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**EXPLORERS
CIRCLE**



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NGL Explorer Terry Virts (right) © Will Young



NGL Explorer Kevin Hand (center) © Aaron Chatha

© Will Young

“Being an Explorers Circle member means having a backstage pass to meet interesting people doing amazing things.”

Lloyd & Riona Freeman, Explorers



Arts Commons EXPLORERS CIRCLE

NOW MORE THAN EVER, OUR PLANET NEEDS OUR HELP!

Give through Explorers Circle and discover the exceptional personal rewards of supporting Arts Commons and National Geographic.

For more than 130 years, National Geographic has funded groundbreaking scientists and explorers and shared their findings with the world. It sponsored Explorer-in-Residence Dr. Sylvia Earl throughout a career spent expanding our knowledge of the world’s fragile oceans, documented Robert Ballard’s quest to find the

Titanic, and supported Jane Goodall’s pivotal study of chimpanzees.

Your financial support helps National Geographic to explore and protect our planet by supporting the world’s best scientists, photographers, journalists, and filmmakers.

Arts Commons and National Geographic believe in the power of science, exploration, and storytelling to change the world for the better.

Make your membership go further!

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

*Only applies to memberships activated between April 1, and August 31, 2019. Certain restrictions apply.

On the Cover: (Top) © Zoltan Takacs. (Center) Explorers Circle reception © Will Young (Below) © Joel Sartore.

“[We] look forward to continuing our sponsorship of the *National Geographic Live* program from the perspectives of the quality, and especially the extraordinarily successful effort that Arts Commons continues to make with its student outreach program.”

Doug Flaig & Helen Timmons,
Engagement Sponsors



© Will Young



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NGL Explorer Dr. Lee Berger (left) © Will Young

“[Being an Explorers Circle Member means] being an engaged member of the arts community and supporting initiatives for a sustainable future.”

Jordan & Nyssa Moore, *Explorers*



National Geographic Live Student Matinee © J. Ashley Nixon

Since awarding their first grant in 1890 to explore the uncharted Mount St. Elias region of Alaska, National Geographic has awarded grants for conservation, education, research, storytelling, and technology to applicants working across the globe. They support projects that are bold, innovative, and transformative. National Geographic invests in projects led by the best scientists and Explorers, some early in their careers and others with a demonstrated history of impact in their chosen field.

And with our planet’s future at stake, National Geographic is focused on the guardians of that future: our children. Its education programs give teachers

the tools they need to engage kids of all ages, revealing our interconnected world, and inspiring new generations of citizens and Explorers.

When you join Explorers Circle, you support Arts Commons public and student matinee presentations of *National Geographic Live*, engagements that inspire thousands of Calgarians, including over 8,500 students. You also contribute to National Geographic’s work in conservation, exploration, research, and education.*

*National Geographic Society receives funds from National Geographic Partners LLC, made possible in part by your gift through Explorers Circle. To learn more, visit natgeo.com/info.

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1ST RECEPTION

Speaker: **Damien Mander** – Explorer, ranger & anti-poaching advocate
Akashinga – The Brave Ones

Reception: Arts Commons, Founders Room
Monday, October 21, 2019 – 5:30pm

“Anybody can exploit the weak. Only the brave protect.” - Damien Mander

Former special operations sniper and Royal Australian clearance diver Damien Mander traveled to Africa, to aid in the fight against poachers using military solutions. Instead, he found himself forming the first all-female ranger unit in Zimbabwe, dubbed Akashinga (The Brave Ones). The recruits were survivors of domestic violence, single mothers, abandoned wives, and AIDS orphans. The instructors were skeptical, but the results spoke for themselves and opinions and stereotypes were rapidly altered. Be inspired not only by Mander’s incredible journey from special forces to conservation, but also by the bravery and tenacity of the women he’s training to protect Africa’s ecosystems from poachers for future generations.

2ND RECEPTION

Speaker: **Zoltan Takacs** – Explorer, biomedical scientist
Deadliest Lifesavers

Reception: Arts Commons, Founders Room
Monday, January 27, 2020 – 5:30pm

“Venom can save your life. Hundreds of millions of years of information are locked into these toxins.” - Zoltan Takacs

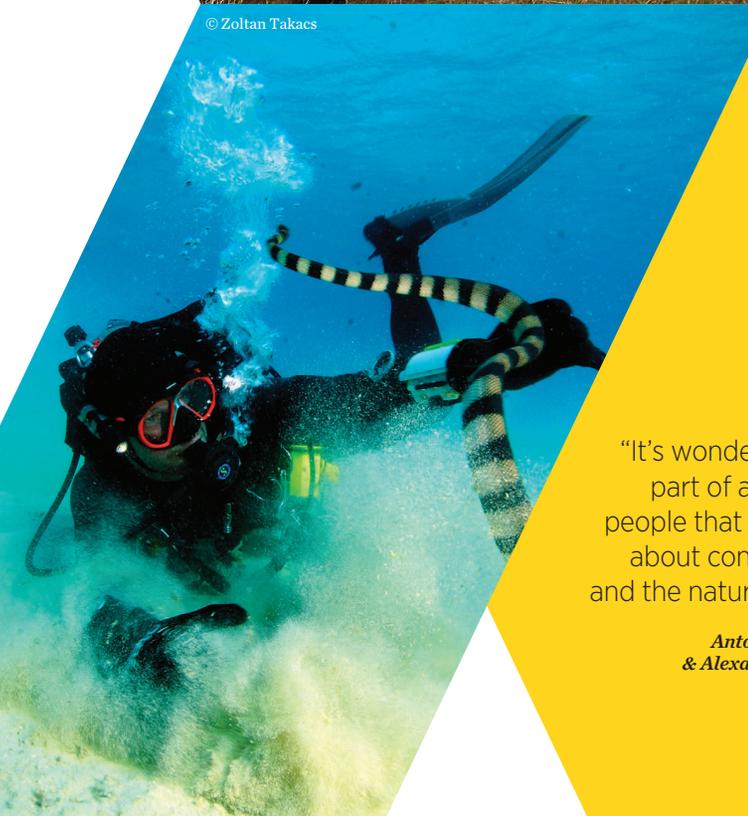
Biomedical scientist Zoltan Takacs collects and researches the deadliest snake, scorpion, and jellyfish venoms for medical innovation—venoms that target vital life functions and thus could be the blueprint of novel medications. An aircraft pilot and scuba diver, he’s traveled to 155 countries and survived charging elephants, pirated waters, and a series of snake bites. Learn about Takacs’ brushes with death and how the venoms that annihilate life have the potential to save it instead.



© Brent Stirton



© Brent Stirton



© Zoltan Takacs

“It’s wonderful to be part of a group of people that truly care about conservation and the natural world.”

Antony, Kathleen & Alexander Deakin, Trailblazers



© Joel Sartore

© Joel Sartore



© Jodi Cobb



3RD RECEPTION

Speaker: **Joel Sartore** – Explorer, photographer
Building the Photo Ark

Reception: Arts Commons, Founders Room
Monday, March 16, 2020 – 5:30pm

“It is folly to think that we can destroy one species and ecosystem after another and not affect humanity. When we saves species, we’re actually saving ourselves.” - Joel Sartore

National Geographic photographer Joel Sartore is on a mission to capture portraits of the world’s species before they disappear. With ingenuity, wit, and a serious Midwestern work ethic, Sartore has created the Photo Ark project, the largest archive of its kind with more than 8,000 images and counting. Hear about his comical mishaps, endearing encounters, and personal stories while documenting a world worth saving.

4TH RECEPTION

Speakers: **Kara Cooney** – Explorer, Egyptologist
When Women Ruled the World

Reception: Arts Commons, Founders Room
Monday, May 4, 2020 – 5:30pm

“Cognitive scientists have shown that female emotionality is more connected than males, and females commit less violent acts. To put it simply: women rule differently. This is called gender essentialism, and it shocks many people.” - Kara Cooney

Throughout history, powerful women have been called many things—witches, regents and seductresses. But there was a time in the ancient world when at least one was called “King.” Join Dr. Kara Cooney, professor of Egyptology, and learn about some strong female leaders, whose power was compromised from the start.

“We are honoured to be members supporting such a great program like *National Geographic Live*. Such an enriching experience and one we look forward to every year!”

**Maureen Armitage
& Shane Matthews, Explorers**

All Explorers Circle events (special guests, dates, times and locations) are subject to change.

EXPLORERS CIRCLE (EC) MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

	FRIEND \$100 TO \$299	ASSOCIATE EXPLORER \$300	EXPLORER \$1,200	ENGAGEMENT SPONSOR \$10,000	CUSTOM SPONSORSHIP PACKAGE
<i>Official receipt for tax purposes pursuant to Canada Revenue Agency regulations</i>	Donation Amount	Donation less \$50	Donation less \$200	NEW! The donor receives an official receipt for tax purposes less the value of a customized package of benefits that will be agreed upon with the donor to reflect the donor's priorities. For more information, please call our Development Officer, Daniel Mills, at 403-294-7497.	NEW! The donor receives an official receipt for tax purposes less the value of a customized package of benefits that will be agreed upon with the donor to reflect the donor's priorities. For more information, please call our Development Officer, Daniel Mills, at 403-294-7497.
<i>Grateful acknowledgement of your name on the Arts Commons website</i>	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Grateful acknowledgement of your name in Arts Commons 2019-20 Report to Community</i>	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Grateful Acknowledgement on the Honour Wall in the lobby of the Jack Singer Concert Hall throughout the 2020-21 Season</i>	✓	✓	✓		
<i>A National Geographic official Yellow Border pin</i>		✓	✓		
<i>Exclusive access to attend an Explorers Circle Reception to meet the National Geographic Explorer of your choice and enjoy complimentary bar & beverage service in the Founders Room</i>		One EC Reception	Four EC Receptions		
<i>An autographed memento from the Explorer</i>		One Gift	Four Gifts		
<i>Grateful acknowledgement of your name on the screen prior to all National Geographic Live presentations in the Jack Singer Concert Hall</i>		✓	✓		
<i>Concierge Services - Priority Seating through the Development Office</i>		✓	✓		
<i>Subscription to Arts Commons Magazine, Calgary's premiere arts and culture publication</i>			✓		
<i>Grateful acknowledgement of your name in Arts Commons Magazine</i>			✓		
<i>Join Explorer Joel Sartore for the Explorers Circle Dinner on Saturday, March 14, 2020. Limited membership available.</i>			✓		

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



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"We recommend joining Explorers Circle because it is a wonderful opportunity to meet Explorers, while supporting National Geographic and Arts Commons."

Ken Havard & Rosalind Reid,
Engagement Sponsors





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

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