## Women in Conservation

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Staff May 22, 2025



The Women in Conservation event inspires community engagement and elevate the voices of women. **COURTESY PHOTO** 

Friends of Manatee Lagoon, in partnership with The Everglades Foundation, are spotlighting the powerful intersection of environmental storytelling and female leadership in film.

At this year's Women in Conservation breakfast, themed "The Art of Storytelling," two award-winning women from the local community shared their experiences of the transformative role of visual storytelling in promoting environmental awareness.

Begoñe Cazalis, communications director at The Everglades Foundation, is the creator of "Everglades Stories From Across the Watershed," a compelling series recently earning a Suncoast Regional EMMY Award for Public Affairs—Series. Her work amplifies voices across South Florida's watershed and reflects a career dedicated to environmental advocacy, journalism, and government relations.

Alexa Elliott, senior manager of science and environmental content at South Florida PBS, created PBS's "Changing Seas." She offered insights from nearly two decades of documenting marine science. Her production work has received regional Emmy Awards,

an Edward R. Murrow Award, and the National Academy of Sciences Communication Award. Her storytelling continues to highlight critical issues facing our oceans and coastal communities.

The annual Women in Conservation event and partnership continue to inspire community engagement and elevate the voices of women leading the charge for a more sustainable future. |