

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## South Florida's Public Television Station Wins Two Suncoast EMMY's.

Miami, FL – December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016 – The 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Suncoast Emmy® Awards honored WLRN Public Television with two EMMY Awards. The Suncoast Chapter of The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences announced the winners on Saturday, December 3, 2016, at The Rosen Centre Hotel in Orlando, Florida.

Alan Tomlinson, Director of Television Production and Programming, and Francesca De Onis were recognized for their film "Plight of the Plume Birds" in the category of Environment - Program. This compelling story, written and directed by Alan and produced by Francesca, explores how millions of birds were taken at the height of the feather-tread years by plume hunters, decimating Florida's shore bird population.

A moment of silence was held for Alan Tomlinson, who had passed away unexpectedly one week to the day of the award ceremony.

"I have mixed emotions as I congratulate Francesca for her producing role and important partnership in creating Alan's last short film, it was magnificent," said John LaBonia, General Manager of WLRN. "Alan was a talented producer who would often spend per capita as much time crafting his short films as he did working on his feature-length documentary's and I would often ask him why does he spend so much time on a 8–10 minute film? His reply was always the same, '...it's all about the story and how it's told...everything has to be perfect."

You can watch "Plight of the Plume Birds" online at http://video.wlrn.org/video/2365795906/.

WLRN is proud to be among all the winners for the coveted Suncoast Regional Emmy Awards, which recognize excellence in television and the regions' leadership for their artistic, educational and technical achievements within the television industry. Entries are submitted from all over the region including Alabama, Louisiana, Florida, Georgia and Puerto Rico.

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## **About WLRN**

WLRN Public Media is committed to being the most trusted source of information and entertainment in South Florida's diverse community. Licensed to the school board of Miami-Dade County, WLRN is best known for its award winning public radio and television programs, but its services go well beyond the airwaves. It's a complex media enterprise consisting of radio and television stations, <a href="www.WLRN.org">www.WLRN.org</a> and educational channels offering you a variety of high quality programming and advanced learning services making WLRN a valuable public media source.