



FILM FESTIVAL

2024

VIP Sponsors Mixer

Thursday March 28

5-6:30 pm

LPCC - Phoenix Ballroom



Keynote Speaker Michael Forsberg

Michael Forsberg is a Nebraskan whose 30-year career as a photographer and conservationist has been dedicated to wildlife and conservation stories in North America's Great Plains, once one of the greatest grassland ecosystems on Earth. His images have been featured in publications including [Audubon](#), [National Geographic](#), [Nature Conservancy](#), and [Sierra](#) magazines. His fine art prints are in public and private collections, and his solo exhibitions have traveled nationwide.

In 2017, Mike received the Ansel Adams Award for Conservation Photography from the Sierra Club in Washington, DC, and the Environmental Impact Award from the North American Nature Photography Association. Also, in 2017, his image of sandhill cranes on the Platte River was selected to illustrate USPS's Forever stamp celebrating Nebraska's 150 years of Statehood. In 2000, his photograph of a Nebraska tallgrass prairie was issued as an international airmail stamp in the United States Postal Service's American Scenes Series. In 2020, Mike received the J. Sherwood Chalmers Medal from The Garden Club of America.

In 2011, Mike co-founded [Platte Basin Timelapse](#) (PBT) in partnership with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Michael Farrell Photography and Fine Art. Today, it operates as a conservation storytelling project to inform scientific research, build educational content, and tell stories of a Great Plains watershed in motion. A documentary film for PBS, titled [Follow the Water](#), based on the project and Mike's traverse across the Platte Basin watershed, was released on PBS nationally in 2019.

Mike serves as faculty with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and is a Fellow with the Center for Great Plains Studies and the Daugherty Water for Food Institute. He is also a Senior Fellow with the [International League of Conservation Photographers](#).

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