

## Lead Team of Explorers

### **Sue Ellen McCann, Executive Producer**

Sue Ellen joined KQED Public Broadcasting in 1999 and is the Executive Producer for numerous documentaries and programs at KQED. She first became interested in science and the environment in her 7th grade biology class and on her first job as an after school lab assistant. Currently, Sue Ellen acts as the Executive Producer for *QUEST* and *Truly CA*, a documentary series of eclectic stories about California. Many of the programs she has worked on have been honored with a variety of awards, including an Academy Award nomination, and local and national Emmys. Prior to working at KQED, Sue Ellen operated Studio Miramar, an independent production company with her husband, and at the Center for Investigative Reporting where she worked on documentaries for PBS. She is a distinguished alumna of Sonoma State University where she graduated with a BA in Liberal Studies and she received a MA from the San Francisco Art Institute.

### **Paul Rogers, Managing Editor**

Paul Rogers is the Natural Resources & Environment Writer at the *San Jose Mercury News*. A reporter at the paper since 1989, he covers issues including logging, ocean issues, air pollution, water pollution, energy, water policy, recycling, endangered species, toxics, global warming and other issues. Paul was part of the *Mercury News* team that won a Pulitzer Prize in 1990 for coverage of the Loma Prieta earthquake. His work has appeared in the *Washington Post*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Seattle Times* and other newspapers. Paul has taught environmental journalism at the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism, and he currently is in his seventh year teaching science writing at the UC Santa Cruz Science Communication Program. In addition, he serves as Chairman of the Board of the Institutes of Journalism and Natural Resources, a non-profit group based in Montana that provides training to reporters to improve the depth, balance, and accuracy of environmental journalism. He lives in Santa Cruz, with his wife, Leigh Poitinger.

### **Andrea Kissack, Radio Senior Editor**

Andrea was born in Los Angeles and discovered radio news through listening to her college radio station. With a curious mind and a love for telling stories, she set off for Tampa where she landed her first job as a reporter for Florida Public Radio. After three years reporting in an unbearably humid climate and a brief stint as a miscast opera reporter, Andrea returned to L.A. to work for public radio, then for television news and finally as a reporter for CBS radio. Andrea has been at KQED for over eight years, working first as a producer for *Forum*, and then as the senior producer for *The California Report*. Most recently she produced *Health Dialogues* and other projects. She is now the Senior Editor for *QUEST* radio and narrates the *QUEST* television program. Andrea says she feels lucky to cover emerging science and environmental trends in a place where geek is chic.

### **Josh Rosen, TV Series Producer**

Josh Rosen is a senior writer and producer specializing in documentary series and factual programming. Over the last decade, he has produced a wide range of programs, covering everything from Antarctic expeditions to Civil War history. With a background in feature film, Josh spent four years working with legendary German filmmaker Werner Herzog on multiple documentaries, including the Emmy-nominated *Little Dieter Needs to Fly*, *Wings of Hope*, and *Klaus Kinski: My Best Fiend*. His more recent projects are currently airing on the Discovery Channel, the National Geographic Channel, the History Channel, and worldwide through Granada Media and RDF Television.

**Craig Rosa, Interactive Web Producer**

Craig is responsible for the integration of traditional and web-based media across all *QUEST* platforms, as well as ongoing production of web-only content features. Prior to joining KQED in October of 2006, he spent 11 years with The Tech Museum of Innovation in San Jose, where he worked to create innovative educational visitor experiences online and within the museum space. He was also responsible for the museum's Information Services operations. He began his informal science interpretation career at the Brooklyn Children's Museum as an Assistant Exhibit Developer and Greenhouse Program Coordinator. Craig has a B.A. in World Arts and Cultures from UCLA, and an M.A. in Performance Studies from New York University.

**Jessica Neely, Project Supervisor, Science Education**

Jessica Neely, an Oakland native, joined KQED in 2004 for the R&D and pilot phases of *QUEST*. She is a graduate from UC Davis with a Bachelors of Science in Evolution and Ecology and holds a single subject teaching credential in Biology and General Science from Mills College. She began her career at the Sacramento Zoo in educational programming and outreach. She then taught high school science at San Lorenzo High School for four years where for three years she was the Science Department Chair. Jessica ran the national educational outreach for the first season of *Jean Michel Cousteau: Ocean Adventures* in 2006 and returned to *QUEST* as the science education guru.

**Sandy Schonning, Business Manager**

Sandy is a native of St Paul Minnesota, where she worked in television production for many years. Five years ago, she wised up and fled Minnesota winters for sunny California. Her first stop was the Los Angeles area, where she worked such diverse jobs as reality television production manager, horseback riding instructor, science television producer and sailboat deck hand. She then moved to San Francisco to pursue her twin passions of public television and raising science awareness through the media. When not making the world safe for public television, Sandy can be found sailing, repairing, and generally obsessing over her boat, *Polaris*, a *Tayana 37*.

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