### In Partnership with the USDA Forest Service & the San Juan National Forest

# Chimney Rock Press Release

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For Immediate Release – August 21, 2025

# CRIA Film Screening & Fundraiser Featuring Renowned Chaco Researcher Anna Sofaer 5:00–9:00 PM | Liberty Theatre, Pagosa Springs, CO

## Thursday, September 11, 2025

**Pagosa Springs**, CO – The Chimney Rock Interpretive Association is honored to present a special fundraising evening with acclaimed filmmaker, researcher, and Chaco Canyon expert **Anna Sofaer**, whose pioneering discoveries have reshaped our understanding of ancient Puebloan cosmology.

This unique event will be held Thursday, September 11, 2025, from 5:00 to 9:00 PM at the Liberty Theatre, located at 418 Pagosa Street, Pagosa Springs, CO., 81147. The evening includes drinks (cash bar) and appetizers, a silent auction, a film screening, and a Q&A session with Anna Sofaer herself.

#### **Event Schedule:**

**5:00–6:30 PM** – Light appetizers (included with ticket) and drinks at Caldwell's Bar (cash bar) Silent Auction bidding

6:30-7:30 PM - Screening of Written on the Landscape: Mysteries Beyond Chaco Canyon

7:30-8:30 PM - Sun Dagger Explorer demonstration and Q&A with Anna Sofaer

8:30 PM – Silent Auction results announced

**Tickets:** Available at <u>PagosaMovies.com</u> \$30 per individual / \$50 per couple

All proceeds support the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association's educational and preservation programs.

#### **About Anna Sofaer**

In 1977, Anna Sofaer rediscovered the **Sun Dagger** site atop Fajada Butte in Chaco Canyon, revealing an extraordinary ancient solar and lunar calendar – a spiral rock carving marked by light and shadow at the solstices and lunar standstills. For more than four decades, Sofaer has led interdisciplinary research through the **Solstice Project**, publishing widely and producing landmark PBS documentaries including *The Sun Dagger* and *The Mystery of Chaco Canyon*. See <a href="www.solsticeproject.org">www.solsticeproject.org</a>. View the 3-minute preview of the film at: <a href="https://vimeo.com/941787707?share=copy#t=0">https://vimeo.com/941787707?share=copy#t=0</a>

Her latest film, *Written on the Landscape*, offers a sweeping view of the vast Chaco cultural region—nearly twice the size of Ireland—highlighting ritual architecture, celestial alignments, and sacred landscapes through powerful imagery and Indigenous perspectives.

Attendees will also have the rare opportunity to explore the **Sun Dagger Explorer**, an interactive 3D computer model recreating the fragile Fajada Butte site using advanced laser scanning and archival imaging.

This is a can't miss evening for anyone interested in the rich cultural and astronomical legacy of Chacoan Indigenous history, and efforts to preserve sacred sites for future generations.

CRIA is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization that offers interpretive programs at Chimney Rock National Monument in partnership with the USDA Forest Service and the San Juan National Forest. For more information see the CRIA website at <a href="https://www.chimneyrockco.org">www.chimneyrockco.org</a> or call (970) 731-7133.