

# HIGH DESERT MUSEUM

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Raptors of the Desert Sky begins Friday, June 1

*Program occurs daily through Labor Day*

BEND, OR — The High Desert Museum's signature outdoor avian flight program, Raptors of the Desert Sky, will begin on Friday, June 1, with daily shows through Labor Day.

The program features hawks, owls, falcons and even a turkey vulture that quite literally fly right overhead. A Museum curator narrates the action and shares the hunting strategies and natural behaviors of these spectacular birds of prey.

Raptors of the Desert Sky was due to launch over Memorial Day weekend. However, the timing of a May 23 prescribed burn on Museum grounds required bumping back the launch of the summer program.

"We exercise an abundance of caution when it comes to the welfare of our wildlife," said Jon Nelson, Museum Curator of Wildlife. "With the timing of the prescribed burn, our raptors need a little more time to be ready to fly for our visitors."

"The raptor program is an iconic part of the High Desert Museum experience. We're excited to welcome visitors to see it starting next week in the Museum's exquisite setting," said Dana Whitelaw, Museum Executive Director. "Our prescribed burn went very well, and visitors will also be able to see the Museum in a new way with fire restored to the landscape."

Raptors of the Desert Sky is supported by Bigfoot Beverages and will take place daily at 11:30 a.m. except for July 4. Tickets for the show are separate from Museum entry (\$3 for members and children ages 3-12, \$5 for non-members, free for children 2 or younger) and must be purchased by 11 a.m. It's a 15-minute walk from Admissions to the 400-yard trail leading to the program area. Entry to the program closes at 11:25 a.m. Learn more at [highdesertmuseum.org/raptors-of-the-desert-sky](http://highdesertmuseum.org/raptors-of-the-desert-sky).

### ABOUT THE MUSEUM:

THE HIGH DESERT MUSEUM opened in 1982 and brings regional wildlife, culture, art and natural resources together to promote an understanding of the natural and cultural heritage of North America's high desert country. The Museum uses indoor and outdoor exhibits, wildlife in natural habitats, and living history demonstrations to help people discover and appreciate the high desert

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environment. The Museum is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and is a Smithsonian Affiliate. [highdesertmuseum.org](http://highdesertmuseum.org)

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