

MEDIA CONTACT

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For Immediate Release

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***National Geographic Live* Presents *Blue World*
Oceanographer Sylvia Earle
Wednesday, November 18**



Mesa, AZ – The 2015-16 *National Geographic Live* Arizona Speaker Series launches with **Oceanographer Sylvia Earle** at Mesa Arts Center on Wednesday, November 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the Ikeda Theater. Earle will dive deep with audience members to reveal deep wonders of the ocean, sharing her explorations of marine ecosystems and her experience in over 7,000 hours underwater.

“I still feel like a child when I explore the ocean because there’s that same sense of wonder...you never know what you’re going to find, but you know it’s going to be good.”—Sylvia Earle Tickets are available through the Mesa Arts Center Box Office at MesaArtsCenter.com or by calling 480-644-6500.

We have discovered more about the nature of the ocean in the past century than during all preceding human history, but at the same time, more has been lost due to the rising impact that people are having on the sea through what is being put into it, and what is being taken out. With a passion for preserving marine life and its ecosystem, Earle’s talk will highlight the beauty and magnificence of the ocean, as well as how we can continue to responsibly enjoy the resources it has to offer.

Earle is the founder of the Mission Blue Foundation, she was named *Time* magazine’s first Hero for the Planet, Chair of the Advisory Council for the Harte Research Institute and the Marine Science and Technology Foundation, former Chief Scientist of NOAA, a “Living Legend” by the Library of Congress, and a 2009 winner of the TED Prize. Earle has pioneered research on marine ecosystems and has led more than 100 expeditions.

Also in the 2015-16 *National Geographic Live* Arizona Speaker Series:

Gorongosa Reborn: A Cameraman's Journal

Bob Poole: Wildlife Filmmaker

Wednesday, January 20, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

Travel to Africa with Emmy Award-winning wildlife cinematographer Bob Poole. Whether tracking elephants in extreme desert environments of Mali, following wildebeest across the Serengeti, or traveling road-less regions of war-torn Sudan, Bob Poole's lifetime experience, and unflinching tenacity help him to capture remarkable moments.

National Geographic Live: Spinosaurus: Lost Giant of The Cretaceous

Nizar Ibrahim: Paleontologist

February 10, 2016 7:30 p.m.

In a tale for the ages, 2014 National Geographic Emerging Explorer Nizar Ibrahim finds "a needle in a desert"—the first semi-aquatic dinosaur. The German/Moroccan paleontologist was obsessed with the giant predator Spinosaurus, one of the great mysteries in paleontology. Listen to Ibrahim's remarkable story and about the findings of an international team of scientists that were featured as a cover story for National Geographic magazine.

National Geographic Live: K2: Danger and Desire on The Savage Mountain

Gerlinde Kaltenbrunner: Mountaineer

March 2, 2016 7:30 p.m.

End the season with National Geographic's 2012 "Explorer of the Year," Gerlinde Kaltenbrunner. She is the first woman to achieve the extraordinary feat of scaling all 14 of the world's 8,000-meter peaks without the use of supplementary oxygen. Once summiting all the other 8,000-meter peaks, K2 was still holding out on her. After six trying attempts and thirteen years of climbing, Kaltenbrunner finally reached K2's peak.

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About Mesa Arts Center

Mesa Arts Center, owned and operated by the City of Mesa, is a unique, architecturally stunning 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 Mesa Arts Center mission is to inspire people through engaging arts experiences that are diverse, accessible, and relevant. For more information, visit mesaartscenter.com.

About National Geographic Live

National Geographic Live is the live events division of the National Geographic Society, featuring live concerts, films and dynamic presentations by today's leading explorers, scientists, filmmakers and photographers, covering a wide range of topics including exploration and adventure, wildlife and habitat conservation, natural phenomena and relevant issues such as climate change. Proceeds from speaker series ticket sales help fund future National Geographic initiatives in field research, exploration and education. For more information, visit www.nglive.org.