

# 2023 Mendenhall Glacier Fireside Lectures



**January 6, 2023 at 7 p.m.**

## **Boom and bust: a caterpillar's strategy for forest management**

Curious about the caterpillars that seemed to float throughout Juneau this past summer? Or hillsides that turned colors in just a few days? The Western blackheaded budworm chomped its way through Alaskan forests this summer, but how long will it continue? Join entomologist Dr. Elizabeth Graham to find out more about this outbreak and the impact it has on the forests of Southeast Alaska, past and present.



**January 13, 2023 at 7 p.m.**

## **Learning what came before me**

Lisa Phu always knew her family left Cambodia as refugees. It wasn't until 2016 that her mother finally shared the real story—about growing up, fleeing genocide by the Khmer Rouge, and surviving as a gold dealer in Vietnam—before finally making it to America, building a home here while navigating the fallout and trauma of war. Learn about how Lisa finally had the long overdue conversation with her mom about their family's history and hear snippets of what that story became — the successful podcast 'Before Me'.



**January 20, 2023 at 7 p.m.**

## **USDA Community Investments - with a side of SASS** *Sustain The Tongass* *As People have for ages* *Build Trust, Heal, As One*

Come learn about the Southeast Alaska Sustainability Strategy—the investment in locally led projects throughout the region—and how we hope we can leverage collective strengths for economic, cultural, and ecological resiliency throughout Southeast Alaska by going about our business differently.



**January 27, 2023 at 7 p.m.**

## **Natural Academies: an innovative approach to outdoor studies**

As ecotourism and outdoor recreation show explosive growth in popularity, inspiring the next generation of outdoor leaders becomes vitally important. Professors Forest Wagner and Kevin Krein of the University of Alaska, Southeast will explain how the innovative Outdoor Studies program focuses on fostering a sustainable relationship with natural spaces while developing outdoor skills, and why this approach is beneficial to Juneau and the world.



**February 3, 2023 at 7 p.m.**

## **Ugly glaciers in Alaska...and on Mars!**

If asked to picture a glacier, most imagine a stark yet aesthetic landscape featuring brilliant white and blue ice. But a glacier can become covered by a blanket of rock and gravel, appearing more like a rocky pile of mine tailings. These "ugly" glaciers are fairly common in Alaska...and on Mars! Join Dr. Eric Ivan Petersen, Research Associate at University of Alaska Fairbanks, as he explores how ugly glaciers are made, how their rocky covering affects their behavior, and what they mean for climate and water resources on two planets.



**February 10, 2023 at 7 p.m.**

## **Fighter in Velvet Gloves: Alaska civil rights hero Elizabeth Peratrovich**

How did a little-known Tlingit child become the woman whose powerful 1945 speech to an all-white, all-male Territorial Legislature changed Alaska forever, leading to the passage of Alaska's landmark Anti-Discrimination Act nearly two decades before the US Civil Rights Act? Learn more from author Annie Boochever as she presents a rare glimpse into the personal life of Elizabeth Peratrovich through her book *Fighter in Velvet Gloves*.



**February 17, 2023 at 7 p.m.**

## **Birding with a Beginner's Mindset - A Lifetime Adventure**

Have you ever wondered what the fuss was all about when you saw a group of binocular-clad people staring into a bush? Ask them, and you may discover a new adventure waiting right outside your door—birding! Why are people interested in this? How do "birders" know which bird is which, and where to find them?! Join local birder Laurie Lamm as we delve into some of the details behind this potentially addictive hobby.



**February 24, 2023 at 7 p.m.**

## **Monitoring Brooks River bears: Not just Fat Bear Week!**

Ever wonder how Katmai National Park knows so much about each of those bears during Fat Bear Week? Measuring wildlife population demographics can be especially challenging in remote areas, but Katmai wildlife biologist Leslie Skora will discuss how documenting unique physical and behavioral features has allowed for the creation of a long-term record of individual brown bears using the Brooks River. Come learn how that record helps scientists!



**March 3, 2023 at 7 p.m.**

## **Not that Georgia! Take a trip with the Forest Service's International Program**

The Republic of Georgia and the Tongass National Forest are on nearly opposite sides of the world, but their similar size, forest management, and risk of landslides bridge these very different geographies and cultures. Join Hydrologist Emil Tucker and International Program Manager Kelsey Aho for stories about their adventures with the Forest Service International Programs, with a special focus on their work in the Caucasus region where Europe and Asia overlap.



**March 10, 2023 at 7 p.m.**

## **'At the Glacier': highlights from the City Museum Permanent Collection**

The Mendenhall Glacier features prominently in the collection of paintings, photographs, and other artwork at the Juneau-Douglas City Museum. Join museum staff for a view of how our community has spent time at the glacier, along with highlights of some favorite pieces.



**March 17, 2023 at 7 p.m.**

## **All damsel, no distress: women's mountaineering in Alaska**

Mountains do not care who reaches their summit, but society does. As we celebrate Women's History Month, join UAF Arctic and Northern Studies graduate student and Trail Mix Inc Project Manager Meghan Tabacek as she dives into the inspiring, relatively unknown history of women's mountaineering in Alaska. Meghan will take viewers on an interactive journey through the iconic expeditions of Barbara Washburn, the Denali Damsels, and more!



**March 24, 2023 at 7 p.m.**

## **Salmon streaming services: counting on cameras to help us count fish**

Counting the number of salmon that return to spawn has long been an important part of fisheries management. Now, with the help of underwater video cameras, long-range Wi-Fi, and a whole bunch of zip ties, it's a little bit easier. Take a peek under the surface and join Forest Service biologist Jake Musslewhite as he details the development and remote monitoring of video weirs on the Tongass National Forest.

**The 2023 Fireside Series will be presented in-person at the Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center beginning at 7 p.m. AKST every Friday night from January through March. Lectures will also be streamed live on the Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center Facebook page (@MendenhallGlacierVC). For more information, check our Facebook page or call 907-789-0097 Friday-Sunday.**