

Press Information

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THE
WILD
CENTER

Wild Center's New Film Playing To Big Crowds

Traces Wild Adirondack History

Tupper Lake, NY - Mammoths roam the valleys, giant sloths clamber up trees and whales swim in from Lake Champlain. It's all part of the Wild Center's new movie that is earning rave reviews for its new take on a rarely seen story.

The Wild Center was designed with a showpiece theater. The screen is so wide it requires three projectors working together to create the panoramic effect. This summer the Center raised the curtain on its first full-motion movie, filmed expressly for the special wide-screen theater. The movie, called *A Matter of Degrees*, was filmed on location in Greenland and the Adirondacks over the course of two years by the award-winning film company Chedd-Angier-Lewis.

"It's amazing to see that the glacier that wiped this place out is basically still around, and still making news up in Greenland," said Susan Arnold, the Museum's membership manager who has seen the movie numerous times with all kinds of audiences. "People are really responding to the movie, everything from tears to waiting in line to see it again."

The movie has writing credits from former Adirondack Life publisher Howard Fish, features music by sometime Saranac Lake resident Martin Sexton and is narrated by Sigourney Weaver, another of the long list of participants with strong Adirondack ties.

A Matter of Degrees takes viewers back to an Adirondacks that was home to mammoths, California condors, ground sloths, ice and floods. "We wanted to look at what made the Adirondacks," said Stephanie Ratcliffe, Executive Director of The Wild Center and one of the film's producers. "It was fascinating to know how much has happened in this one place, and that it's never been explored on film before." Ratcliffe was on the team that flew to inspect Greenland as a location. "It really felt like time travel. There were places in Greenland that looked similar to the Adirondacks, without the forest cover. We stood at the edge of a glacier, and it did feel as if we were standing on an Adirondack peak 12,000 years ago."

Rick Godin, who led the local camera crew, flew over the Adirondacks with a state-of-the-art camera that could zoom down on details from a mile above the tree tops. "It was the same technology used in filming Planet Earth for the BBC. It was great to be up there, knowing that we were making a real movie about the Adirondacks and telling what we think is a really important story."

The movie is 24 minutes long, and received rave reviews when it was screened for preview audiences at The Wild Center's national climate conference in June..