

# The Stars at Night

*The Stars at Night* will aim to inspire a grassroots movement of night sky storytelling, seeking to connect astronomy with artistic expression.

By initiating a trip with a group of young writers and artists in a visit to the Big Bend in west Texas, we will not only allow this group a never-before-seen view of the Milky Way and our larger Universe, we will also discover what takes place when a diverse group truly disconnects from our present day to engage with the stars, the root of human storytelling.



It all began with an idea. I want to see the Milky Way. And then the idea bubbled up that the best way to experience the Milky Way and give a sense of its magnificence would be by sharing that experience

*The Stars at Night* is a film exploring this idea of students and their quest to not only witness the Milky Way, but also to create new stories of their experience. Interspersed with footage of this journey will be expert interviews and breathtaking celestial photography.

Virtually eighty percent (eighty percent!) of all people in North America have already lost the ability to view a pristine night sky. By joining a group of young artists on a visit to a Dark Sky Zone deep in the heart of Texas, we will not only create an experience as we view our larger Universe, but also as a part of the experience, we will create another story: this film.

Our young filmmakers and artists will be at liberty to create whatever content they wish (if they wish) but also as a part of our film, we will ask them to join the journey as participants in our film. One of the ideas we will discuss will be Carl Sagan's concept of The Pale Blue Dot.

Thirty years have now passed since the Voyager 1 spacecraft snapped one of the most iconic and memorable pictures in spaceflight history. Known as The Pale Blue Dot the heart-rending view shows planet Earth as a single, bright blue pixel in the vastness of space, as seen from the outer reaches of the solar system.



Look again at that dot. That's here. That's home. That's us. It makes clear our responsibility to deal more kindly with one another, and to preserve and appreciate the pale blue dot

The film will interview the experts and travel to the destinations as dictated by the budget. The longer limited series will interview more people and explore more destinations as well as take a deeper dive into ancient myths and our penchant for "content" = the modern day story.

Finally, using all the materials available to us, we will pose the question:

"If we are going to reach for the stars and they are so important to our future why have we created a world in which we cannot see them?"

We are  
made of  
*Star Stuff.*  
We are  
a way  
for the  
*Cosmos*  
to  
know itself

-Carl Sagan





Did you know **80%** of North Americans cannot see the *Milky Way* where they live.

## The Production Team

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Elizabeth Buckley  
Director

Emmy and Peabody award-winning producer Elizabeth (Betty) Buckley has over 25 years of experience in film, television, new media and animation.

A lecturer in the Film Concentration at Texas State University, she recently produced HBO's *Entre Nos*, including *Easily Offended* headlining comedian Gina Brillon. In 2017 she developed and produced the limited series *Eclipse Across America* for the streaming network CuriosityStream. Prior to establishing her boutique production and consulting company, B. Creative in 2012, she worked with 1080 Entertainment serving as director of development/supervising producer on a 3D animated series *Jurassic Fight Club*, and well as a number of blue chip specials for the HISTORY Channel. She also developed and co-produced *Easter Island Eclipse*, a "near live" special for National Geographic.

Working as Executive Producer for east coast based Trailblazer Studios she developed and sold the series *It's Easy Being Green* to the Scripps Network, which hosted the last television interview with actor and philanthropist Paul Newman.

Independent features include *Edge of the World*, *Hoovey*, and *Dog Days of the West*, the feature film extension to the award-winning PBS series *Wishbone*.

A natural organizer and networker, Buckley founded Women in Film Dallas and has received the organization's Achievement Award. In 2005 she received a Gracie Award for *Gilda's Place*, a public service announcement she co-wrote and produced for WIFD featuring the voice of Meryl Streep.

A member of the Directors Guild of America.

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Ryan Sultemeier  
Producer

Producer and Editor Ryan Sultemeier has worked in the film industry in various roles since 2015, producing and coordinating web series, PSAs, and Music Videos.

As a DP and editor his work on the short film *I'm Right Here* traveled to the Tokyo Lift Off Global Network Film Festival, the Worldfest Houston Film Festival, the Lost River Film Festival, and more. Also with Director Luis Alcazar, the music video for the band Good's song *Nothing to Say* has screened at the Lost River Film Festival where it won Best Music Video.

Working as a Producer, he produced a PSA and Music Video called *Ode to Living* that brings attention to Suicide, Depression, and Mental Health.

Recently he also finished working on a homepage video for NFP Insurance as a local Producer.

Currently he works as an Editor and Producer developing Documentary Features, Narrative Features, Web Series, and corporate content.

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Jonathan Jackson  
Director of Photography

Jonathan is a photographer, cinematographer, and TV producer based in Austin, Texas. Jonathan divides his time between being the Creative Content Producer for the Austin City Limits television show and working on a myriad of videography and photography projects.

When he is not working on Austin City Limits, he works on many freelance photography and videography projects including music videos, corporate video productions, and music festival video productions. Jonathan has contributed as a cinematographer to *A Song for You: The Austin City Limits Story* (2016) and *Austin City Limits Celebrates 40 Years* (2014) and many other Austin City Limits productions.

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Amy Jackson  
Night Sky Expert & Educator

Amy Paredes Jackson is the founder and director of *Starry Sky Austin*. She loves sharing her passion of the night sky and inspiring others to learn astronomy. She is the author of the children's book *Cassandra and the Night Sky* written to inspire kids and adults to go outside at night and stargaze. In 2017, Amy traveled to Chile to experience the US involvement in astronomy in Chile through the Astronomy in Chile Educator Ambassador Program.

Amy is part of the Hill Country Alliance Night Skies team which works to conserve the dark skies of the Texas Hill Country. She is challenged these days to find space in her home for her 18 telescopes.

Her lifelong dream is to go to space. Jackson lives in Austin, TX with her husband, three daughters and two dogs.

# Donating to the Film

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*The Stars at Night* is being produced by the Environmental Arts Alliance, a 501(c)3 registered non-profit. All donations to the film are tax deductible and would be a tremendous help to the filmmakers as they embark on this journey to help share the night sky.

Our Executive Producer Experience Packages are available by check only. Please send them to:

EAA, inc. % Elizabeth Buckley  
1480 Soaring Eagle Dr.  
Fischer, Tx 78623

The Executive Producer Experience includes:

Stay— at the Far Flung Adventures Big Bend Casitas

Play— Package includes one Far Flung adventure of your choice

Sip— curated cocktails and locally sourced food from Terlingua Cafes

Gaze— Join us for the first hour of production in Big Bend National Park and experience a personalized Star Party with Amy Jackson of Starry Sky Austin

Invest in the future of night sky filmmakers with a tax deductible contribution of \$4000, and bring a friend along with you!

Executive Producer Experience slots are limited availability, three are still open!

If you have any questions or would like more information please contact us at any of the below emails:

- [bbcreative@me.com](mailto:bbcreative@me.com)
- [ryansultemeier@gmail.com](mailto:ryansultemeier@gmail.com)
- [environmentalartsalliance@gmail.com](mailto:environmentalartsalliance@gmail.com)

If you're unavailable to join us as an Executive Producer but would like to make a contribution to the film please follow this link to our GoFundMe. All contributions are tax-deductible.

<https://bit.ly/StarsGoFundMe>

More information about The Stars at Night can be found at [www.thestarsatnight.org](http://www.thestarsatnight.org)