



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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Grand Canyon News Release

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Grand Canyon National Park Announces New Community Lecture Series in Flagstaff in Partnership with the Grand Canyon Association

Grand Canyon, Ariz. - Grand Canyon National Park's Division of Science and Resource Management will be presenting monthly community lectures in Flagstaff in collaboration with the Grand Canyon Association and Northern Arizona University's Cline Library February through May 2009. The new Ranger Lecture Series, *Conversations on the Edge*, will feature resource specialists from the park speaking about the National Park Service's scientific work to monitor, manage and preserve Grand Canyon's natural and cultural resources for present and future generations.

Grand Canyon National Park Superintendent Steve Martin said, "we're very excited about the new lecture series that Science and Resource Management is presenting in collaboration with the Grand Canyon Association, the park's non-profit interpretive and educational partner. This is the first time that there has been a community lecture series devoted to specific park resource issues featuring park staff. We look forward to the opportunity to directly share some of the work we do to preserve the resources in Grand Canyon National Park with the northern Arizona community. There is a lot of work done by park staff behind the scenes - this is an opportunity for us to share some that work and the associated benefits with those who care so much about the park."

The *Conversations on the Edge* series kicks off on Wednesday, February 4th, with a lecture entitled "Excavating Along the Colorado River: New Archeological Research in Grand Canyon National Park" by archeologist Lisa Leap about the first major archeological excavations along the Colorado River in Grand Canyon in nearly 40 years. On Wednesday, March 4th, vegetation

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program manager Lori Makarick presents “Grand Canyon’s Green Heart: Plants of the Canyon.” Air quality specialist Carl Bowman takes a long view at the planet’s changing climate in a lecture entitled “Climate Lessons from Grand Canyon: Can 1.8 billion years of history help us predict the next century?” on Wednesday, April 1st. And on Wednesday, May 6th, Martha Hahn, Chief of Science and Resource Management concludes the series with “Science on the Edge: Preserving Grand Canyon National Park’s Natural and Cultural Resources.”

The lectures will be held at 7:00 p.m. at Cline Library, at the intersection of Knoles Drive and McCreary Road on the Northern Arizona University campus, in Flagstaff, Arizona. Parking is available to the west of the library (Lot P13 on Riordan Road). All lectures are free and open to the public.

Grand Canyon Association Executive Director Susan Schroeder said, “Grand Canyon Association has been presenting Canyon Country Community Lectures in Flagstaff, Prescott, and Glendale since 2004. This is the first time we have partnered with Grand Canyon National Park to feature a series focused exclusively on science and resource management at the canyon. This is a great addition to our existing lecture series as it provides another forum for park staff to provide information to the public on some of the issues affecting the park.”

For additional information on the 2009 Ranger Lecture Series *Conversations on the Edge*, please contact Allyson Mathis, Grand Canyon National Park, Science and Education Outreach Coordinator at 928-638-7923 or Helen Thompson, Grand Canyon Association Public Relations and Outreach at 928-779-2195. Information can also be obtained on line at <http://www.nps.gov/grca/naturescience/srmlec09.htm> or http://www.grandcanyon.org/events_lectureseries.asp.

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