

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 21, 2014

**KAUFFMAN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS ANNOUNCES
FOURTH NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE SEASON**

The 2015 season includes a Special Engagement Presentation and Adventure Circle Membership

Kansas City, MO – Today, the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts announced that the popular *National Geographic Live* speaker series will return to the Kauffman Center in 2015. Now in its fourth season, the 2015 series will feature entertaining and visually spectacular presentations by photographer and filmmaker Carsten Peter, photojournalist Amy Toensing, wildlife photographer Joel Sartore, underwater photographer David Dobilet, aquatic biologist Jen Hays and special engagement presentation featuring wolf experts Jim and Jamie Dutcher.

National Geographic Live speakers share their journeys of exploration from being on assignment around the world. Illustrated with award-winning photography and video, each evening concludes with a question and answer session and an opportunity to meet the presenter.

Season subscription packages for the five-part series are available Monday, July 28; single tickets for the five events go on sale Thursday, August 28.

National Geographic Live will present two free matinee performances specifically geared for students as a part of the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts' Open Doors program. Schools can find more information about these matinees at www.kauffmancenter.org.

The 2015 National Geographic Live Series is generously supported by Teresa and Tom Walsh.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE SERIES INFORMATION

Carsten Peter

Photographer and Filmmaker

'EXTREME PLANET'

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Muriel Kauffman Theatre

7:30 p.m.

Carsten Peter, a World Press Photo award winner and regular contributor to *National Geographic Magazine*, specializes in going to extremes: scuba diving in a glacier on Mont Blanc, crossing the Sahara on a camel, and even caving in Borneo. He is always living on the edge with his camera, searching for where nature is still pure and where his survival will depend on his wits and his skills as a technical climber, paraglider, caver, diver, and canyoneer.

He is enthusiastically obsessed with devising innovative photographic techniques to capture never-before-seen images from some of the scariest environments on the planet. His many adventures include braving toxic caverns and acid

waterfalls to shoot within the deepest ice shafts on earth, rappelling into active volcanoes with turbulent lava lakes and superheated thermal caves, and breaking altitude records while flying his motorized paraglider.

In addition to his World Press award –for coverage of tornadoes while storm chasing in the American West – he has received an Emmy Award for his videography from inside an active volcano in the South Pacific.

Amy Toensing

Photojournalist

'AUSTRALIA AND THE ABORIGINE CULTURE'

Tuesday, March 17, 2015

Muriel Kauffman Theatre

7:30 p.m.

Amy Toensing is an American photojournalist committed to telling stories with sensitivity and depth.

Toensing has been a regular contributor to National Geographic magazine for over a decade and recently completed her thirteenth feature story for them. She has covered cultures around the world including the last cave dwelling tribe of Papua New Guinea, the Maori of New Zealand and the Kingdom of Tonga. She has also covered issues such as the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina and Muslim women living in Western culture. For the last 3 years she has been documenting Aboriginal Australia which was published in the June, 2013 issue of *National Geographic* magazine.

Toensing's work has been exhibited throughout the world and recognized with numerous awards and exhibits, including an exhibit at the 2012 Visa Pour L'image, Festival of the Photograph in Perpignan France. Her work has also appeared in *Smithsonian*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Newsweek*, *Time Magazine*, and *National Geographic Traveler*. A photograph she took in the Australian outback was chosen as one of *National Geographic Magazine's* all-time 50 Best Photos.

Joel Sartore

Photographer

'GRIZZLIES, PIRANHAS, AND MAN-EATING PIGS'

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Muriel Kauffman Theatre

7:30 p.m.

Joel Sartore is a photographer, speaker, author, teacher and a 20-year contributor to *National Geographic Magazine*. His hallmarks are a sense of humor and a Midwestern work ethic. Joel's assignments have taken him to every continent and to the world's most beautiful and challenging environments, from the High Arctic to the Antarctic. Simply put, Joel is on a mission to document endangered species and landscapes in order to show a world worth saving. In the process, he has been chased by a wide variety of species, including wolves, grizzlies, musk oxen, lions, elephants, and polar bears.

Joel has written several books, including *RARE: Portraits of America's Endangered Species*, *Photographing Your Family*, and *Nebraska: Under a Big Red Sky*. His most recent book is *Let's Be Reasonable*, a collection of essays from the *CBS Sunday Morning Show*. In addition to the work he has done for *National Geographic*, Joel has contributed to *Audubon Magazine*, *Geo*, *Time*, *Life*, *Newsweek*, *Sports Illustrated*, and numerous book projects. Joel and his work have been the subjects of several national broadcasts, including *National Geographic's Explorer*, the *NBC Nightly News*, *NPR's Weekend Edition* and

an hour-long PBS documentary, *At Close Range*. He is also a contributor on the *CBS Sunday Morning Show* with Charles Osgood.

David Doubilet, Underwater Photographer

Jen Hayes, Aquatic Biologist & Photojournalist

'CORAL, FIRE, AND ICE'

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

Muriel Kauffman Theatre

7:30 p.m.

David Doubilet

David Doubilet has become one of the world's most celebrated underwater photographers and a contributing photographer for *National Geographic Magazine* where he has published nearly 70 stories since his first assignment in 1971. David has spent five decades under the surface in the far corners of the world from interior Africa, remote tropical coral reefs, rich temperate seas and recent projects in the northern and southern ice. Doubilet's personal challenge is to create a visual voice for the world's oceans and to connect people to the incredible beauty and silent devastation happening within the invisible world below. David is a contributing editor for several publications and an author of 12 titles including the award-winning *Water Light Time*. His photographic awards include numerous Picture of the Year, BBC Wildlife, Communication Arts and World Press awards. David was named a National Geographic Contributing Photographer-in-Residence in 2001.

Jennifer Hayes

Jennifer is an aquatic biologist and photojournalist specializing in natural history and marine environments. Jen Hayes and David Doubilet collaborate as a photographic team above and below water on project development, story production, feature articles and books. National Geographic assignments have taken them around the globe from Africa's Okavango Delta, through tropical and temperate seas to the poles. Recent projects have found them in the remote corners of the Great Barrier Reef, under oil and gas rigs in the Gulf of Mexico, swimming among congregations of 500-pound goliath grouper and submerged in the ice with harp seal mother and pups. Jennifer is the editor and author of numerous articles on marine environments, with images appearing in countless books, advertising campaigns and publications such as *National Geographic Magazine*, *Sports Illustrated*, *Sport Diver*, *DIVE Magazine*, *Diver*, *People Magazine*, *Alert Diver* and *Ocean Geographic*. She is co-author / photographer for *Face to Face with Sharks* by National Geographic Books and an honorary editor for *Ocean Geographic Magazine*.

Jim and Jamie Dutcher

Wolf Experts

'THE HIDDEN LIFE OF WOLVES'

Tuesday, June 2, 2015

Muriel Kauffman Theatre

7:30 p.m.

Emmy Award-winning filmmaker and cinematographer Jim Dutcher began producing documentary films in the 1960s. His extraordinary camera work and the trust he gains from his subjects have led audiences into places never before filmed: inside beaver lodges, down burrows to peek at wolf pups, and into the secret life of a mother mountain lion as she cares

for her newborn kittens. Jim and his wife Jamie have won three Emmys for their three films about The Sawtooth Pack. Jamie Dutcher, Jim's wife and co-producer, was formerly an employee in the animal hospital of the National Zoo in Washington, DC. She now brings to the film projects her knowledge of animal husbandry and medical care. Combined with her gentle instinct, these skills enabled Jamie to quickly gain access to the sensitive and secret inner lives of wolves. Her photographs complement the Dutchers' three books on The Sawtooth Pack, including the new National Geographic book *The Hidden Life of Wolves*. Together, the Dutchers founded the nonprofit organization Living with Wolves in 2006, seeking to reestablish the wolf in its rightful place as a part of the ecosystem.

HOW TO PURCHASE SEASON TICKETS

The *National Geographic Live Series* subscription package includes ticket discounts and priority seating, making this an affordable option for all. Series tickets for the *National Geographic Live* speaker series go on sale Monday July 28, 2014. Prices for the four-part series package range from \$64 - \$140. There is a special pick-three package priced from \$54 - \$120. Season package upgrades are available to include the special engagement presentation "Hidden Life of Wolves" at a discounted price. Tickets for single events will go on sale Thursday, August 28, 2014.

Existing National Geographic Live Series subscribers may renew or upgrade their seats through June 20, 2014.

Subscription packages can be purchased through the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts by calling (816) 944-7222, or visiting the Box Office located at 1601 Broadway in the Kansas City Crossroads Arts District. Visit kauffmancenter.org for information and box office hours.

ADVENTURE CIRCLE

New in 2015, Kauffman Center introduces the Adventure Circle membership. In return for a tax-deductible gift to support the National Geographic program in Kansas City, Adventure Circle members receive an invitation to a private reception with wildlife photographer Joel Sartore, a signed copy of Sartore's book, and acknowledgment of their support. To learn more, call the Kauffman Center box office at (816) 994-7222.

ABOUT THE KAUFFMAN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

The Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts – a major not-for-profit center for music, opera, theater and dance designed by Moshe Safdie – opened in 2011. Serving as a cultural cornerstone for Kansas City and the region, the Kauffman Center delivers extraordinary and diverse performing arts experiences. Honored as one of the World's 15 Most Beautiful Concert Halls, the Kauffman Center attracts some of the world's most renowned performers and entertainers.

Through educational outreach programs and community enrichment, the Kauffman Center supports Kansas City as a cultural destination. More information on the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts is available at kauffmancenter.org.