



EXPLORERS WEEKEND 2025



Lake Geneva Region and Online Weekend of Thu 19th – Sun 22nd Jun'25; ExplorersWeekend.org

The Explorers Club (Switzerland Chapter) is organizing a series of events in the Lake Geneva Region during the weekend of Thu 19th to Sun 22nd Jun '25 – open to all those interested in learning more about Scientific Exploration.

Several activities related to Exploration and Field Sciences including:
Expedition Lectures, Survival Skills Training and Exploration Film Screenings.

Exploration Film Festival “Best of” Screenings and The Explorers Club (TEC) Talks @ EPFL Pallaz Auditorium (MED 01418) and Online

Thursday 19th and Friday 20th Jun'25, from 14:30 – 20:00; free to attend, registration required to join live; epfl.ch

Both days will be hosted at the building situated right across the prestigious and award-winning Rolex Learning Center, one of the most remarkable buildings in the world (rolexlearningcenter.epfl.ch).

We start the event on Thursday 19th with three of the best films screened in Davos last November during the inaugural edition of the ExplorationFilmFestival.org, followed by a sneak preview trailer and a conversation with one of the filmmakers (Yuri Sanada).

On Friday 20th we have the “TEC Talks” sessions about our club member expeditions, several of whom will join us live or via Zoom to have hourlong conversations with EPFL stakeholders present at the auditorium, please refer to ExplorersWeekend.org for the latest detailed event agenda including speaker profiles and topics covered.

This time our capacity is limited to 70 people, so please book your free ticket via: eventbrite.co.uk/e/1407632188769. Sessions will also be accessible online to the general public via this Zoom link tiny.cc/ExplorersWeekend.

This event is kindly supported by the Switzerland Innovation Foundation (switzerland-innovation.com), a federal institutional ecosystem allowing universities and innovative companies to collaborate and use their research results for the development of new marketable products and services.

Additional sponsors would be most welcome to help us cover key organizational costs.

High Mountain Survival Skills Training with accredited guides

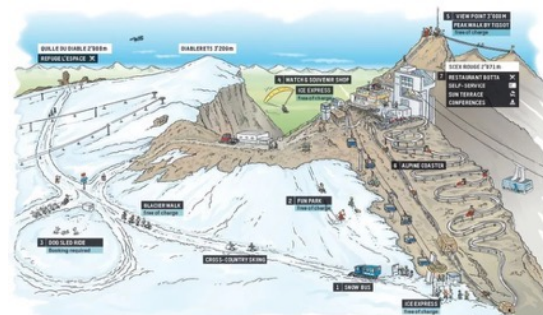
Partner event on Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd Jun'25

If you are interested in High Mountain Skills Building @ Les Diablerets Glacier (3'000m/10'000ft) on Saturday 21st or Sunday 22nd, please pre-register your interest at: <https://shorturl.at/A9ZV4>.

These two days only will be hosted if we reach the sufficient number of participants required to justify the presence of the mountain guides.



Rolex Learning Center @ epfl.ch



Glacier 3000 summer activities area



Learn survival skills to stay alive in a harsh environment

For more details on how to attend or sponsor this series of events please contact Marcelo Garcia via switzerland@explorers.org.

Lake Geneva Region and Online | Weekend of Thu 19th – Sun 22nd Jun'25
explorers.org – epfl.ch – wisdomaccelerator.org – explorationfilmfestival.org – explorationtrain.org



EXPLORERS WEEKEND 2025



Lake Geneva Region and Online
Weekend of Thu 19th – Sun 22nd Jun'25; ExplorersWeekend.org

Main Event Venues and Core Stakeholders

EPFL – École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne

epfl.ch; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/École_Polytechnique_Fédérale_de_Lausanne; rolexlearningcenter.epfl.ch
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rolux_Learning_Center; youtube.com/watch?v=LxxbbECorRs (RLC intro)

EPFL is known as the "MIT of Europe" – a world class top 10 university specializing in Engineering and Natural Sciences. The mission of The Explorers Club significantly overlaps with the EPFL 2021–2024 Strategic Plan below, therefore one of our key goals is to identify potential areas of stakeholder synergy:

1. Adapting our education portfolio to meet society's needs
2. Promoting the next generation of scientists, engineers and architects
3. Bolstering our research excellence in key scientific areas
4. Promoting a culture of open science
5. Deepening our relationship with the Swiss community
6. Developing a sustainable campus and dynamic community
7. Further enhancing the sustainability and stability of our funding

Wisdom Accelerator for Your (WAY)

WisdomAccelerator.org; WisdomHouseDavos.org

Evolving as a concept since in 2017, Wisdom Accelerator for Youth (WAY) is a registered Geneva based nonprofit bringing teenagers to the World Economic Forum week in Davos (mid-January), where they work in a weeklong internship at Wisdom House Davos, a venue located in the largest local church for NGOs and academia participant to have their own voice when so many senior stakeholders are present. Our supporters in the past have included Harvard, MIT, Stanford and the Bayer Foundation.

Exploration Film Festival

ExplorationFilmFestival.org; ExplorationTrain.org

The pilot edition of the Exploration Film Festival took place in November 2024 and was covered by the Davoser Zeitung newspaper (article: tiny.co/EFF_DZ). Starting with ten films, the plans for 2025 are to screen up to 100 and eventually evolve toward screening 1000 films related to Field Sciences, Conservation and Sustainability every year at the beginning of the winter season - during the weekend when the slopes open to the public. The main fundraiser for the festival is the "Exploration Train" venue.

The Explorers Club (Switzerland Chapter)

explorers.org; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Explorers_Club; mensjournal.com/adventure/how-to-become-a-member-of-the-explorers-club-w487146; glexsummit.com; <https://youtu.be/nqbtisPyTdE> (TEC Behind the Scenes)

The Switzerland Chapter is the national representation of The Explorers Club (TEC), an international multidisciplinary professional society with the goal of promoting Scientific Exploration and Field Studies.

Founded in New York in 1904, it has since served as a major meeting point for explorers and scientists worldwide. The club is proud of its famous firsts, as our members have been first to the North Pole, the South Pole, the summit of Mt. Everest, the deepest point in the ocean, and to the surface of the Moon.

THE EXPLORERS CLUB World Center for Exploration	
First to the North Pole	1909
First to the South Pole	1911
First to the summit of Mt. Everest	1953
First to the deepest point in the ocean	1960
First to the surface of the Moon	1969

Our "Famous Firsts" expeditions by TEC members – the last line was left blank for the upcoming Mars Landing



TEC HQ gala with the "Original Jedis", our Apollo moonwalker members; "virtual" lightsabers are jocular



A past TEC President served as an "Indiana Jones" inspiration; this is his whip on display at our NY Clubhouse

Many thanks to EPFL Club Montagne for their support in the organization of our event

Links to Zoom Sessions via:

tiny.cc/ExplorersWeekend

This is a nonprofit event co-hosted by EPFL Club Montagne, The Explorers Club (Switzerland Chapter) and WisdomAccelerator.org – a Swiss NGO.

Lake Geneva Region and Online | Weekend of Thu 19th – Sun 22nd Jun'25
explorers.org – epfl.ch – wisdomaccelerator.org – explorationfilmfestival.org – explorationtrain.org

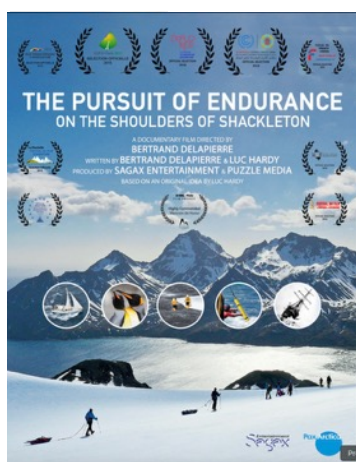


EXPLORERS WEEKEND 2025



Lake Geneva Region and Online
Weekend of Thu 19th – Sun 22nd Jun'25; ExplorersWeekend.org

Film Screenings at EPFL (Thu 19th Jun'25, Palaz Auditorium 14:30 – 20:00)



Luc Hardy (2015)

<https://www.imdb.com/name/nm7602469>

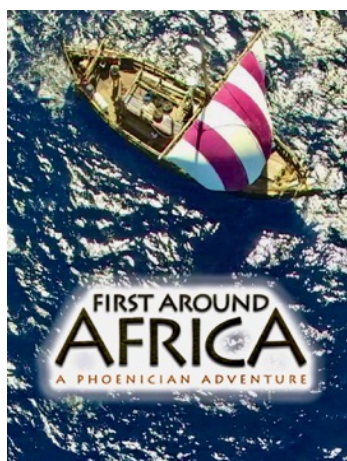
100 years after Shackleton's South Pole expedition, a mixed crew of adventurers, sportsmen and scientists trace Shackleton's steps. They visit coast at the pole to sail and walk in the harsh conditions of this hostile and yet beautiful environment.



Luc Hardy (2018)

<https://www.imdb.com/name/nm7602469>

At a time when man dreams of conquering other planets, there exists on Earth an extreme region with many secrets. Beyond the Arctic Circle, the islands of New Siberia are still Terra Incognita. Rare explorers have stepped upon these white lands.



Yuri Sanada (2012)

<https://www.imdb.com/name/nm5691920>

Legend says that the Egyptian Pharaoh Necho II hired the Phoenicians to discover if Africa was surrounded by water on all sides. This international project circumnavigated Africa a board a replica of a Phoenician Ship.



Yuri Sanada (2025)

<https://www.imdb.com/name/nm5691920>

Upcoming documentary about the facial reconstitution of the oldest skull ever found in the Amazon, to be released later in 2025.

Many thanks to Switzerland Innovation
West EPFL for their support in the
organization of our event:
switzerland-innovation.com



The link to the event Zoom Session can
be accessed via this short link, recorded
sessions will be available after event:
tiny.cc/ExplorersWeekend

Lake Geneva Region and Online | Weekend of Thu 19th – Sun 22nd Jun'25
explorers.org – epfl.ch – wisdomaccelerator.org – explorationfilmfestival.org – explorationtrain.org



EXPLORERS WEEKEND 2025



Lake Geneva Region and Online
Weekend of Thu 19th – Sun 22nd Jun'25; ExplorersWeekend.org

Aerospace Talks at EPFL (Fri 20th Jun'25, Palaz Auditorium 14:30 – 20:00)



Jared Atkinson (live)

linkedin.com/in/jwgatkin

Morning Star Missions to Venus

Jared Atkinson, PhD, specializes in space resource exploration and advanced sensing technologies. He earned his PhD in Geophysics and an MSc in Planetary Science then led research on lunar regolith mechanics and in-situ resource utilization—fields in which he was featured by NBC News discussing lunar ice mining challenges sector reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



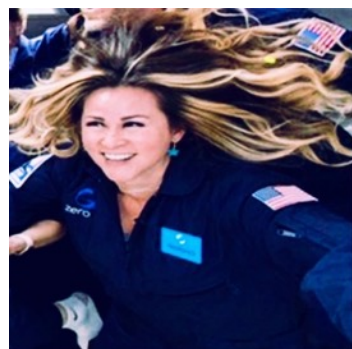
David MacKay (zoom)

linkedin.com/in/davidwdmackay

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Mackay_\(pilot\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Mackay_(pilot))

Virgin Galactic's former Chief Astronaut

Pioneering commercial astronaut and former Chief Pilot at Virgin Galactic. Leaving the RAF in 1995, he flew wide-body commercial jets with Virgin Atlantic before transitioning in 2009 to Virgin Galactic's SpaceShipTwo program. On 22 February 2019, Mackay piloted VSS Unity VF-01 above the 50-mile FAA-recognized boundary of space.



Christina Korp (zoom)

linkedin.com/in/christinakorp

The "Astronaut Wrangler"

Space advisor, astronaut manager, producer, and the founder of the nonprofit SPACE For a Better World. She answered an ad to work for Apollo 11 astronaut Buzz Aldrin, managing his public engagements and overseeing his foundations from 2008 to 2018, and producing events and immersive experiences that promote diversity, STEAM engagement, and the planetary benefits of space exploration.



Benjamin Pothier (zoom)

linkedin.com/in/benjamin-pothier-ph-d-30a04436

Analog Astronaut Training

Multidisciplinary researcher, author, and internationally recognized expert in analog space missions. Author of "Analog: The Case for Space Missions Simulation". Former expert for the Human Spaceflight Committee of the International Astronautical Federation (IAF), former co-chair of the Analog Missions Sub-Working Group of the Moon Village Association, and a former consultant for the SpaceFlight Institute.

Many thanks to Switzerland Innovation
West EPFL for their support in the
organization of our event:
switzerland-innovation.com



**SWITZERLAND
INNOVATION**

The link to the event Zoom Session can
be accessed via this short link, recorded
sessions will be available after event:
tiny.cc/ExplorersWeekend

Lake Geneva Region and Online | Weekend of Thu 19th – Sun 22nd Jun'25
explorers.org – epfl.ch – wisdomaccelerator.org – explorationfilmfestival.org – explorationtrain.org