



## Media Alert

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### **Mississippi Public Broadcasting Wins 2010 Regional Emmy® Award** *MPB programs nominated in three categories*

**(Jackson, Miss.)** – Mississippi Public Broadcasting’s (MPB) *The Gulf Islands: Mississippi’s Wilderness Shore* won a 2010 Southeast Regional Emmy® Award for Outstanding Achievement in Television Crafts Achievement Excellence in the category Photographer – Program (Non-News)/Short Form.

Ryan Bohling, Photographer; Robbie Fisher, Executive Producer; Randy King, Director of Photography; John Lanford, Photographer; and Jay Woods, Chief Operating Officer were all members of the Emmy-winning team.

The documentary, which has been accepted to the Going Green and BLUE Ocean Film Festivals in California, and is airing across the country on public television, showcases the Gulf Islands National Seashore that spans over 160 miles from Okaloosa Island near Ft. Walton, Florida, to Cat Island, Mississippi. The film focuses mainly on the barrier islands in Mississippi – Cat Island, East and West Ship Islands, Horn Island and Petit Bois Island and the Davis Bayou area in Ocean Springs.

“Mississippi Public Broadcasting continues to create cutting edge pieces about our great state,” says MPB Executive Director Judy Lewis. “MPB is thrilled to have been recognized with these nominations and win and will continue the same high quality of programming. I am very proud of our staff that works so hard and truly deserves this high honor.”

“Just being nominated is such an honor,” says *Gulf Islands* Videographer Ryan Bohling, “I am completely blown away by the win. We all had a great time working together on this documentary, the win is just the icing on the cake.”

*The Gulf Islands: Mississippi’s Wilderness Shore* was also nominated for Outstanding Achievement in Television Programming Excellence in the category Documentary – Historical.

MPB’s *Innocent When Proven Guilty* was nominated for Outstanding Achievement in Television Crafts Achievement Excellence in the category Writer – Program (Non-News). Rachel Ford and Jay Woods were nominated for this program.

“Getting to work on such an important story was one of the most rewarding things in my career thus far,” says *Innocent* producer, Rachel Ford, “and getting to see that story listed as a nominee for writing added to that even more.”

*Innocent When Proven Guilty* takes a look at three kind, hard-working men in Mississippi with one thing in common: they spent over a decade in a dark, cramped prison cell for a crime they didn't commit. Kennedy Brewer was on death row, ripped away from his family, and locked away from his entire world. For 15 years he waited, praying for help. In 2008 help finally came. We see their stories from being arrested, to the years in jail, and finally being saved by the Innocence Project and reunited with their families. Who is to blame and how many others were innocent when proven guilty?

The Southeast Regional Emmy® Awards are given by the Nation Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. This chapter is based in Atlanta, but serves Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Asheville, North Carolina.

The Southeast Chapter of The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences held their black-tie ceremony Saturday, June 26 in Atlanta, Georgia. Actor Mike Pniewski hosted the event. *The Gulf Islands: Mississippi's Wilderness Shore* will air on Thursday, July 1 at 8:00 p.m. and again on Saturday, July 3 at 3:30 p.m. on MPB.

For more information regarding *The Gulf Islands: Mississippi's Wilderness Shore*, *Innocent When Proven Guilty*, or other programs on MPB, visit [www.mpbonline.org](http://www.mpbonline.org).

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**Mississippi Public Broadcasting (MPB)** provides relevant instructional and public programming to Mississippians through its statewide television and radio network. MPB enhances the work of educators, students, parents and learners of all ages through quality programs, resources and services that educate, entertain and enlighten. Children's programs constitute a major portion of the daytime and weekend morning schedules. Since 1970, MPB has won over 350 national and regional awards, including Emmys and Parents' Choice Awards, for its productions.