In the summer of 2008, when a government agency rules that the derided LA River is not worthy of environmental protection, writer and avid boater George Wolfe organizes an expedition to paddle the river’s entire 51 miles through the heart of LA. With a band of ragtag locals, he helps beat back a challenge to the Clean Water Act, and he wages a local battle with national significance.

Used, abused and forgotten, the LA River is now at the center of a hugely ambitious vision to transform this concrete metropolis into a more sustainable model city for the 21st century. This film tells the incredible story of the expedition, the story of the embattled waterway, and the story of Los Angeles’ past, present and potential future.

Tuesday, February 11, 7pm
Betts Auditorium, School of Architecture

The story of a river locked in concrete: 2008. USA. Film by Thea Mercouffer. 54 min. Screening and conversation with Linda Cox and Jenny Price.

http://www.rocktheboatfilm.com/

“George Wolfe’s simple act of boating on the LA River becomes a political movement. This film tells the story with wit and aplomb.”
– Wild & Scenic Film Festival

“Rock the Boat looks at the river’s past years of neglect and mismanagement, and at its very real dream of a future, with an optimistic heart and a realistic eye.”
– Richard Pearce, co-producer

“People's Choice Award, Wild & Scenic Film Festival
ISLA Earth Award, Catalina Film Festival Best Feature Film, FILManthropy Film


Linda R. Cox is Executive Director of the Bronx River Alliance and Bronx River Administrator for the NYC Department of Parks & Recreation. Prior to joining the Alliance and Parks Department in 2002, Linda directed the Urban Parks Program as Program Officer for the Lila Wallace-Reader’s Digest Fund. She previously served as Director of the Planning Center, the community assistance arm of the Municipal Art Society; Director of Community-Based Planning for the NYC Department of City Planning; and Planning Manager for the City of Gainesville, Florida.

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