

# Cambios Climate Change Speaker Series

## 2023-2024 Season

All Events at the Rio Grande Theater  
7 pm, Free And Open to the Public



Tuesday, November 28, 2023

Dr. Adriana L. Romero-Olivares, New Mexico State University  
**Fungi Under Global Climate Change and Impacts to Our Ecosystems**

Global climate change is affecting all organisms on Earth and fungi are no exception. In her research, soil microbiologist Dr. Romero-Olivares addresses a major challenge: incorporating fungal responses and adaptation. She has discovered fungal mechanisms that govern ecosystem functioning under global climate change. This represents essential knowledge needed to develop solutions to ensure food supply, societal health, natural resource protection, and environmental sustainability under a changing climate.



Tuesday, February 6, 2024

Alaina Wood, Sustainability Scientist and Climate Communicator  
**A Case for Climate Optimism**

Without hope, movements are destined to fail. For far too long climate issues have been the sole focus of discussions around climate in the media and in the classroom. Because of that, many have developed eco-anxiety and given up on climate activism due to believing it is too late. In this talk, sustainability scientist and climate communicator Alaina Wood will make an argument for fair and honest coverage of both climate issues and solutions using her experience in media and activism.



Tuesday, March 26, 2024

Gail Evans, Attorney, Center for Biological Diversity  
Jonathan Juarez, Individual Plaintiff and Organizer with YUCCA  
(Youth United for Climate Crisis Action) and No False Solutions  
Jozee Zunica, Permian Basin Resident, Organizer with YUCCA  
**The Pollution Control Clause of the NM Constitution:  
State Accountability for Oil and Gas Pollution Crisis in New Mexico**

A coalition of frontline community members, Indigenous people and youth filed a landmark lawsuit against New Mexico in May of 2023, charging Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham's administration and the Legislature with violating the state constitution by failing to curb oil and gas pollution. Two plaintiffs and lead counsel Gail Evans will speak about the health and climate harms from oil and gas production and pollution in New Mexico. The talk provides an opportunity to consider how litigation is deployed to pursue progress when policy and legislation have fallen short.



Tuesday, April 9, 2024

Jason Laney, Warning Coordination Meteorologist  
National Weather Service - El Paso/Santa Teresa  
**Climate Change: A "Hot" Topic for the NWS**

In the wake of what has turned out to be one of, if not the hottest summers ever both locally and globally, the NWS is doing its part to warn and educate the public of the extreme weather resulting from climate change. We will look at the ways that our local El Paso NWS office used a detailed risk assessment centered around local vulnerabilities to improve the local warning process. Better yet, we will look ahead to the upcoming summer season to see if we can expect a repeat of 2023.



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