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Art Association and Center of Wonder begin process to become one nonprofit

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The Art Association of Jackson Hole and Center of Wonder announce the first phase of a process to combine into one nonprofit. The integration will bring the 50-year legacy of the Art Association together with the forward-looking vision of Center of Wonder to better serve the Jackson Hole community.

“We are very excited to reimagine these two organizations together in order to transform how this community experiences art,” said Lyndsay McCandless, Director of Creative Resources at Center of Wonder. “We will be stronger together as we build interdisciplinary arts programming and broaden access to the arts.”

Over the past decade, these two organizations have been in conversation steadily exploring how to expand the vision for the arts and creative education in Jackson Hole. In these discussions, leadership and staff arrived at the natural conclusion that combined talent would lead to longevity and increased impact.

“The integration of the Art Association and Center of Wonder will bring benefits such as excellence in programs, better administrative support, and access to higher level funding opportunities. This will naturally translate into better art education for our community,” said Mark Nowlin, Executive Director of the Art Association.

The community can look forward to innovative and integrated programming that will reach even more people. New opportunities include a robust interdisciplinary art education curriculum, expanded partnerships with organizations such as the San Francisco Art Institute, artist-in-residency programs, and regional outreach.

To begin this process, Center of Wonder has launched a national and local search for an Executive Leader to bring both organizations towards the vision of becoming a regional powerhouse for the arts and creative education. Integration will be phased over the summer and fall of 2018. All current staff will be retained in the new structure. The Board of Directors will also combine in order to provide a gradual balancing of missions. After these initial steps, the organizations will further integrate to operate under one name and mission.

Meanwhile, the Art Association and Center of Wonder look forward to a summer filled with art.

The Art Association is presenting a diverse schedule of creative events, classes and exhibitions. Highlights include a variety of visiting artist workshops, a new art supply store, kids' summer camps, two gallery exhibitions and special events including Art Fair Jackson Hole, Party in the Park and Takin' it to the Streets. Pick up the CREATE catalog or visit www.artassociation.org to learn about these exciting events.

Center of Wonder's calendar for arts, music and events, www.DailyWonder.org, listing hundreds of events each week will continue to help the local community find out what's happening and engage with creative events. Center of Wonder is working with the Jackson Hole Community Housing Trust to accept applications for an artist unit in the Redmond Street Rentals, due on June 15. Center of Wonder is also accepting Arts for All grant applications, due on June 27. Visit www.centerofwonder.org for all application materials.

For more information, contact Mark Nowlin, Executive Director at the Art Association, 307-733-6379 x104 or Lyndsay McCandless, Director of Creative Resources at Center of Wonder, 307-413-1800. Inquiries about the Executive Leader position should be directed to Aspen Leadership Group at 617-905-4394.

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CONSERVATION SUMMIT
JACKSON HOLE
WILDLIFE FILM FESTIVAL

Award-winning wildlife and science films on international tour
Jackson Hole WILD On Tour

JACKSON, WY - Jackson Hole WILD *On Tour* aims to share the most extraordinary wildlife, nature & science films from its internationally acclaimed [film competitions](#) with the world! Jackson Hole WILD *On Tour*, brings winning films from the [Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival](#) and the [Science Media Awards](#) to museums, universities, festivals and local screening events over the coming year. Screening events are currently slated in Washington D.C., California, New Zealand, Switzerland, India, Wyoming and Pennsylvania. Recent WILD-on-Tour screenings with the U.S. State Department, Smithsonian Museum of Natural History, North Carolina Museum of Science, the U.S. Consulate China, U.S. Embassy Bangkok, U.S. Embassy Uganda, American Association for the Advancement of Science [and more](#) have impacted audiences exceeding more than 3000.

“There has never been a more important time to connect people with the wonders of nature and science. The impact of these powerful stories is undeniable,” said Executive Director Lisa Samford. “We are eager to partner with organizations looking to inspire action on a local level.”

Jackson Hole WILD will work with museums, universities, nonprofits and organizations invested in the mission of educating & inspiring the public about the natural world. Screenings will be programmed custom for the hosting organization and screening events can be free or ticketed. Based on an incredible [catalog of films](#) to choose from, Jackson Hole WILD can pick films that are relevant to specific topics or regions of the world.

For more information about hosting a science or nature event, please visit jhfestival.org/on-tour.html or contact melanie@jhfestival.org.

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About Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival

Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival's (JHWFF's) programs promote public awareness and stewardship of wildlife and wildlife habitat through the innovative use of media. Since 1991, its annual conferences draw together international leaders in science, conservation, broadcasting and media. For three days this year, committed cat advocates will convene for the Jackson Hole Conservation Summit: Cats (Sept. 24-26), to share resources and strategies, address critical challenges and brainstorm innovative approaches for collaboration. They will join 650+ of the world's most influential filmmakers and commissioners at the Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival to celebrate the world's finest nature programming and explore innovative ways to integrate media centrally into the battle against global wildlife crime.