

Press Release:

Title: ***No Dinosaurs in Heaven***

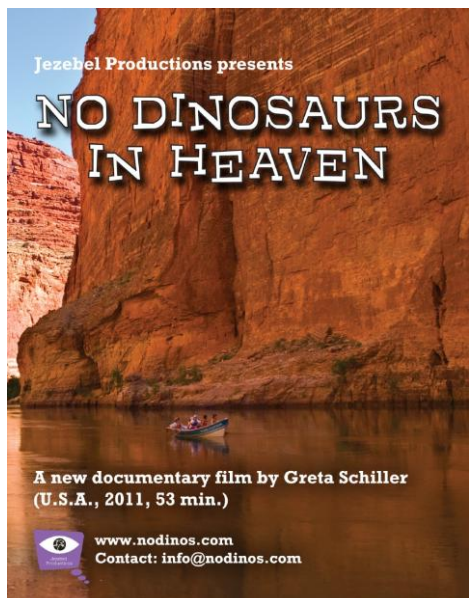
Release: **Immediately**

Contact: Rob Lee, HHS Science Alliance Advisor, Healdsburg High School

rlee@husd.com

For Immediate Release

The Healdsburg High School Science Alliance is staging an “**Outside the Box**” public lecture series for the Healdsburg community featuring various speakers on a broad range of scientific topics. Our next event is the screening of the film *No Dinosaurs in Heaven* followed by a question and answer session with Steven Newton, Programs and Policy Director for the National Center for Science Education. The talk will be on **Monday, September 26th, beginning at 6:30pm in the Healdsburg High School BlackBox Theater**. The public is invited, donations are appreciated, and students are free.



No Dinosaurs in Heaven is a film essay that examines the hijacking of science education by religious fundamentalists, threatening the separation of church and state and dangerously undermining scientific literacy. The documentary weaves together two strands: an examination of the problem posed by creationists who earn science education degrees only to advocate anti-scientific beliefs in the classroom; and a visually stunning raft trip down the Grand Canyon, led by Dr. Eugenie Scott, that debunks creationist explanations for its formation. These two strands expose the fallacies in the “debate,” manufactured by anti-science forces, that creationism is a valid scientific alternative to evolution.

Emmy Award-winning director (Before Stonewall, Paris Was a Woman) and science educator Greta Schiller uses her own experience — with a graduate school biology professor who refused to teach evolution — to expose the insidious effect that so-called “creationist science” has had on science education. *No Dinosaurs in Heaven* intelligently argues that public education must steadfastly resist the

encroachment of religion in the form of anti-evolution creationism, and that science literacy is crucial to a healthy democracy.

Steve Newton, who appears in the film, joined NCSE as a Public Information Project Director in the summer of 2008. He received a B.A. in History from UC Berkeley, with an emphasis in modern German history and early 20th century pseudoscientific movements (eugenics, forced sterilization programs). Switching gears completely, Steven then completed an M.S. in Geology from CSU Hayward, with an emphasis in paleoclimatology. Following graduation, Steven taught geology and oceanography as an adjunct faculty member at a number of Bay Area colleges, where he developed courses in the History of Science and the Geology of the National Parks.

For more information contact: Rob Lee: rlee@husd.com 707.431.3420 or visit HSScienceAlliance.com

HHS Science Alliance is committed to promoting and inspiring an appreciation for science in our school and community.