with MicrosoftOffice, equivalent Macintosh programs, & GoogleDrive

Experienced in social media management (Instagram, Facebook, Twitter)

Familiar with basic HTML & CSS, and WordPress site customization

Competent in conversational Spanish

KEY WORK EXPERIENCE

Michelle Lotker Multimedia, Freelance Visual Storyteller, 2013 - Present

Production of documentary style visual & audio stories on a wide range of topics. Extensive experience with all roles of media production, including producing, directing, conducting interviews, camera operation, audio recording, file management, editing, motion graphics and client management.

Story Driven Media, Producer, Videographer, Jan 2015 - May 2015

Part of a team that produced and filmed video projects including episodes of the Emmy Award winning series' *Real Medicine* and *UNC System Research Operative Initiatives*. Responsibilities included research, pre-production, client interaction, story shaping, translating science into story, camera operation, on-site production, and file management.

**Conversations From the Open Road, Videographer, Editor, Trip Leader
Summer 2014 + 2015**

Coordinated & co-led experiential travel learning trips for high school students. Facilitated conversations between participants and locals, documented the trip, managed footage collected during the trip, managed social media accounts and provided video editing assistance and multimedia technical support.

Southern Documentary Fund, Intern, January 2013 - August 2013

Conducted interviews with local filmmakers, designed and developed a website and managed social media accounts including Tumblr, Twitter and Facebook.

**Duke University Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions,
Research Assistant, Ocean and Coastal Policy Program, 2011 - 2012**

Responsibilities included analytical research and literature reviews related to fisheries management policy, technical writing, WordPress site management, and supervision & coordination of other project employees.

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INVOLVEMENT & AWARDS

Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival, Category Judge, 2019

Science Media Awards & Summit (SMASH), Category Judge, 2018

Roy H. Parks Fellowship, 2015-2017

Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival, Volunteer, 2013, 2017

IWFF Filmmaker Labs, Selected Participant, 2017

Mountain Workshops, Participant, 2017

Silver Medal, Individual Multimedia Story or Essay, College Photographer of the Year, 2016

Documentary 2015: Origins and Inventions, Forum Fellow, 2015

hosted by the Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University

BYOP&V, Co-Founder, 2013 - now
BYOP&V stands for "Bring Your Own Photo & Video", monthly meet-up for visual artists to share work with and get feedback and inspiration from the local creative community

Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University, Volunteer, 2011

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KEY WORK EXPERIENCE *(continued)*

Duke University Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions, *Documentarian, 2010 East Coast Ocean Policy Expedition, 2010*

Photo and video documentation of the crew, people and places encountered during the expedition. Creation and management of a Wordpress blog.

MACTEC Engineering & Consulting, *Environmental Scientist, 2008-2011*

Project management, technical writing, research and review of regulatory reports, interpretation of analytical data, site visits, field sampling, permit preparation, client/regulatory agency correspondence and implementation of the local health and safety program and office sustainability plan.

A SELECTION OF MULTIMEDIA PROJECTS

(full portfolio available at www.michellelotker.com)

We Are Downtown Raleigh series, editor, 2020

(ongoing) Short form digital series produced by non-profit Downtown Raleigh Alliance featuring local businesses

Breakthrough: Portraits of Women in Science, cinematographer, 2019

(in production) Short form series produced by Science Friday that follows women scientists working at the forefront of their fields

[*The Complicated Sex Lives Of Venus Flytraps*](#), cinematographer, 2019

An episode of Science Friday's Macroscope series about science in action

Awake 58 for EdNC, video staff, editor, Spring 2019

Journalistic video storytelling related to community college students and programs across North Carolina, www.ednc.org/author/michelle-lotker/

Tatiana Hargreaves & Allison DeGroot, cinematographer, editor, 2019

Documentary-style album release promotional video

Conservation Trust for North Carolina, photographer, 2018 & 2019

Photography for rebrand and outreach materials

Mad Farmer, cinematographer, editor, 2018 (under production)

Series about farmers taking radical steps towards sustainable practices

No Filter, cinematographer, editor, animator, 2018

Series of anti-pipeline campaign videos produced for Sierra Club

Downstream, co-producer, cinematographer, co-editor, 2018

Informational short about grasslands and their importance to water quality

Durham Independent Dance Artists, producer, cinematographer, editor, 2017

Promotional brand video, performance season videographer

Keeping the Land, producer, cinematographer, editor, 2016-2017

Web-based multimedia project highlighting the next generation of farmers in North Carolina, includes two short form documentary videos: Changing Hands, Handing it Down. Project located at www.keepingtheland.com

[*Domestic Energy Access Stories: North Carolina*](#), cinematographer, 2016

Documentary video series produced for Duke University's 2017 Winter Forum

Keepers, cinematographer, editor, 2017

Documentary short highlighting the plight of honey bees through the unlikely friendship between two beekeepers. Awarded CPOY silver medal for Individual Multimedia Story or Essay. Selected as part of UNC-TV's Reel South series, 2017. Official selection International Wildlife Film Festival 2018.

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Tug Life, cinematographer, editor, 2016

Documentary short about a family-run tugboat delivery service

Ugly & Wild, asst editor for Vittles Films, 2016

Local 10% Campaign video for CEFS promoting the consumption of local seafood in North Carolina

Research Operative Initiatives series, asst producer for Story Driven, 2015

Emmy award winning series highlighting research supported by ROI grants

Real Medicine series, asst producer, videographer for Story Driven, 2015

Emmy award winning series highlighting the unique stories of people that work within UNC's medical system

Eating Local in Beaufort County, NC, videographer, editor, 2014

Video for the Carolina Farm Stewardship Association highlighting the people involved in the local food movement in Beaufort County

Untamed Science, assistant producer, assistant director, on-site producer, camera operator, 2013-2015

Production of a series of science communication videos to be paired with textbooks and used in on line YouTube channels. Production of multi-video training series on hunting, snowmobiling and boating safety for Kalkomey Enterprises, Inc.

Growing Peanuts in Halifax County, videographer, editor, 2013

Documentary short about the farmers that produce peanuts in North Carolina. Partially sponsored by the Southern Foodways Alliance.

On the Waterway, videographer, editor, writer, 2010

Documentary video, photography & written blog post production for the Nicholas Institute of Environmental Policy Solution's 2010 East Coast Ocean Policy Expedition

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