



MEDIA RELEASE

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ATTN EDITORS:

Interviews and media passes to lectures are available. Please contact Delle Willett or Hallie Shere for more information.

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**San Diego Natural History Museum Announces
*Sustainable Planet: Food Lecture Series Hosted By Loren Nancarrow***

September 21, 2009; *San Diego*—Beginning Tuesday, October 6, the San Diego Natural History Museum will continue its popular *Sustainable Planet* lecture series, this time looking at questions about food—where does our food come from, are our methods of food production hurting or harming our ecosystems, and how can we as consumers make informed decisions when choosing what food we feed ourselves and our family? The lecture series begins with a kick-off party on September 22, and the entire series is hosted by writer and TV personality Loren Nancarrow. The lectures and the kick-off party are \$5 per person, per program, and advance registration is recommended. More information is available at www.sdnhm.org/sustainableplanet.

Food for Thought—*Sustainable Planet* Kick-off Party

Enjoy an evening of food and learning. Watch a screening of the documentary, *Good Food*. Meet and greet the local “gurus of gardening” and learn about San Diego’s food and earth connection. Sample local, organic foods while mixing and mingling with local food organizations.

Tuesday, September 22; 6:30–9 PM

Growing a Social Movement to Change the Food System

Lecture with Erika Lesser, Executive Director of Slow Food USA

When Slow Food was founded in 1989, the movement quickly got a reputation for representing long lunches, abundant wine, and a utopian view of gastronomy. However, over the past 20 years, the organization has grown dramatically in both size and scope. Learn what Slow Food is doing in the U.S. and around the world to move us toward a food system that is good, clean and fair—and to a society in which food is both a universal right and a pleasure.

Tuesday, October 6; 6:30–8 PM

Cultivating Justice through Sustainable Food Systems

Lecture with Heather Fenney, Community Services Unlimited, Inc.; and Ellee Igoe, San Diego International Rescue Committee

With nearly one-third of all greenhouse gas emissions coming from the food and agriculture sector, it’s critical that food-system changes be part of any effort to reduce and reverse effects of global warming. Learn where the conventional/global food system has gone wrong, and how building a

local, sustainable and just food system can help get us back on course.

Tuesday, November 10; 6:30–8 PM

Ecology of Soil: A Public Health Concern

Lecture with Angie Tagtow, IATP Food and Society Fellow, Advocates for Good Food

As eaters, we know that our food choices directly influence our health. But many may not realize that what we eat profoundly affects the Earth's health and our ability to grow healthy food for future generations. Investigate the Iowa food landscape and explore the soil-to-health connection. Learn and how "good food" can boost the health of your family, farm, community, and the Earth. Take home tools that will help you examine our food system with a critical eye.

Tuesday, January 12, 2010; 6:30–8 PM

Sustainable Agriculture: A Necessary Transition

Lecture with Dave Henson, Executive Director, Occidental Arts and Ecology Center

With a growing human population, climate changes, water insecurity, erosion of good soils, peak oil, and losses in biological diversity all upon us, how will we feed ourselves tomorrow? We can, and must, transition to an agricultural and food system that meets the "triple bottom line" of ecologically sustainable, economically viable, and socially just. But there are competing interests around land-use policies, chemical vs. biological inputs, water and property rights, genetic engineering, and control of the food system, to name a few hurdles. Learn more about the current "hot topics" surrounding our agricultural system, and discover ways to be part of the solution.

Tuesday, December 1; 6:30–8 PM

Eating Greener: The Ecology of Food

Lecture with Aaron French, Author and Eco-Chef

Learn about a unique approach to combining natural history with food ecology to understand our food systems. Discover the truth behind current food buzzwords used in the media and in grocery stores, such as "local," "organic," and "sustainable." Utilizing research with birds and monkeys, explore the role that flexibility has in shaping the eating habits of both humans and wild animals.

Tuesday, February 2, 2010; 6:30–8 PM

Victory Gardens: Join the Garden Revolution

Lecture with Rose Hayden-Smith, Ph.D., Director, University of Cooperative Extension, Ventura County

At no point in our lifetimes has the interest in gardening, urban agriculture, and local food systems been so intense. Review historical case studies, learn about current national policies and models, and discover the future work needed to sustain the Victory Garden model as part of the overall local food movement. Also, learn about urban agriculture and how the local food-systems movement is addressing a wide range of challenges facing Americans today.

Tuesday, March 2, 2010; 6:30–8 PM

Developing Sustainable Foodsheds: The Next Steps in Eating Local

Panel Discussion with members of Roots of Change, moderated by Michael Dimock, President, Roots of Change

Global climate change, competition for use of cropland, population growth, and aging farmers all raise serious questions about our nation's ability to feed itself over time. Moreover, the relationship between health and diet makes it essential that we focus on access to healthful, nutritious, and fresh

food. The panel, resulting from the Developing Sustainable Foodsheds Conference in July 2009, will discuss issues related to the development of foodsheds in the United States.

Tuesday, May 4, 2010; 6:30–8 PM

About the San Diego Natural History Museum:

Celebrating its 135th year, the San Diego Natural History Museum is the second oldest scientific institution in California; third west of the Mississippi. A binational museum, its mission is to interpret the natural world through research, education, and exhibits; to promote understanding of the evolution and diversity of southern California and the peninsula of Baja California and to inspire in all a respect for nature and the environment. Located in Balboa Park at the intersection of Village Place and Park Blvd., the Museum is open daily except for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Phone: 619.232.3821. Website: www.sdnhm.org.

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