LONE TREE ARTS CENTER’S 2019-2020 NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE SERIES CONTINUES OCTOBER 18 WITH BIOLOGIST/PHOTOGRAPHER RONAN DONOVAN

Social By Nature Focuses on Similarities Between Humans and Other Social Animals

LONE TREE, CO – Now in its fourth year, the Lone Tree Arts Center’s National Geographic Live Series ignites your inner explorer with five different explorers describing their expeditions set to the backdrop of their photographs and films on a floor-to-ceiling screen. These adventurers take you all around the world and beyond, telling stories and showing breathtaking images from the air to land to sea! The series continues with biologist-turned-photographer Ronan Donovan, presenting Social By Nature on Friday, October 18 at 10am (student/senior matinee) and 8pm.

What’s a human? We are, at our core, social mammals. We build relationships, communicate, reproduce, establish territories, and adapt to shrinking resources. In these ways, we’re no different than other social mammals. Chimpanzees, wolves, and gorillas are among the most charismatic of the mammals we know. We identify with them as species, groups, and even as named individuals. They’re also under threat. Join Ronan Donovan as he talks about his work in documenting these animals and what we, as fellow social mammals, can learn from them.

Ronan Donovan is a born explorer. He inherited his sense of adventure and love of the natural world from his parents, who once sailed across the Atlantic. From his birth in rural Vermont in a cabin his father built, Ronan’s life has been a series of adventures.
Ronan taught himself photography and filmmaking while working on a series of wildlife biology projects. In 2014, feeling he could make more of an impact through his visual storytelling than as a biologist, he turned to photography and filmmaking full time.

His photographic journeys for *National Geographic* include an entire year living inside Yellowstone National Park documenting the life of wild wolves, hiking volcanoes to photograph mountain gorillas and documenting the human-wildlife conflict between wild chimpanzees and humans in Africa. His film work has aired on PBS’s *Nature* and on the BBC.

He’s traveled to all seven continents, and in 2017 he was accepted into the Photo Society of National Geographic. His photographs have hung on the walls of the Natural History Museum in London and the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington D.C.

His unique ability to tell the stories of the animals he focuses on elicits compassion in a relatable way and engages people for conservation. Photography allows him to give a voice to his subjects.

Ronan now lives in Bozeman, Montana, where he loves to explore the Rocky Mountains.

**National Geographic Live: Social By Nature with Ronan Donovan**
Friday, October 18 at 10am and 8pm
Tickets: Evening: $26-$36; students $22; Student/Senior Matinee: $20 adults; $10 students

Tickets may be purchased by calling 720-509-1000, Monday-Friday, 10am-4pm or at [www.LoneTreeArtsCenter.org](http://www.LoneTreeArtsCenter.org).

The Lone Tree Arts Center’s *National Geographic Live* Series is made possible in part thanks to the Andrews Winslow Foundation, Thrive Home Builders, the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District, Colorado Creative Industries, and National Endowment for the Arts. Sponsors of the student/senior matinee include MorningStar Senior Living and patron sponsor Linda Bjelland.

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