

Join us from August 21–23, 2023, at the JW Marriott Desert Ridge in Phoenix. Check out this outline of the evening events.

Monday, August 21, Evening Events:

Screening of *Hearts of Glass* (Professionals)

4:15-6:30 p.m. | Grand Sonoran H

Hearts of Glass follows the tumultuous first 15 months of operation of Vertical Harvest, a multi-story, state-of-the-art, hydroponic greenhouse that grows crops while providing meaningful, competitively-paid jobs for people with disabilities. The film weaves the story of Vertical Harvest's launch with the personal journeys of several employees with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). Innovation and inclusion create a fertile environment for people and plants to grow.



Watch the trailer for Hearts of Glass.

• Visit the Hearts of Glass website to learn more.

Virtual Q&A with Director, Jennifer Tennican, and Vertical Harvest Employees

Jennifer Tennican, Director and Producer of *Hearts of Glass*

Jennifer began her documentary career in the late 1990s working on NOVA science programs for WGBH with independent producers in the Boston area. Since moving to Wyoming in 2002, she has focused on local stories. Her films explore identity, inclusion, and community, and although they are rooted in Jackson Hole, they resonate far beyond the mountain west. Jennifer's award-winning work, including *Hearts of Glass*, *The Stagecoach Bar: An American Crossroads*, and *Far Afield: A Conservation Love Story*, has been featured in numerous film festivals and seen on PBS. Currently, *Hearts of Glass* is the centerpiece of an impact campaign to improve employment and inclusion outcomes for people with disabilities. In her spare time, Jennifer enjoys rock climbing with her husband.



Marcus J. Olson, Associate in Packaging, Fulfillment, and Growing, Vertical Harvest Farms

Marcus has been with Vertical Harvest (VH) for one year. He started his career with VH working Job Experience through the Transition Academy at Jackson Hole High School. His family—parents, Anna and Jeff, and two sisters, Martha and Pearl—live together. Marcus lives independently. In the summer, when he's not working, he loves to go to the Jackson Hole Rodeo. In the winter, he cheers on the Jackson Hole Moose semi-pro hockey team.



JoJo Denmark, Packaging and Fulfillment Manager, Vertical Harvest Farms

Originally from Idaho, JoJo spent time in Jackson, Wyoming, as an intern at the Integrated Solid Waste and Recycling Center. After graduating college, she returned to Jackson and worked as a server and bartender. With the hope of finding a career more aligned with her background in sustainability, she joined the Vertical Harvest (VH) team in June 2022. JoJo fell in love with the culture of VH and the people who support it. She's grateful to be a part of the amazing VH family and is excited to see the business replicate and grow. In addition to being passionate about her work, JoJo loves to play outdoors with her best friend, Archie the border collie.



Youth/Young Adult Event

2:45-6:30 p.m. | Grand Saguaro East and West

Join other youths and young adults for brain breaks, technology exploration, games, and a photo booth. Then relax with snacks and a movie. We will have a great time making connections with new friends. The event is brought to you by the Arizona Department of Education/Exceptional Student Services' Autism and Low Incidence Specialist and Assistive Technology team as well as Diverse Ability Incorporated Arizona Youth Leaders.

Parent and Family Event

4:30-6:30 p.m. | Grand Sonoran J-K

The family event is a perfect opportunity to network in a relaxed environment. During the 4:00–4:30 p.m. break, visit the vendor area to gather resources from the experts. At 4:30 p.m., meet with other families and enjoy snacks together at 5:00 p.m. Interact with agency representatives from 5:30–6:30 p.m. to ask questions about conference presentations and your child's transition to adulthood. Come to explore resources and to share ideas.

Tuesday, August 22, Evening Event:

Networking Reception and Raffle (All)

4:00-6:30 p.m. | Grand Saguaro East

Network with other conference participants while enjoying snacks and music. Come for your chance to win one of our great raffle prizes!

