

2015 Yakutat Tern Festival Seminars and Special Events

May 28-31

Thursday

Thursday 6PM: Opening Reception

Join festival committee members and presenters to kick off the festival. Festival organizers will be on hand to answer questions about the festival and early registration will be available. Light fare will be provided. THIS EVENT IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

Friday

Friday 12PM: Fundraiser lunch

Navajo Tacos by LaDonna James.

Friday 3PM: Birds of Yakutat and the Tongass National Forest

Learn about the birds of the Tongass National Forest with Forest Service biologist Brian Logan. This seminar will focus on the birds found in Yakutat as well as the status of songbird monitoring throughout the Tongass National Forest.

Friday 6PM: Opening Remarks and Fundraiser Dinner

Opening remarks and fundraiser dinner with proceeds going to the JOM Mt. St. Elias Dancers. Funds raised through the dinner and performance will go towards travel to Celebration 2016 in Juneau or other future dance gatherings.

Friday 7PM: Keynote Speaker John Marzluff

John Marzluff will discuss the inspiration of crows and ravens on people and our effects on these adaptable birds. He will consider bird behavior from a biological and especially neurobiological perspective that includes discussion of new research on the brain of a crow. His discussion will investigate the idea of cultural coevolution, as a way to understand how social species like crows and humans may come to share a mutual destiny. Big, bold, and boisterous, crows and ravens are hard to miss and Dr. Marzluff's talk is intended to answer the many questions they conjure up in all who have watched them.

Friday 8PM John Marzluff Book Signing

John M. Marzluff is a scientist known for his work on the ecology and behavioral biology of jays, crows, ravens, and their relatives. He is the author of five books, including *In the Company of Crows and Ravens*

(coauthored with Tony Angell), and *Dog Days, Raven Nights* (coauthored with his wife Colleen Marzluff), and most recently *Welcome to Subirdia*. Books will be available for purchase and signing following Marzluff's keynote presentation.

Friday 830PM: Mt. St. Elias Dance Performance

Following dinner and our featured artist' presentation, don't miss a glimpse into Yakutat's strong cultural heritage with the Mt. St. Elias Dancers performance.

Saturday

Note: Bag lunches will be available for pick up Saturday morning through lunch time, with proceeds benefitting the local radio station YTT/KYKT 91.1FM. Must order in advance; please see fundraiser flyer for more information.

Saturday 8AM: Bird Banding demonstration (all ages)

Licensed bird bander Gwen Baluss will demonstrate the use of mist nets to capture, band, and safely release songbirds. Feel free to stop in any time between 8 and 11AM.

Saturday 11-12PM: MacBeth Revealed: Workshop with Elizabeth Ware (ages 14 and up)

After an opening discussion of Shakespeare's life and times, participants will get a preview of the evening's production, an overview of the story, and a chance to learn some of the Bard's immortal words from this magnificent play.

Saturday 2 PM: Alaska's Southern Connections

Alaska's breeding birds travel over most of the world during the nonbreeding season. Through a series of color photos and maps, Greg Butcher, the U.S. Forest Service International Program's Migratory Species Coordinator, will provide an overview of Alaska's breeding birds and their travels. While outside of the United States, these species face many threats that they must overcome if they are to return safely. Greg will discuss conservation actions that can be taken to keep birds safe throughout the year.

Saturday 3PM: Adult art workshop with featured artist Alison Bremner

Make, design and decorate a deer hide rattle. Great for beginners and experienced artists alike.

Saturday 6PM: Fundraiser dinner

Fundraiser dinner benefitting the Yakutat area Alaska Native Brotherhood/Sisterhood.

Saturday 8PM: *MacBeth* by Edgeware productions

A production of Shakespeare's "Scottish play" directed by David Edgeware and featuring Elizabeth Ware in the role of Lady Macbeth. Though the words remain in place, the setting is updated to recent

times, with 20th century clothing, guns and modern military helmets. Edgcombe said his approach to the play is to investigate how violence spreads. **Ages 16 and up.**

Sunday

Note: Bag lunches will be available for pick up Sunday morning through lunch time, with proceeds benefitting the local radio station YTT/KYKT 91.1 FM. Must order in advance; please see fundraiser flyer for more information

Sunday 8-11AM: Bird banding demonstration (all ages)

Licensed bird bander Gwen Baluss will demonstrate the use of mist nets to capture, band, and safely release songbirds. Feel free to stop in any time between 8 and 11AM.

Sunday 11AM: 5-k Fun Run at Ankau CCC trail

The fun run will begin at the trailhead parking area located at the end of Monti Bay Loop Road. Race will be one-way to the trailhead located at the Ankau Bridge. Participants will be driven to and from start point or school as needed. The trail is challenging and may be treacherous in areas; please be careful. Wear white and be prepared to be colored.

Sunday 1PM: Inter-seasonal movements and wintering areas of Yakutat's Aleutian Terns.

Join Forest Service biologist and regional planner Mike Goldstein in exploring the unique timing and migration of Aleutian Terns as they travel across the world. Goldstein will show winter hot spots and discuss why terns may be selecting these sites.

Sunday 2PM: Bird Treatment and Learning Center Live Bird Presentation

Volunteer handlers from the Anchorage Bird Treatment and Learning Center (TLC) will present a live bird program, featuring Crawford, a raven and Gandalf, the great gray owl. Learn more about these species' ecology, conservation, and the role of the Anchorage Bird TLC.

Sunday 3PM: Closing ceremony/remarks

Immediately following the Anchorage Bird TLC Presentation, a few closing remarks will mark the culmination of the festival. Winners of the Alaska Airlines raffle, silent auction, youth photo contest, and various youth awards will be announced at this time.