

# **Childhood Landscapes of Wonder and Grief: How the Past Shapes Environmental Activism**

by

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Environmental activism takes place in the context of activists' inner histories composed of memories and childhood experiences. Their childhood stories suggest how they came to value forests and nonhuman animals as deserving of rights equal to those of humans. Activists' childhood memories are bittersweet: they remember nature as a special place in which they developed close relationships to trees and animals, but they also recall mourning for desecrated places and slaughtered animals. In this talk, I focus on what these stories of wonder and grief tell us about children's experiences of the natural world and the development of environmental commitments.

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**10:00 am**

**Room: University Hall E690**



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