



Hearts in the Ice

Global Call to Action from Extreme Citizen Scientists to Fight Climate Emergency

After 17 months in isolation observing and documenting climate changes in the Arctic, Polar Ambassadors urge all to act with courage, curiosity, responsibility, and urgency as if our lives depended on it.

Bamsebu, Svalbard, April 22, 2021 – Today is **Earth Day**, and the theme this year is “Restore Our Earth”, which is exactly what Canadian Sunniva Sorby and Norwegian Hilde Fålun Strøm urge us to do. They have spent almost two years isolated in the High Arctic of Svalbard, living tight with nature, and paying close attention to changes in the fastest warming region on Earth. Shouting from an ice floe after a particularly warm, rainy winter, they urge everybody to act against what renowned author and scientist David Suzuki describes as “a slow-motion catastrophe”.

Climate change happens daily all around the planet but is most visible in the polar regions. While most people will never travel to this remote part of the world, Sorby and Strøm have introduced 100,000 youth and thousands of individuals to life in the Arctic through satellite video calls hosted by Canadian Joe Grabowski and [Exploring by the Seat of your Pants](#), bringing experts - [such as David Suzuki](#) - , students, teachers and the public in dialogue around topics like technology, food, community, mental & physical, health, bio-diversity, weather, global women in science, and climate change.

“I think of Hilde and Sunniva as “astronauts”. They’re in a very confined area, and they’re able to see the world in a radical different way. Astronauts gave us the first vision of Earth from outer space, and suddenly we realized it’s a single system and how thin and fragile is the atmosphere. Hilde and Sunniva are looking at a very important part of the planet that most people will never visit, and that is responding the most rapidly to the changes that are going on. They are pioneers up there, giving us a different take on the urgency to act,” says David Suzuki.

“We are working with experts to raise awareness, share stories from the field and to bridge the gap between science and the public by acting as citizen scientists. Changing human behavior is the biggest challenge we face yet that is exactly what we all need to do. We don’t want people to live the extreme life we have but we do need them to see and feel the urgency. What happens in the Arctic does not stay in the Arctic. Climate change does not understand borders or boundaries- our world operates with one set of lungs and she is compromised. We all have a role to play, not tomorrow- today!” say the Hearts in the Ice Team.

With only three more live satellite calls before the team departs for their once familiar world now drastically changed by the pandemic, Sorby and Strøm are calling upon all citizens to [join them on May 13th at 12pm EDT/1800 CET](#) in their final live call featuring Dr. Jane Goodall, DBE, one of the world's most famous ethologists and conservationists and a United Nations Messenger of Peace. In 1977, she founded [The Jane Goodall Institute \(JGI\)](#), a global community

conservation organization. JGI's [Roots & Shoots](#) environmental and humanitarian programme empowers young people of all ages to become involved in hands-on projects for their community, animals, and the environment in more than 65 countries.

This FREE event is not to be missed, and the last chance to listen to the Polar Girls live from the Arctic!

Contact :

Pascale Lortie

Media & Sponsor Lead

pascale.lortie@live.fr

+1 514 892-9002

www.heartsintheice.com

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For further information on the Jane Goodall Institute, see:

www.janegoodall.global

www.rootsandshoots.global