



 NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE



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**EXPLORERS
CIRCLE**



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National Geographic Explorer Mireya Mayor, Jordan & Nyssa Moore, at our Explorers Circle Reception © Bree Kennedy



Explorers Circle members Joyce Warren, Kathleen, Alexander, and Antony Deakin, and Vanessa Arrate at an Explorers Circle Reception © Will Young

“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, Explorer



Roxanne and Gary and Steen, at an Explorers Circle Reception © Will Young

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EXPLORERS CIRCLE

NOW MORE THAN EVER, OUR PLANET NEEDS OUR HELP!

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.

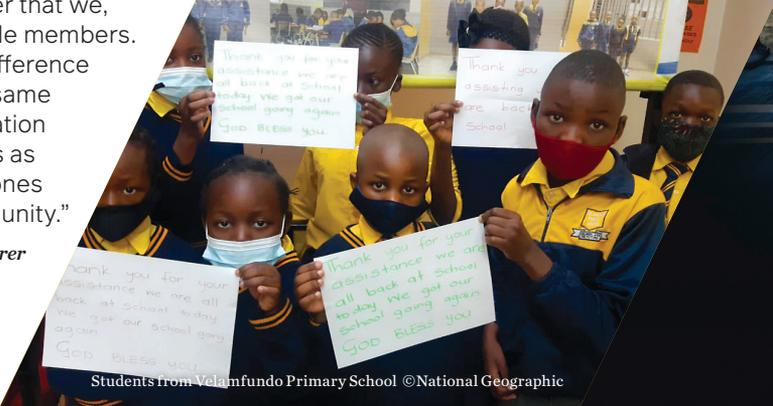
Please join us on our journey that embraces the power of science, exploration, education, and storytelling to illuminate and protect the wonder of our world.

“When we learned that Velamfundo Primary School was in danger of closing, it was a no brainer that we, as Explorers Circle members, should make a difference and provide the same avenue for education to these students as we have for the ones in our own community.”

Susan Tyrrell, Explorer



Doug Flaig, Helen Timmons, David Taylor, and Janine LaBossiere at an Explorers Circle Reception ©Will Young



Students from Velamfundo Primary School ©National Geographic



National Geographic Explorer Kara Cooney with a fan at an Explorers Circle Reception ©Will Young

Join the Circle
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Students attending a National Geographic Live Student Matinee ©Alex Bonyun

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.

ENGAGEMENT SPONSORS

- Anonymous
- Michel Bourque & Bryan Clarke - *Skiing in the Shadow of Everest* by Hilaree Nelson
- Doug Flaig & Helen Timmons - *Giants of our Solar System* by Engineer Tracy Drain
- Ken Havard - *Wild Hope* by Ami Vital

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- Joyce Warren & Vanessa Arrate

Please note that only gifts of \$1,000 or more are listed above. For a complete list of individual donations, please visit our website at artscommons.ca.

To inquire about becoming a member of Founders 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: **Tracy Drain** – Aerospace Engineer
Giants of our Solar System
 Location: Jack Singer Concert Hall, Founders Room
 Dates: Sunday, November 20, 2022 – 1:00 pm
 Monday, November 21, 2022 – 5:30 pm

“Humans need something that sparks a sense of wonder within them. Close up images of beautiful, other-worldly sights like Saturn’s rings and Jupiter’s stormy poles and craggy landscapes on Mars evoke that feeling – one that makes us fall a little bit in love with the cosmos and adds richness to our lives.” - Tracy Drain

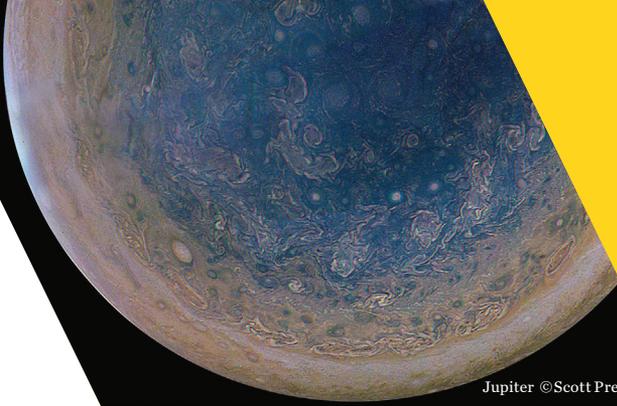
Discover the marvels of our cosmic backyard through the eyes of the robotic spacecraft sent out to explore it. Aerospace engineer Tracy Drain works at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory to develop, test, and operate the complex machines that uncover some of the countless mysteries within and beyond our solar system. Join her for thrilling stories of engineering challenges and scientific discoveries from the Juno mission to Jupiter, a behind-the-scenes account of the Kepler mission to find planets beyond our solar system, and a peek into the Psyche mission to one of the largest objects in the asteroid belt. With infectious enthusiasm, she’ll shine a light on the darkness and vastness of space.

2ND RECEPTION

Explorer: **Ami Vitale** – Wildlife Photographer
Wild Hope
 Location: Jack Singer Concert Hall, Founders Room
 Dates: Sunday, January 29, 2023 – 1:00 pm
 Monday, January 30, 2023 – 5:30 pm

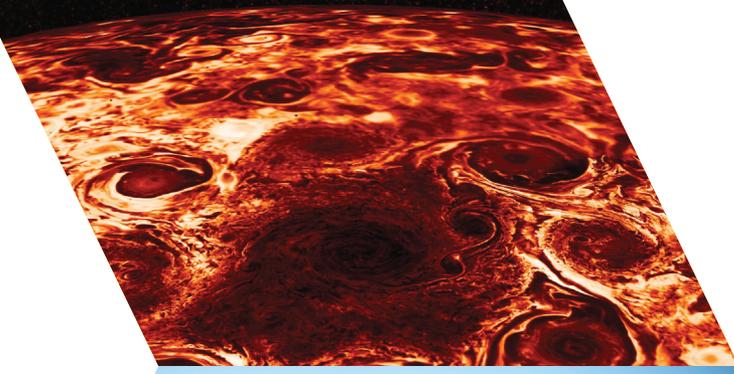
“Photography reminds us that we have a lot more in common than we often realize. If we take the time to lift that veil then we give our audience a broader vision of what the world really looks like, dig beneath the headlines and take the time to understand, a universal truth emerges. We are all connected to one another.” - Ami Vitale

Photographer and filmmaker Ami Vitale shares her personal odyssey—from documenting the heartbreaking realities of war to witnessing the inspiring power of an individual to make a difference. Ami’s award-winning work illuminates the unsung heroes and communities working to protect our wildlife and find harmony in our natural world. Hear her awe-inspiring stories of the reintroduction of northern white rhinos and giant pandas to the wild, as well as Kenya’s first indigenous-owned and run elephant sanctuary.



Jupiter ©Scott Preston

©Asi Inaf Jiram



©Ami Vitale

©Ami Vitale





Hilaree Nelson ©Dutch Simpson



Diva Amon ©Solvin Zankl



Amon ©Noaa Oer

3RD RECEPTION

Explorer: **Hilaree Nelson** – Mountaineer
Skiing in the Shadow of Everest
Location: Jack Singer Concert Hall, Founders Room
Dates: Sunday, March 12, 2023 – 1:00 pm
Monday, March 13, 2023 – 5:30 pm

“I look for places that draw me in from an environmental standpoint and a cultural standpoint. Of course, Nepal has some of the most incredible mountains on the planet – but really, it’s the people that draw me there and make me want to go back. If I can combine that with something that’s never been done, that’s the best combination.” - Hilaree Nelson

Next to Everest in the towering Himalaya sits a peak that has acquired a mythical status in its own right: Lhotse, the fourth-highest mountain in the world at 27,940 feet. Its famed couloir—nicknamed the “Dream Line”—is considered one of the boldest ski runs of all time and went unconquered until 2018. That September, mountaineers Hilaree Nelson and Jim Morrison summited the peak and became the first people to complete the epic descent. Join Nelson, National Geographic’s 2018 Adventurer of the Year, for her captivating stories of the passion, grit, and teamwork behind this historic achievement.

4TH RECEPTION

Explorer: **Diva Amon** – Marine Biologist
From Shallows to Seafloor
Location: Jack Singer Concert Hall, Founders Room
Dates: Sunday, May 7, 2023 – 1:00 pm
Monday, May 8, 2023 – 5:30 pm

“There’s no time in history when we have needed conservationists, environmentalists, and scientists more than we do now. The ultimate goal is to leave the planet in a better way than we found it, especially the deep ocean, and we can’t effectively manage what we don’t understand or protect what we don’t know.” - Diva Amon

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.

EXPLORERS CIRCLE DINNER

Explorer: **Diva Amon** – Marine Biologist
Location: Opera Room, Teatro
Date: Saturday, May 6, 2023 – 6:30 pm

Celebrate a remarkable season of National Geographic Live presentations by joining Marine Biologist Diva Amon for a sumptuous dining experience. (Please note that the Explorers Circle Dinner is open to Explorer Level Members.)

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 2023-24 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 2022-23 Season</i>	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Grateful acknowledgment of your name in Arts Commons 2022-23 Report to the Community</i>	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Concierge Services through the Development Office – Priority Seating for the 2022-23 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 Diva Amon for a sumptuous three-course Explorers Circle Dinner on Saturday, May 6, 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
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“I recommend joining Explorers Circle because it is a wonderful opportunity to meet Explorers, while supporting National Geographic and Arts Commons in the work they do to give back to the community.”

Ken Havard, Engagement Sponsor





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Cover photo, *Top*: National Geographic Explorer Ami Vitale ©Bryan Liscinsky.

Cover photo, *Center*: Gail Ennis & Ken Havard with National Geographic Explorer Kara Cooney ©Will Young.

Cover photo, *Bottom*: A Panda ©Ami Vitale.

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