



## MESA ARTS CENTER

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **2022-2023 National Geographic Live Speaker Series Season Subscriptions and Renewals on Sale Now**

Mesa, AZ– **Mesa Arts Center** is thrilled to announce the **2022-2023 [National Geographic Live Speaker Series](#)**. Beginning October 19, and running through April 12, 2023, the series offers audiences some of National Geographic’s most dynamic and entertaining explorers on-stage. Each unique event will feature stunning imagery, gripping footage and first-person stories. Audiences will be delighted by the adventures and discoveries of world-renowned scientists, authors, filmmakers, conservationists and adventurers.

Spanning multiple disciplines and fields, including archaeology, marine biology, anthropology, paleontology and climbing, the months-long seasonal series begins with a moving presentation from Diana Magaloni-Kerpel, Art Historian & Microarchaeologist. Magaloni-Kerpel will explore Mexico and the historic findings of the Olmec heads and the captivating life in Chichen Itza. The stories then continue and will take you on cascading journeys around the globe from earth, wind, and water.

“The National Geographic Live speaker series is a favorite with our audience,” said Randy Vogel, Director of Theaters at Mesa Arts Center. “National Geographic Live continues to make the world around us more accessible with leading explorers and storytellers sharing their experiences of resilience, bravery and ingenuity.”

“For more than 15 years we have brought to life exhilarating stories that inspire curiosity and captivate our guests at Mesa Arts Center, and we are thrilled to be partnering for another celebrated season of programming,” said Timo Gorner, Vice President of Disney Institute and National Geographic Live. “Our strong connection has provided engaging and stimulating conversations on stage for over a decade, and we’re excited that we’re able to continue to share our wonderful presentations.”

Season subscription package pricing starts at \$100. Renewals and new subscriptions to the series are on sale now at [mesaartscenter.com/natgeolive](https://mesaartscenter.com/natgeolive) or by calling the Mesa Arts Center box office during business hours at (480) 644-6520.

### **Mesoamerica Illuminated**

**Diana Magaloni-Kerpel | Art Historian & Microarchaeologist**

Wed. Oct 9, 2022, | 7:30 PM

Discover how the iconic Olmec heads of Mexico were created, explore the true meaning behind the imposing Teotihuacan pyramids, and get a peek into the culture and daily life in the Mayan city of Chichen Itza. Art historian and microarchaeologist Dr. Diana Magaloni-Kerpel uncovers millennia-old murals and sculptures throughout Mexico and Central America—then studies them to understand what their colors, textures, and techniques reveal about these ancient cultures. Join her as she brings ancient Mesoamerican civilizations to life in a way you've never seen before.

### **From Shallows to Seafloor**

**Diva Amon | Marine Biologist**

Wed. Nov 16, 2022, | 7:30 PM

Marine biologist Diva Amon's research on unusual deep-sea habitats and species has taken her to extraordinary depths in some of the remotest parts of the planet. Dive in with her to get to know the fascinating creatures in each unique layer of Earth's massive underwater habitat—from the familiar sea creatures near the surface to their otherworldly, alien-like cousins that wander the ocean floor. She'll share stories from her work in the Caribbean, the Pacific, and beyond, along with images that shine a light on this vast—and vital—reservoir of biodiversity.

### **Adaptation**

**Alizé Carrère | Environmental Anthropologist & Filmmaker**

Wed. Jan 18, 2023, | 7:30 PM

Explore the remarkable ways people around the world are adapting to our changing planet with environmental anthropologist and filmmaker Alizé Carrère. From the floating gardens of Bangladesh to the ice pyramids of northern India, Carrère offers a hopeful look at the resilience, perseverance, and innovation of humankind under even the most difficult of conditions.

### **T. Rex Rises**

**Lindsay Zanno | Paleontologist**

Wed. Mar 22, 2023, | 7:30 PM

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 Dr. Zanno 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.

## **Improbable Ascent**

### **Maureen Beck | Paraclimber**

Wed. Apr 12, 2023, | 7:30 PM

Paraclimber Maureen Beck learned how to rock climb one-handed through trial and error— one of her early adaptive climbing innovations involved taping a metal ladle to her arm. It wasn't long before she was tackling some of the hardest climbs by a one-handed athlete, securing two world championships in the process. In her constant pursuit of new challenges, she journeyed to Canada's Cirque of the Unclimbables to attempt the first unassisted adaptive climb of the Lotus Flower Tower. With her trademark humor and wit, this 2019 National Geographic Adventurer of the Year will chronicle her journey as one of the foremost leaders in the sport of paraclimbing.

National Presenting Sponsor:



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## **ABOUT MESA ARTS CENTER**

Mesa Arts Center, owned and operated by the City of Mesa, is a unique, architecturally stunning, international award-winning facility located in the heart of downtown Mesa. Arizona's largest arts center is home to four theaters, five art galleries, and 14 art studios. Guests, patrons, and students come to Mesa Arts Center to enjoy the finest live entertainment and performances, world-class visual art exhibitions, and outstanding arts education classes. The facility is an architectural showpiece and a destination for visitors to the Phoenix area. Mesa Arts Center's mission is to invite all people to create and discover entertaining, challenging and diverse art and arts experiences within joyous, dynamic and welcoming environments. For more information, visit [mesaartscenter.com](https://mesaartscenter.com).

## **ABOUT NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE**

National Geographic Live brings to life the remarkable stories of National Geographic Explorers through in-person and virtual live events. Its broad roster of speakers, including renowned photographers, scientists, filmmakers, and adventurers, share their

behind-the-scenes stories from the front lines of exploration—alongside unforgettable imagery and gripping footage—with audiences in performing arts centers throughout North America and abroad. National Geographic Live film concerts invite audiences on a stirring musical journey to experience iconic National Geographic footage accompanied by the emotional performance of a live symphony orchestra. National Geographic Live is a part of Disney Parks, Experiences and Products—a segment of The Walt Disney Company. For more information on National Geographic Live, visit [NatGeoLive.com](https://www.natgeolive.com) and follow @NatGeoLive on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).