MUTED
CLIMATE MARGINALIZATION IN AMERICA

Media Kit

All Rights Reserved 2024
Table of Contents

03 Film Synopsis
04 About I-DIEM
05 Production Team Bios
06 Muted Participants
07 Press Release
08 FAQs
10 Acknowledgements
Film Synopsis

MUTED: Climate Marginalization in America

"Muted" takes viewers on an extraordinary journey through the Deep South, where generations of local knowledge, history, and culture are threatened by climate change. This thought-provoking documentary explores the untold truths, hidden pain, and unshakeable fear that haunts rural, underserved people in communities across America. As their future looms in uncertainty, people from communities that have never been trusted, acknowledged, or respected fight to be heard in the climate resilience space.

From learning to live and thrive in the face of repeated disasters to reconciling the racism that makes certain people more expendable, "Muted" delves deep into the narratives that define who we are and where we are heading. Through breathtaking visuals, expert interviews, and personal accounts, we unveil the remarkable tapestry of human achievement, resilience, and discovery.

Key Themes:
- Climate Change: An increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events has devastating impacts on communities and ecosystems.
- Exclusive Resilience: View exclusionary practices that keep communities more vulnerable.
- Cultural Diversity: Celebrate the richness of human traditions and stories.
- Environmental Challenges: Address urgent global issues and explore sustainable solutions.
- Personal Journeys: Hear from individuals whose lives have been profoundly impacted by their discoveries and experiences.
About I-DIEM

Our Philosophy for Change

The Institute is comprised of multidisciplinary educators, researchers, trainers, leaders and experts in social equity and emergency management. I-DIEM helps organizations create equitable policies and systems. We assist individuals and organizations in developing tools to change negative institutional constructs and increase equity. Our philosophy for change intersects five basic strategies:

1. Awareness and Education
2. Research and Policy
3. Open Dialogue
4. Capacity Building
5. Institutional Change

Our Approach

I-DIEM’s approach leverages diversity, inclusion, and equitable practices to build community resilience and improve disaster outcomes, especially for the most disadvantaged individuals and communities.

Our holistic approach recognizes the value of the diverse attributes of each individual and community while understanding that historic and existing inequities creates barriers that limits the ability to prepare for, mitigate against, respond to, and recover from disasters. We use an innovative, data-driven, and an inclusive approach that integrates diversity, inclusion, and equity into each aspect of the emergency management decision-making process.

Our in-depth research and years of experience in equitable emergency management practices provides government, non-profit, and private sector leaders with the tools needed to sustainably advance community resilience-building goals with measurable results. We use social vulnerability assessments, focus groups, interviews, and modeling and simulation to equip leaders with timely information to equitably guide every decision. Our approach empowers communities to fully unleash the power of diversity, inclusion, and equity to build resilience and recover stronger after disasters strike.
Greg Padgett, Padgett Productions
Managing Producer, Photography, Writer

Greg Padgett, the Managing Producer, Writer, and Photographer for “Muted,” has a wealth of experience as a seasoned journalist, storyteller, strategic communicator, and climate justice advocate. As the owner of Padgett Productions, he leverages his extensive background in storytelling to produce impactful projects that resonate with impact and authenticity.

Mr. Padgett’s distinguished broadcasting career boasts roles with renowned entities such as the Weather Channel and various TV stations in Augusta, West Palm Beach, Norfolk, Savannah, and Knoxville. He garnered national recognition in 2000 when he received the National Weather Association’s (NWA) National Broadcaster of the Year Award.

Chauncia Willis, I-DIEM
Executive Producer

Chauncia Willis stands at the forefront of innovative and inclusive emergency management as the CEO and Co-founder of the Institute for Diversity and Inclusion in Emergency Management (I-DIEM). As the visionary behind the impactful documentary “Muted,” Chauncia served as the Executive Producer, guiding the project to spotlight the diverse narratives surrounding climate change impacts.

Travis Henry
Director, Photography, Editor

Travis Henry is a New Orleans born and based Director and Cinematographer producing works through the production studio, Seidist. He has filmed across America and abroad, worked on major motion pictures and with major brands, artists, actors, heads of state, celebrities and musicians. Travis specializes in bringing stories to life by creating content with depth, spirit, and purpose.
Muted
Key Participants

Ben Schott, NWS
Ben Schott, NWS
Congressman Bennie Thompson
Congressman Troy Carter
Casey Tingle GOHSEP
Jodi Pracht, IEM
Mayor Alvin Hodo Falcon, MS
Fredrick Randle Leflore Co. EMA
Robert Collins, Leflore County
Chief Devon Parfait
Dr. Jessica Murphy Jackson State
Dr. Dawn McLin Jackson State
Donald and Theresa Dardar
Mayor Eldridge Walker, Rolling Fork
Reginald Moore Leflore County
Calvin Collins, New Zion Baptist Church
Stacy Jones, Falcon MS
Elder Chief Shirell Parfait-Darder

Full size versions of these images are available on the Muted online media resource page [here](#).
Institute for Diversity and Inclusion in Emergency Management (I-DIEM) Presents the Groundbreaking Documentary "Muted: Climate Marginalization in America" Premiering January 25th


"Muted" takes viewers on an extraordinary journey through the Deep South, uncovering the profound impact of climate change on generations of local knowledge, history, and culture. This thought-provoking documentary explores the untold truths, hidden pain, and unshakeable fear that haunt rural, underserved communities across America. As their future hangs in uncertainty, individuals from marginalized communities fight to be heard in the climate resilience space.

From navigating life in the face of repeated disasters to addressing the systemic racism that makes certain populations more expendable, "Muted" delves deep into the narratives that shape our collective identity and future. Through breathtaking visuals, expert interviews, and personal accounts, the documentary unveils the remarkable tapestry of human achievement, resilience, and discovery.

Key Themes of this film include:

- Climate Change: Examining the devastating impacts of an increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events on communities and ecosystems.
- Exclusive Resilience: Illuminating exclusionary practices that leave communities more vulnerable to the effects of climate change.
- Cultural Diversity: Celebrating the richness of human traditions and stories that are under threat.
- Environmental Challenges: Addressing urgent global issues and exploring sustainable solutions.
- Personal Journeys: Hearing from individuals whose lives have been profoundly impacted by their discoveries and experiences.

"We are thrilled to present ‘Muted: Climate Marginalization in America’ as a testament to the resilience of communities often overlooked in the climate resilience conversation. This documentary not only uncovers the harsh realities these communities face but also celebrates their strength, culture, and determination," said Chauncie Willis, CEO and Co-Founder at I-DIEM. This film was made possible by a grant from the Walmart Foundation.

Release Information:
Title: Muted: Climate Marginalization in America
Release Date: January 25, 2024
Streaming Platform: www.i-diem.org/muted

To learn more about "Muted" and to stay updated on additional content and a behind-the-scenes glimpse into the making of the documentary, follow I-DIEM on social media (@I_DIEM) and use the hashtag #WeAreMuted.

To support promoting the film, I-DIEM will be coordinating exclusive showings and appearances with members of the production team at selected Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), with Tribal groups, and at other events including the 2024 National Hurricane Conference. To request a showing please contact Greg Padgett at Greg.Padgett@I-DIEM.org.

About the Institute for Diversity and Inclusion in Emergency Management
The Institute for Diversity and Inclusion in Emergency Management is a 501(c)3, global non-profit organization established to facilitate change by integrating equity into all aspects of emergency management. Our focus is on humanity, and our vision supports the empowerment of marginalized communities within all phases of the disaster management cycle. Learn more at www.i-diem.org.

###
I-DIEM’s GROUNDBREAKING DOCUMENTARY HONORED WITH MULTIPLE AWARDS FROM THE 45TH ANNUAL TELLY AWARDS

MUTED: Climate Marginalization in America Receives a GOLD and Two SILVER Telly Awards

Tampa, Florida (May 22, 2024) – The Institute for Diversity and Inclusion in Emergency Management (I-DIEM) announced today its groundbreaking documentary has received top honors with a GOLD Telly Award in the Social Impact (Non-Broadcast) Category for its film highlighting the impacts of climate change, extreme weather, and historical bias on marginalized communities along the Gulf Coast. "MUTED" also received a Silver Telly Award in the Diversity Equity and Inclusion Category and a SILVER Telly Award in the Documentary-Long Form (Non-Broadcast) Category from the record-breaking 45th Annual Telly Awards.

The Telly Awards honors excellence in video and television across all screens and is judged by leaders from video platforms, television, streaming networks, and production companies. This year’s other winners include Adobe, Calvin Klein, ESPN, LinkedIn, Mother Jones, MTV Entertainment Studios, NASA, the LA Clippers (NBA), PlayStation Studios, Sawhorse Productions, TelevisaUnivision, and more.

"MUTED" takes viewers on an extraordinary journey through the Deep South, where generations of local knowledge, history, and culture are threatened by climate change. This thought-provoking documentary explores the untold truths, hidden pain, and unshakeable fear that haunts rural, underserved people in communities across America. The film highlights the challenges and resilience of Indigenous groups and communities of color recovering from recent disasters and systemic and poor infrastructure issues.

"Receiving these prestigious awards for 'MUTED' is not only a great honor but also a significant recognition of the stories and struggles of marginalized communities affected by climate change. This film brings to light the critical issues faced by these communities and underscores our commitment to advocating for climate justice and equity," said Chauncia Willis, CEO and Founder of I-DIEM. "We are incredibly proud of the impact 'MUTED' has made and are grateful for the opportunity to share these powerful narratives with a wider audience."
What is the focus of "Muted: Climate Marginalization in America"?
"Muted" explores the intersection of climate change and marginalized communities in America. It delves into the unique challenges faced by these communities and aims to shed light on their experiences. From learning to live and thrive in the face of repeated disasters to reconciling the racism that makes certain people more expendable, "Muted" delves deep into the narratives that define who we are and where we are heading. Through breathtaking visuals, expert interviews, and personal accounts, we unveil the remarkable tapestry of human achievement, resilience, and discovery.

When is the film scheduled to debut? And where I can watch the film?
The film debuted on January 25th and is available at www.I-DIEM.org/Muted

Who are the key figures involved in the production of "Muted"?
"Muted" is the first film produced and released by the Institute for Diversity and Inclusion in Emergency Management (I-DIEM) in partnership with Padgett Productions and Film Director Travis Henry. Please see page 5 for brief bios of key production team members.

What is the mission of I-DIEM, and how does it relate to the themes of the film?
I-DIEM is dedicated to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in emergency management. The film aligns with I-DIEM's mission by highlighting the disproportionate impacts of climate change on marginalized communities.

How does the film address issues of climate justice and equity?
"Muted" addresses climate justice by examining how climate change exacerbates existing social inequalities. It underscores the importance of equitable solutions to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of a changing climate.

What specific communities or individuals are featured in the film?
"Muted" features real stories from representatives of diverse groups including Tribal communities in the Louisiana Bayou region and communities of color in Mississippi’s Delta region. Their perspectives provide a glimpse into how they've been marginalized and often not heard in climate discussions.

Will there be opportunities for Q&A sessions with the filmmakers or experts after the film’s release?
Members of the production team are available for individual or group interviews upon request.

How can viewers support the mission of the film and those groups highlighted in the film?
Viewers can follow I-DIEM’s commitment to addressing the issues facing the groups featured in Muted by following I-DIEM’s social channels and the hashtag #WeAreMuted.
I-DIEM wishes do thank the following contributors to this film for their support.

Grand Caillou/Dulac Band of Biloxi-Chitimacha-Choctaw Tribe
Pointe Au Chien Tribe
City of Rolling Fork, MS
City of Falcon, MS
City of Greenwood, MS
WAPT TV, Jackson Mississippi
Mississippi Emergency Management Agency
Louisiana Governor’s Office of Homeland Security
Jackson State University
Congressman Bennie Thompson’s staff
Congressman Troy Carter’s staff