



For Immediate Release

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## **FILM CELEBRATES COURAGEOUS OCEAN EXPLORATION WITH *KON-TIKI* SCREENING**

PALOS VERDES PENINSULA, NOVEMBER 18, 2014— Join the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy for the last film in *The Beauty of Nature* series. This final film **KON-TIKI** features Norway's submission for best foreign film to the 2013 Academy Awards. The film will be shown Saturday, November 22 at 7:30 pm. Doors open at 7:00 pm at the historic Warner Grand Theatre, 478 W. 6th Street, San Pedro.

Kon-Tiki (2012; 118 min) is the acclaimed re-enactment of the epic journey of Norwegian explorer Thor Heyerdal. On a voyage with five loyal friends, the group sails a fragile balsa wood raft along an ancient path some 4,300 miles across the Pacific. Along their perilous expedition they are attacked by tidal waves, sharks and other dangers depicted in the film with stunning CGI effects. The film is subtitled in some sections. Tickets are \$10 for adults. Free admission to everyone under 18 years of age.

"This is a really important movie," says Rachel Bruhnke, teacher at the Port of Los Angeles High School. "My father told me about this story when I was a child, and it's such an important message about the bold risks people take to discover new things in life. Science and discovery produces results through hard work, perseverance, and an internal purpose and commitment to find answers and solutions. When you first start working on something, nobody knows what will come so you have to be willing to work and to fail, really!"

"My brother met Thor Heyerdal in Peru and was encouraged by Heyerdal to continue his own adventure from Tierra del Fuego to Alaska on horseback. It was a great thrill and honor for my brother, and he went to Alaska and later made a movie of his adventure. So Heyerdal was a real inspiration to my family," says Bruhnke. "I'm inviting all my students from POLA High School – those with interest in the environment, and those interested in Spanish and Hispanic histories. Really everyone should make time to attend."

"I saw the original movie in the 1960s and am very much looking forward to this new version," says Bill Swank, President of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy. "It's a powerful story about following your gut and your passion to do important work in life. So many people with the Conservancy embody this kind of passion that we feel it mirrors the courage of our work to preserve land! We'll also be announcing our upcoming 2015 films at this final film of our first year's series. We're excited to announce our lineup."

“We have enjoyed collaborating with many groups throughout the year,” says Andrea Vona, Executive Director of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy. “This evening’s program we are joining with SCAN – a group that cares deeply about the Scandinavian Center at Nansenfield. SCAN appreciates our inclusion of a Scandinavian film in our series, and invites everyone to a Norwegian Christmas Bazaar earlier that day.”

You can experience Scandinavian culture close to home by spending your afternoon enjoying a Scandinavian bazaar at the Norwegian Seamen’s Church in San Pedro. Decorations, music, candles, and the smell of freshly baked goods set the holiday mood as you wander the booths filled with Scandinavian goods of all kinds. There are raffle drawings with wonderful prizes, and traditional foods. Saturday, 11 – 6 pm. 1035 South Beacon Street, San Pedro.

Other groups that participated in *The Beauty of Nature* film series included Yosemite Conservancy, Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, The Palos Verdes Art Center, and the Palos Verdes Library District. The series has drawn over 1300 guests to the various film screenings.

Purchase movie tickets online at: [pvplc.org/\\_activities/filmseries.asp](http://pvplc.org/_activities/filmseries.asp) For more information, call 310 541-7613 or visit us online at: [www.pvplc.org](http://www.pvplc.org).

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*The Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit community-based organization dedicated to preserving land and restoring habitat for the enjoyment and education of all. The Conservancy owns or manages the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve, the Linden H. Chandler and George F Canyon Preserves in Rolling Hills Estates the White Point Nature Preserve, a facility of the LA City Department of Recreation and Parks, and habitat restoration on the Defense Fuel Supply Point in San Pedro.*