

Explore the Endless Adventures that Exist in Your Own Backyard Backyard Wilderness Opens on November 2 at the Omni Theater

Fort Worth, TX - When was the last time you had a wildlife adventure? It might be closer than you think! *Backyard Wilderness*, a new IMAX[®] film that premieres Saturday, November 2 at the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History's Omni Theater, brings to life the amazing animal world hiding in plain sight right in your very own neighborhood!

Backyard Wilderness is an Arise Media / Archipelago Films production in collaboration with HHMI Tangled Bank Studios. The film provides explorers of all ages the tools and inspiration to discover the wonders of nature at their fingertips.

Created by Emmy Award-winning and Oscar[®] nominated filmmakers Andrew Young and Susan Todd, *Backyard Wilderness* will surprise and entertain. The film spans a year around a suburban home, revealing a stunning array of wildlife in breathtaking detail.

Follow Katie, a young girl, and her family who are absorbed by an array of electronic devices and, at first, oblivious to the natural world just outside their home. Katie gradually discovers the intricate secrets that nature has hidden so close to her front door and we experience the joy she finds in her interactions with this newly uncovered world. The film reminds us that Wi-Fi is not the only connection that matters and that sometimes in ordinary places, you can uncover extraordinary things that can transform you forever - you just need to step outside.

Backyard Wilderness is produced and directed by Andrew Young and Susan Todd, who wrote the film together with SK's Wendy MacKeigan (*Flight of the Butterflies, Amazon Adventure*). "We could not be prouder of this film," said Andrew and Susan. "It is imperative to us to encourage children and families to explore the splendor of nature."

HHMI Tangled Bank Studios has produced an educational initiative to deepen the learning from the film and provide kids, families and educator with an extensive program to empower families to get outside and observe their wild neighbors. Resources include; an Educator Guide, a Family Guide and SEEK, a unique "kid friendly" version of the highly regarded iNaturalist App, which is specifically designed to engage students to become better naturalists. Available for download in the iTunes store.

Learn more about *Backyard Wilderness* and watch the trailer <u>here</u>. A complimentary media preview of the film will be held at the Omni Theater on Saturday, November 10 at 10:15 AM. Please RSVP to <u>acanipe@fwmsh.org</u>.

About the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History

The Museum was established in 1941 and is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. Anchored by its rich collections, the Museum is dedicated to lifelong learning. It engages guests through creative, vibrant programs and exhibits interpreting science and the history of Texas and the Southwest. The Museum is open daily, except Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. For more information, visit www.fortworthmuseum.org

About Arise Media / Archipelago Films

Archipelago Films is a production company created by Academy Award-nominated, Emmy-Award-winning filmmakers Susan Todd and Andrew Young. Arise Media is the non-profit they formed to make innovative media about the most urgent social and environmental challenges facing the planet, and to inspire a new appreciation for our own interconnected role in nature. With a well-established track record of directing, producing and filming, for television, theatrical and now 3D IMAX[®]/Giant Screens, Archipelago and Arise aim to bring passionate and entertaining films to global audiences through the highest quality visual storytelling. For more information, please visit www.archipelagofilms.com, www.arisemedia.org

About SK Films

SK Films is an award-winning content provider and a global leader in the IMAX[®]/Giant Screen industry. SK works across various genres and platforms, including theatrical, television and digital media, with a special emphasis on creating high impact natural history and science related content. SK has a reputation as one of the most accomplished and respected producers and distributors supplying 3D, 2D and Dome product to IMAX and other Giant Screen theatres worldwide, with a mission to entertain and inspire audiences and immerse them in the awe and wonder of the world we live in. For more information, please visit www.SKFilms.ca

About HHMI Tangled Bank Studios

HHMI Tangled Bank Studios is a production company established and funded by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) as an extension of its longstanding science education mission. Dedicated to the creation of original science documentaries for broadcast, theatrical and digital distribution, the company's award-winning programs address important contemporary issues and capture compelling stories of discovery across all branches of scientific inquiry. For more information, please visit <u>www.tangledbankstudios.org</u>. Follow us on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u>and <u>Instagram</u>. HHMI is a science philanthropy whose mission is to advance basic biomedical research and science education for the benefit of humanity. The institute is the largest private supporter of science education in the country.