



 NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC **LIVE**

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**EXPLORERS
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Doug Flaig, Helen Timmons, Dave Taylor, & Janine LaBossiere at an Explorers Circle Reception. © Will Young

“I love that Art Commons brings events like the Nat Geo Live series to Calgary. Bringing the explorers into town is a great way to get information out, spread excitement and hopefully encourage more local exploration.”



Andrew Petti with daughter at an Explorers Circle Event. ©Will Young

Andrew Petti, Associate Explorers Circle Member



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EXPLORERS CIRCLE

THE POWER TO CHANGE THE WORLD IS LITERALLY IN OUR HANDS!

Membership in Arts Commons' Explorers Circle program supports the critical research, exploration, conservation, and education programs of National Geographic and the presentation of Calgary's distinguished speaker series **National Geographic Live.**

National Geographic Live features an international community of Explorers: leading scientists, educators, conservationists, technologists, storytellers, film makers, and photographers that drive new knowledge, advance innovative solutions, and inspire positive transformative change.

With our future at stake, National Geographic and Arts Commons are focused on the guardians of that future: our children. Our National Geographic Live student matinee program gives teachers the tools they need to engage kids of all ages, revealing our interconnected world, and inspiring new generations of citizens.

Please join us on our journey that embraces the power of science, exploration, education, and storytelling to illuminate and protect the wonder of our world.

"If it hadn't been for me attending a similar presentation when I was a kid, I never would have discovered my passion for natural science. I'm so happy to help today's scientists inspire the experts of tomorrow through Explorers Circle."

*Derrick Finney,
Explorers Circle Member*



Sandra & Simon Barker with Explorer Tracy Drain. ©Will Young



National Geographic Explorer Jasper Doest & Derrick Finney. ©Will Young

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artscommons.ca/explorerscircle



National Geographic Explorer Bryan Skerry & Vanessa Arrate. ©Will Young



Students attending a National Geographic Live Student Matinee with NASA Aerospace Engineer Tracy Drain. ©Kiani Evans

We are grateful to the following members of Explorers Circle that help Arts Commons present National Geographic Live, which offers unparalleled content and inspiration for student and public audiences.

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Anonymous, *Wild Cats Revealed*
by Wildlife Photographer
Sandesh Kadur

Anonymous, *Life on Thin Ice*
by Photographer Kiliii Yüyan

Doug Flaig & Helen Timmons,
T. rex Rises by Paleontologist
Dr. Lindsay Zanno

Ken Havard, *Wild Cats Revealed*
by Wildlife Photographer
Sandesh Kadur

Joel Lipkind & Sally Sprague-
Lipkind, *From Summit to Sea*
by Photographer & Filmmaker
Andy Mann

Nyssa & Jordan Moore,
Life on Thin Ice by Photographer
Kiliii Yüyan

Prairie Crocus Foundation,
T. rex Rises by Paleontologist
Dr. Lindsay Zanno

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To inquire about becoming a member of Explorers Circle, please contact Meaghan Underhill at 403-294-7497 or munderhill@artscommons.ca.

Acknowledgements are current as of print date. Any errors or omissions are purely accidental. Please advise of any changes or updates to your information.

1ST RECEPTION

Explorer: **Andy Mann** – Filmmaker & Photographer
From Summit to Sea
 Location: Jack Singer Concert Hall, Founders Room
 Dates: Sunday, November 19, 2023 – 1:00 pm
 Monday, November 20, 2023 – 5:30 pm

“[There’s] an element of humanity within an image that someone relates to. They put themselves there for a moment. We need to be able to imagine ourselves living in harmony with wildlife and a healthy planet. We need to envision ourselves there.” - Andy Mann

Award-winning filmmaker and photographer Andy Mann’s journey from rock climber to ocean storyteller involves some remarkable detours and misadventures that prove that field science can be every bit as thrilling as the climbing adventures of his past. He has dived alongside crocodiles, sperm whales, and sharks and survived near misses with icebergs, all in pursuit of his ultimate goal: to shed light on Earth’s incredible ocean environments and advocate for their protection. He now spends over 100 days a year at sea, documenting cutting-edge marine science and telling the story of our rapidly changing planet.

2ND RECEPTION

Explorer: **Sandesh Kadur** – Wildlife Photographer
Wild Cats Revealed
 Location: Jack Singer Concert Hall, Founders Room
 Dates: Sunday, January 28, 2024 – 1:00 pm
 Monday, January 29, 2024 – 5:30 pm

“Conservation photography lies at the very heart of what I do. A lot of times a conservation photograph is ‘not’ a pretty picture ... But that, to me, is really the story I want to tell. It’s a photograph that can change people’s perception, attitude or behaviour, and that is the most important purpose.” - Sandesh Kadur

With landscapes spanning the towering Himalaya, arid plains, and dense jungles, India is home to an unmatched diversity of wild cats. While many of the big cats are well known and documented, photographer and filmmaker Sandesh Kadur is on a mission to thoroughly highlight the country’s lesser known felines in order to protect their future. Discover the tiny, grumpy-faced Pallas’s cat, the fishing cat that jumps into water to catch its prey, and the ancient, elusive clouded leopard. Through Kadur’s captivating images and video, you’ll look at a world of wild cats you’ve never seen before.



©Andy Mann



©Andy Mann



©Sandesh Kadur



©Kostaden Luchansky



Dr. Lindsay Zanno ©Mark Thiessen



Dr. Lindsay Zanno ©Mark Thiessen



©Kiliii Yüyan

©Kiliii Yüyan



3RD RECEPTION

Explorer: **Dr. Lindsay Zanno** – Paleontologist
T. rex Rises
Location: Jack Singer Concert Hall, Founders Room
Dates: Sunday, March 10, 2024 – 1:00 pm
Monday, March 11, 2024 – 5:30 pm

“To my mind, fossils are the epitome of antiquity. Fossils illuminate a foreign world almost beyond human comprehension, yet incredibly accessible. You can stand where a tyrannosaur once stood, you can hold a dromaeosaur tooth that ripped the flesh of an unfortunate victim, and you never know what lies around the next hill waiting to be discovered.” – Dr. Lindsay Zanno

How did T. rex become the iconic apex predator of North America 67 million years ago? Paleontologist Dr. Lindsay Zanno is uncovering the answer. Each year she spends several months on expedition, scouring the badlands of western North America in search of clues. Along the way, she has discovered many new species—including some of the earliest predecessors of T. rex. Join Lindsay for a fascinating look at how a global climate crisis during the Cretaceous changed the course of evolution for this prehistoric tyrant and its ancestors.

4TH RECEPTION

Explorer: **Kiliii Yüyan** – Photographer
Life on Thin Ice
Location: Jack Singer Concert Hall, Founders Room
Dates: Sunday, May 26, 2024 – 1:00 pm
Monday, May 27, 2024 – 5:30 pm

“I love going to different places and seeing the particular strain of how people have figured out how to live with that land. The land dictates how cultures develop and then their subsequent stories. In a way, a lot of these stories that I work on are relevant, contemporary looks at cultures and places that are really timeless.” – Kiliii Yüyan

In the Arctic, Sea Ice is synonymous with the sand in the desert. The ice is vital for transportation, for food, for living. And while the temperatures seem inhumane, the Arctic is teeming with life. Indigenous tribes call this frosty land home, but they're not alone. Polar bears, musk ox, whales, and caribou are some of the arctic animals co-existing with more than 40 different ethnic groups in the north. Through beautiful images and awe-inspiring moments, National Geographic Live takes you on a journey with our first Indigenous speaker Kiliii Yüyan to understand the native people and their relationship to a frigid land and its animals.

EXPLORERS CIRCLE DINNER

Explorer: **Andy Mann** – Filmmaker & Photographer
Location: Stay tuned!
Date: Saturday, November 18, 2023 – 6:30 pm

In recognition of your commitment to a planet in balance and to the success of Arts Commons Presents' National Geographic Live speaker series, we invite you to join Andy Mann and your fellow Explorers for a sumptuous dining experience. Please note that the Explorers Circle Dinner is open to Explorer level members only.

EXPLORERS CIRCLE (EC) MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

	FRIEND \$100 to 299	ASSOCIATE EXPLORER \$300	EXPLORER \$1,200	TRAILBLAZER \$5,000	ENGAGEMENT SPONSOR \$10,000
<i>Official receipt for tax purposes pursuant to Canada Revenue Agency regulations</i>	Donation Amount	Donation less \$50	Donation less \$200	<p>Trailblazers and Engagement Sponsors receive an official receipt for tax purposes less the value of a customized package of benefits that is created in consultation with the donor.</p> <p>For more information, please call our Development Officer Meaghan Underhill at 403-294-7497, or munderhill@artsccommons.ca</p>	
<i>Advance notification of the 2024-25 Season of National Geographic Live</i>	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Grateful acknowledgment of your name on the Arts Commons website</i>	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Grateful acknowledgment of your name on the Honour Wall in the lobby of the Jack Singer Concert Hall throughout the 2023-24 Season</i>	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Grateful acknowledgment of your name in Arts Commons 2023-24 Report to the Community</i>	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Concierge Services through the Development Office – Priority Seating for the 2023-24 Season of National Geographic Live</i>		✓	✓		
<i>Exclusive access to attend an Explorers Circle Reception to meet the Explorer of your choice and enjoy complimentary bar & beverage service in the Founders Room</i>		One EC Reception of your choice	All Four EC Receptions		
<i>An autographed memento from this Season's Explorers</i>		Autographed gift	Autographed gift		
<i>Grateful acknowledgment of your name on the screen in the Jack Singer Concert Hall prior to all National Geographic Live presentations</i>		✓	✓		
<i>An official National Geographic Yellow Border pin</i>			✓		
<i>Join Explorer Andy Mann for a sumptuous three-course Explorers Circle Dinner on Saturday, November 18, 2023</i>			✓		

Membership is for a 12-month period; benefits are provided throughout that period.

Make your membership go further!

All contributions to Explorers Circle will be matched up to 50% through Shaw Birdies for Kids presented by AltaLink!

Join the Circle
artscommons.ca/explorerscircle



Jack Singer Concert Hall lobby during Tracy Drain: Giants of our Solar System. © Will Young

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“To support Arts Commons is to support a hopeful future for everyone. I feel really lucky to be involved in the Explorers Circle. I wish more people knew just how wonderful it is and how it does make you care about the world.”

Nyssa Moore, Engagement Sponsor



Nyssa, Jordan & Jane Moore. ©Will Young



*Founded on a vision,
built for the community,
and supported by you!*

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Cover photo, *Top*: National Geographic Explorer Andy Mann ©Andy Mann.

Cover photo, *Center*: National Geographic Explorer Jasper Doest
with Maureen Armitage & Shane Matthews. ©Will Young.

Cover photo, *Bottom*: Clouded Leopard in tree in Mizoram ©Sandesh Kadur.

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