



NJN Public Television and Radio

Louis J. Presti

Senior Producer, NJN Film Department

Lou Presti Documentaries

Bayshore Artists

Classical Caravan

Crossroads to Victory

Deer Crossing

Down Jersey

In the Barnegat Bay Tradition

Yankee Doodles Odyssey

It Figures series

Jersey Gold, The Return of the

Striped Bass

La Festa

Legacy in Gold – the State

House

Lighthouse: Eye of the Mariner

My Pinebarrens Land

On the Run

Schooners on the Bay

Sea Bright Skiff

*Survival of the Species: A Matter
of Habitat*

The 11th Year

The Berg: A State of Mind

The Every Child Can Succeed

series

The Great American Eating

Machine series

The Superchiefs Go to Ireland

The World of the American

Craftsmen series

Touring New Jersey

You, Me and Technology series

Senior producer/director Lou Presti has been with New Jersey Network since its early days in 1970 as head of the network's motion picture unit. Since that time, Presti has been making compelling films about New Jersey's beautiful natural landscapes and resources as well as the different communities that make up the Garden State. He became senior producer/director in 1974.

During his tenure at NJN, Presti and his team have documented New Jersey like few others before them, exploring New Jersey's remote regions from the mountains of the northwest to the serenity of the Delaware Bayshore.

Presti has earned numerous awards and recognition in his more than 33 years with the Network. Most recently, he received The Cincinnati History Prize in recognition of his work in television by the Society of the Cincinnati of New Jersey. He also received the William Dwyer Award for History, recognizing his career commitment to bringing New Jersey history to the television screen.

In 1984, Presti and his team earned NJN's first Emmy Awards for *In the Barnegat Bay Tradition*, a documentary about the folk traditions of duck decoy carving and sneakbox boating. That film was the first in an acclaimed trilogy on New Jersey boating that included *Sea Bright Skiff* and *Schooners on the Bay*.

Other Emmy Award-winning programs produced by Presti include *On the Run*, a look at runaway children; *You, Me and Technology*, a series of thirteen instructional programs focusing on man and technology; and *Survival of Species: A Matter of Habitat*, which examines the resurgence of the osprey, the falcon and the eagle in New Jersey.

Presti also produced the acclaimed documentary, *My Pine Barrens Land*, a compelling portrait of the New Jersey Pinelands funded by the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation. The film was distributed nationally

and internationally and is one of NJN's most widely distributed productions.

Presti has also produced many NJN productions that serve the educational needs of New Jersey students. He has produced four films in the *New Jersey Legacy* series, which explore the history of New Jersey's past; as well as NJN's *Around and About New Jersey* series, which consists of eight short programs that educate students about New Jersey's different regions.

Presti also produced the Emmy-Award winning *Bear Country, New Jersey*, which focuses on the state's growing black bear population; and *La Festa*, which looks at the Italian-American street festivals still in place in Trenton and Brooklyn. Both programs aired in 1996 and were distributed nationally and internationally to PBS stations through American Program Service. In 1997, Presti produced *Down Jersey*, which explores South Jersey's historic Delaware Bayshore.

Other Presti productions that have been distributed nationally include *the Every Child Can Succeed* series; *The Great American Eating Machine* series; *It Figures* series; *You Me and Theology* series; *the World of the American Craftsmen* series; *Lighthouse: Eye of the Mariner*; *Crossroads to Victory*; *The Superchiefs Go to Ireland*; *Deer Crossing*; *The 11th Year*; *The Berg: A State of Mind*; *In the Barnegat Bay Tradition*; *Yankee Doodles Odyssey*; *Classical Caravan*; *My Pinebarrens Land* and *Touring New Jersey*.

Presti is a graduate of the University of Miami, where he earned an A.B. degree in radio, television and motion pictures. Prior to his tenure at NJN, Presti was a TV film instructor with the University of New Hampshire, and had produced films independently.