



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 11, 2018

THE MCCOY TO HOST *NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE* AND EXPLORER NIZAR IBRAHIM IN “SPINOSAURUS: LOST GIANT OF THE CRETACEOUS” OCTOBER 19

National Geographic Live, National Geographic’s touring speaker series, and the McCoy Center are proud to present “Spinosaurus: Lost Giant of the Cretaceous” with Nizar Ibrahim, a National Geographic Emerging Explorer and paleontologist. Audiences will meet Spinosaurus, the largest predatory dinosaur yet discovered—larger than T. rex—and hear the incredible story of how this prehistoric giant was almost lost to science, before being brought back to light with help from contemporary scientists. With amazing video recreating the lost world of the Cretaceous-era Sahara, Ibrahim will tell the story of Spinosaurus’ discovery, loss, and rediscovery, and explain what—other than its size— makes this ancient monster unique.

The McCoy Marquee Series presents *National Geographic Live* “Spinosaurus: Lost Giant of the Cretaceous” at the Jeanne B. McCoy Community Center for the Arts (100 W. Dublin-Granville Rd., New Albany) on Friday, October 19, at 7 pm. Tickets are \$31.50 at the CAPA Ticket Center (39 E. State St.), all Ticketmaster outlets, and www.ticketmaster.com. To purchase tickets by phone, please call (614) 469-0939 or (800) 745-3000.

German/Moroccan paleontologist Nizar Ibrahim, a postdoctoral scholar in vertebrate anatomy and paleontology at the University of Chicago and 2014 National Geographic Emerging Explorer, scours the deserts of North Africa for clues to life in the Cretaceous period when the area was a large river system teeming with a profusion of diverse life. In addition to unearthing many huge dinosaur bones, he has discovered fossil footprints and a new species of flying reptile with an 18-foot wingspan that lived 95 million years ago.

Ibrahim's remarkable story and the findings of an international team of scientists were just published in the journal *Science* and as a cover story for *National Geographic* magazine. What has been unveiled appears to be the first truly semiaquatic dinosaur, *Spinosaurus aegyptiacus*.

In 2014, Ibrahim was named a National Geographic Emerging Explorer, and in 2015, he was named a TED fellow, the first paleontologist in the history of the program. His upcoming paper describing the ecosystem of what is now Morocco's Sahara Desert in the mid-Cretaceous period promises to be a milestone, providing the most detailed account of the diversity, paleoecology, and geologic context of fossil vertebrates from North Africa.

About *National Geographic Live*

National Geographic Live is the live events division of National Geographic. With a broad roster of talent including renowned photographers, scientists, authors, filmmakers and adventurers, *National Geographic Live's* critically acclaimed programs have connected with audiences worldwide for over a century. Currently, *National Geographic Live* events are held in a variety of cities around the world, including, Seattle, Tampa, Los Angeles, Florence, and Calgary. In each of these cities, speakers share behind-the-scenes stories from the front lines of exploration onstage alongside stunning imagery and gripping footage.

For more information, visit natgeolive.com

CALENDAR LISTING

The McCoy Marquee Series presents *NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE* "SPINOSAURUS: LOST GIANT OF THE CRETACEOUS" WITH NIZAR IBRAHIM

Friday, October 19, 7 pm

McCoy Center (100 W. Dublin-Granville Rd., New Albany)

Meet Spinosaurus, the largest predatory dinosaur yet discovered—larger than *T. rex*—and hear the incredible story of how this prehistoric giant was almost lost to science, before being brought back to light with help from contemporary scientists, including German/Moroccan paleontologist and National Geographic Emerging Explorer Nizar Ibrahim. With amazing video recreating the lost world of the Cretaceous-era Sahara, Ibrahim will tell the story of Spinosaurus' discovery, loss, and rediscovery, and explain what—other than its size— makes this ancient monster unique. Tickets are \$31.50 at the CAPA Ticket Center (39 E. State St.), all Ticketmaster outlets, and www.ticketmaster.com. To purchase tickets by phone, please call (614) 469-0939 or (800) 745-3000. www.capa.com

###

The 2018-19 Marquee Series at the McCoy Center for the Arts is made possible through the generous support of the New Albany Community Foundation and Lbrands Foundation.

About National Geographic Partners LLC

National Geographic Partners LLC (NGP), a joint venture between National Geographic and 21st Century Fox, is committed to bringing the world premium science, adventure and exploration content across an unrivaled portfolio of media assets. NGP combines the global National Geographic television channels (National Geographic Channel, Nat Geo WILD, Nat Geo MUNDO, Nat Geo PEOPLE) with National Geographic's media and consumer-oriented assets, including National Geographic magazines; National Geographic studios; related digital and social media platforms; books; maps; children's media; and ancillary activities that include travel, global experiences and events, archival sales, licensing and e-commerce businesses. Furthering knowledge and understanding of our world has been the core purpose of National Geographic for 130 years, and now we are committed to going deeper, pushing boundaries, going further for our consumers ... and reaching millions of people around the world in 172 countries and 43 languages every month as we do it. NGP returns 27 percent of our proceeds to the nonprofit National Geographic Society to fund work in the areas of science, exploration, conservation and education. For more information visit natgeotv.com or nationalgeographic.com, or find us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, LinkedIn and Pinterest.

About the Jeanne B. McCoy Community Center for the Arts

The Jeanne B. McCoy Community Center for the Arts, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, established in 2007 by a unique joint operating agreement between the New Albany Community Foundation, the City of New Albany, Plain Township, and the New Albany Plain Local School District. Since opening in 2008, the McCoy Center has drawn more than 100,000 people, fulfilling its mission of fostering an appreciation of arts and culture by providing life-long learning opportunities through education, exposure, and participation. For more information, visit www.mccoycenter.org.

Contact: Rolanda Copley
(614) 719-6624
rcopley@capa.com

National Geographic Pressroom
(202) 912-6799
pressroom@natgeo.com