



# WILLAMETTE VALLEY BIRD SYMPOSIUM

*The Willamette Valley Bird Symposium is a day-long event that brings together professionals, students, and amateurs to celebrate birds. This comes from a recognition that the scientific study of birds and their conservation benefits from having shared conversations between members of these groups. All members of the symposium production team are volunteers who collectively donate hundreds of hours to make the symposium possible each year.*

**January 23, 2021**

**(All times Pacific Standard Time)**

**9:00-9:10 Introduction to the Willamette Valley Bird Symposium**

*Welcome from the WVBS: ALAN HARRINGTON, Masters Student, Department of Animal and Rangeland Sciences, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon.*

**9:10-10:10 Plenary 1: "The bird way: A New look at how birds talk, work, play, parent, and think."**  
*DR. JENNIFER ACKERMAN, Ornithologist and Author.*

**10:10-10:15 Break**

**10:15-11:30 Oral presentations, morning session**

**10:15 Blood lead levels of songbirds following the Flint, Michigan drinking water crisis.**  
*DOROTHY ZAHOR, Masters Student, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, Michigan.*

**10:30 Marbled murrelets rely on each other to identify potential nesting sites.**  
*JONATHON VALENTE, Post-Doctoral Researcher, Department of Forest Engineering, Resources, and Management, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon.*

**10:45 Moving between the green and black: Black-backed woodpecker habitat selection in a fire-prone landscape.**  
*MARK KERSTENS, Masters Student, Department of Forest Engineering, Resources, and Management, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon.*

- 11:00 Bird and cat interactions across urban and rural habitats as determined from wildlife rehabilitation center data.**  
KIRSTIN DEMEZAS, *Masters Student, Department Fisheries and Wildlife, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon.*
- 11:15 Does timber harvest emulate natural disturbance for Oregon's early seral forest birds?**  
GRAHAM FRANK, *PhD Student, Department of Forest Engineering, Resources, and Management, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon.*
- 11:30-12:00 Lunch**
- 12:00-12:30 Raptor Virtual Encounter with Chintimini Wildlife Center**
- 12:30-1:30 Plenary 2: "Genital evolution in birds."**  
DR. PATRICIA (PATTY) BRENNAN, *Assistant Professor Biological Sciences, Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, Massachusetts.*
- 1:30-1:35 Break**
- 1:35-2:35 Oral presentations, afternoon session**
- 1:35 Sagebrush CSI: methods for collecting evidence from a predator.**  
LINDSEY PERRY, *PhD Candidate, Department of Animal and Rangeland Sciences, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon.*
- 1:50 Becoming birds: strengthening ecoliteracy through birds, birding, and place.**  
DR. TERESA WICKS, *Eastern Oregon Field Coordinator, Portland Audubon Society, Burns, Oregon.*
- 2:05 Are large-scale bark beetle outbreaks a disturbance to forest songbird communities?**  
DR. WILLIAM JANOUSEK, *Biologist and Bird Enthusiast, Missoula, Montana.*
- 2:20 Golden eagle reproduction in the northern range of Yellowstone National Park**  
DAVE HAINES, *Masters Student, University of Montana - Avian Science Center, Missoula, Montana.*
- 2:35-2:40 Break**
- 2:40-3:40 Plenary 3: "Birdsong for the curious naturalist."**  
DR. DONALD KROODSMA, *Ornithologist and Author, Hatfield, Massachusetts.*
- 3:40-3:55 Closing remarks**  
*Closing remarks from the WVBS: KAYLA RUTH, PhD Student, Department of Animal and Rangeland Sciences, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon.*