



New York Hall of Science



**Backyard Wilderness 3D**  
**A New Documentary About Exploring the Endless Adventures**  
**That Exist in Our Own Backyard**  
**Now Showing at the New York Hall of Science**

Queens, NY – *Backyard Wilderness*, an Arise Media / Archipelago Films production in collaboration with HHMI Tangled Bank Studios, and released by SK Films, is currently showing daily at the New York Hall of Science (NYSCI) through September 30, 2019. The film arms explorers of all ages with 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 viewers with the unexpected delights of nature that are in our own neighborhoods and communities. Spanning a seasonal year around a suburban home, the film displays a stunning array of unique wildlife imagery and behavior – all captured by cameras mounted inside dens and nests and moving along forest floors and pond bottoms. The film reveals the animal inhabitants in rare and breathtaking detail. We 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.

“We are so excited to share this movie with audiences around the globe,” says SK Films and CEO Wendy MacKeigan. “Not only is the message of the movie important to share, but the beauty of the film and quality filmmaking will be amplified by showing it on the Giant Screen.”

*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 educators with an extensive program to empower families to get outside and observe their wild neighbors. Resources include; an Educators 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.

The 22-minute film will be shown daily at noon and 2 pm in NYSCI’s 3D Theater through September 30, 2019. Tickets for *Backyard Wilderness* cost \$6 for adults, and \$5 for children (ages 2 – 17), students,



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and senior citizens (ages 62 and older), plus NYSCI admission. Discounts are available for NYSCI members and reserved school groups. For more information, visit <https://nysci.org/event/backyard-wilderness-3d> and [www.BackyardWildernessFilm.com](http://www.BackyardWildernessFilm.com).

**About The New York Hall of Science** – The mission of the New York Hall of Science (NYSCI) is to nurture generations of passionate learners, critical thinkers and active citizens through an approach called Design, Make, Play. Design, Make, Play emphasizes open-ended exploration, imaginative learning and personal relevance, resulting in deep engagement and delight in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. NYSCI was founded at the 1964-65 World’s Fair and has evolved into New York’s center for interactive science serving a half million students, teachers and families each year. NYSCI is open Monday – Friday, 9:30 am – 5 pm and weekends, 10 am – 6 pm. General admission is \$16 for adults and \$13 for children (ages 2-17), college students with valid ID, and seniors (62+). For more information, visit [nysci.org](http://nysci.org) or call 718-699-0005. Follow NYSCI on Twitter and Instagram: @nysci, and on Facebook at: [facebook.com/nysci](http://facebook.com/nysci).

#### **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](http://www.archipelagofilms.com), [www.arisemedia.org](http://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](http://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



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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 [www.tangledbankstudios.org](http://www.tangledbankstudios.org). Follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). 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.

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