



SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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From Rising Seas to Archaeology of the Night: Archaeologists gather to discuss the past at the 81st Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology

Washington, D.C. –Archaeology of the rain forest, archaeology of the night, Mesoamerican human sacrifice, Vikings in Scandinavia, and human response to climate change are only some of the sessions that will be presented at the 81st Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, April 6 - 10, at the Walt Disney World® Dolphin Resort in Orlando.

Climate Change and Archaeology is the topic Wednesday evening at the President's Forum opening session. Archaeologists know that climate change has affected human history in the past and that increased climate variability and sea level rise are affecting people and archaeological sites now, with Florida being particularly at risk. In this forum, climate scientists and archaeologists examine climate change from several perspectives, including past climate change effects on human societies; archaeological remains as proxy climate records; and archaeological heritage management in times of climate change.

Paper and poster sessions will cover the full range of human endeavor around the world, including mortuary science, museum's underused collections, forensic anthropology, ceramics, and ancient DNA.

Examples of sessions include *Archaeologies of Inclusion: Towards a Politics of Engagement*, sponsored by the Queer Archaeology Interest Group; archaeological approaches to children and

childhood; built environments of the enslaved experience in the Caribbean; ancient DNA and island colonization; subterranean archaeology in the Andes; and Mesoamerican human sacrifice.

Over 100 booths will fill the exhibit hall, making it an exceptional one-stop opportunity for attendees to find the latest publications, software, field equipment, technology, data and analytic services, and other archaeological necessities.

The press is invited to attend this conference. Please preregister by calling Amy Rutledge, manager, Communications and Fundraising, at +1/202-559-7383 or by email at amy_rutledge@saa.org.

The Final Program can be viewed at

<http://www.saa.org/AbouttheSociety/AnnualMeeting/2016Program/tabid/1537/Default.aspx>,

and session abstracts can be viewed at

<http://www.saa.org/AbouttheSociety/AnnualMeeting/Abstracts2016/tabid/1536/Default.aspx>.

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Press office information: From Wednesday, April 6, through Saturday, April 9, the Press Office, located in Europe 2 of the Walt Disney World® Dolphin Resort, will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. On Sunday, April 10, it will open from 9 a.m. to noon. The press officer is Amy Rutledge, who can be reached at amy_rutledge@saa.org.

The Society for American Archaeology is an international organization dedicated to the research, interpretation, and protection of the archaeological heritage of the Americas. With more than 7,900 members, the Society represents professional, student, and avocational archaeologists working in a variety of settings, including government agencies, colleges and universities, museums, and the private sector.