

For Immediate Release

Leading Paleontologist Reveals How the Iconic *T. rex* Dominated the Prehistoric World with Arts Commons Presents and National Geographic Live this March

February 20, 2024 - CALGARY – Take a dinosaur-sized leap into the prehistoric past with paleontologist and National Geographic Explorer Dr. Lindsay Zanno as she chips away the layers of time to uncover one of the most iconic dinosaurs to ever roam the earth – *T. rex*. From childhood toys to box office juggernauts, *T. rex* has left an indelible mark in our collective imaginations. Join Arts Commons Presents and the National Geographic Live series to learn how *T. rex* evolved to become North America’s apex predator in **Lindsay Zanno: *T. rex* Rises** on **Sunday, March 10 at 2 p.m. and Monday, March 11 at 7 p.m.** in the **Jack Singer Concert Hall at Arts Commons**. Tickets are available now at artscommons.ca/trex.

One of the world’s leading experts on the evolution of Cretaceous dinosaurs, Dr. Lindsay Zanno spends several months each year on expedition, scouring the remote badlands of western North America in search of ancient clues. Along the way, she has discovered many new species—including one of the continent's tiniest tyrannosaurs, *Moros*, which stood barely five feet tall, and *Siats*, one of the largest American megapredators, weighing over 9,000 pounds. But Dr. Zanno’s most prolific work has uncovered how a cataclysmic climate crisis reshaped the dinosaurian world, wiping out top predators from land and sea, and eventually making way for the most famous carnivore of all time - *Tyrannosaurus rex*. Dr. Zanno invites audiences to join her on the cutting edge of discovery as she reveals her latest discoveries of the distant past vastly different from the world we know today.

“I was always interested in nature,” says National Geographic Explorer Lindsay Zanno. *“I spent almost all my time outside as a kid, exploring and interacting with natural objects. I am still intrigued with the idea that the complexity of life all around us was produced by a suite of natural laws, that those laws can be studied by exploring the trajectory of life over time, and that there is still so much to learn and discover.”*

Head of Paleontology at the NC Museum of Natural Sciences in Raleigh, North Carolina, Dr. Zanno oversees the unit’s collective research and educational activities, three research collections, and directs the on-exhibit Paleontology Research Lab in the Nature Research Center building. She has made numerous television appearances including with the Science Channel, History Channel, National Geographic, CBC, PBS, NPR, NHK, Nova, and the BBC.

“Nothing ignites the mystery of our collective pasts like dinosaurs, especially here, so close to one of the richest fossil deposits in the world,” says Sarah Garton Stanely, VP of programming at Arts Commons. *“I can’t wait to experience the world of Dr. Lindsay Zanno, a preeminent paleontologist, who uses the beauty of science to bridge our ancient history with today.”*

National Geographic Live has captured the imagination of Calgarians, inspiring a love for science and the natural world since its launch in 2012. The 2023-24 features four Explorers at the forefront of their fields, traversing the planet with stunning video and photography projected on the high-resolution screen spanning the Jack Singer Concert Hall stage. From the frozen poles and ocean depths, to jungles and mountain peaks

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of India, and even millions of years in the past, these Explorers share their personal stories of discovery, expanding what we know about our planet, and those who call it home. Join Arts Commons Presents for **Lindsay Zanno: *T. rex Rises* on March 10 & 11** and **Kiliii Yüyan: *Life on Thin Ice* on May 26 & 27, 2024**, details at artscommons.ca/ngl. Also, discover the special presentation of ***Secrets of the Whales: A Film in Concert*, April 21 – 23, 2024** narrated live by Jann Arden in the Jack Singer Concert Hall at Arts Commons. To learn about all the shows in the 2023-24 season of Arts Commons Presents, visit acpresents.ca.

What: Arts Commons Presents – Lindsay Zanno: *T. rex Rises*
When: Sunday, March 10 at 2 p.m. and Monday, March 11 at 7 p.m.
Where: Jack Singer Concert Hall at Arts Commons
Tickets: 403-294-9494 or visit artscommons.ca/trex

Arts Commons wishes to express our sincere appreciation to ACP Signature Series Presenting Sponsor **ConocoPhillips Canada**, student engagement sponsor **Enbridge**, EXPLORE National Geographic Sponsor **MEG Energy**, EXPLORE National Geographic Supporting Sponsor/Partners **Cabra Consulting Ltd.**, **geoLOGIC Systems Ltd.** and **Teatro Fund for Arts Commons Education**, as well as Hospitality Sponsor **Teatro Ristorante** and the **Government of Canada** through **Canadian Heritage**, the **Government of Alberta** through the **Alberta Foundation for the Arts**, and our friends at **The City of Calgary**.

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Arts Commons Presents invites you to discover the transformative power of the Arts. As the programming arm of Arts Commons, the largest performing arts centre in Western Canada, Arts Commons Presents is one manifestation of this mandate, achieved through the programming and presenting of our in-house series: BD&P World Stage, Classic Albums Live, National Geographic Live, the TD Amplify series, as well as special presentations. Through this work, we are able to do our part to further enrich our city, as well as create opportunities for Calgary-based artists to perform, exhibit, reach new audiences, and grow on a multitude of levels.