

11<sup>th</sup> Annual Archaeology Discovery Weekend

**November 16-17 2019**

# Ancient Synagogues and Churches in the Galilee

Find out more at

*[lasierra.edu/archaeology](http://lasierra.edu/archaeology)*



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CENTER FOR  
NEAR EASTERN  
ARCHAEOLOGY

LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY

# 2019 Archaeology Discovery Weekend

## Presenters (arranged alphabetically)

Dr. Mordechai Aviam, Kinneret College on the Sea of Galilee, Israel  
Dr. Jodi Magness, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
Dr. Sharon L. Mattila, University of North Carolina at Pembroke  
Dr. Byron R. McCane, Centre College, Danville, KY  
Dr. Charles Anthony Stewart, University of St. Thomas, Houston, TX  
Dr. James R. Strange, Samford University, Birmingham, AL

## Venues

Center for Near Eastern Archaeology (CNEA)  
CNEA | Bedouin Hospitality Tent | Kids Dig Site | Hands-on lab activities  
Zapara School of Business (ZSB)  
Troesh Auditorium (Lectures) [**most live-streamed at <https://stream.lasierra.edu>**]  
Atrium (Reception, Refreshments, Authentic Galilean Banquet)

## PROGRAM

### Saturday, November 16

3:00-5:45 PM – **Illustrated Presentations and Q&A — Session 1** ZSB Troesh Auditorium

La Sierra University welcome by President Joy Fehr  
Douglas Clark, Director, Center for Near Eastern Archaeology, Presiding

**Byzantine Churches in Galilee: New Discoveries** 3:10-4:00, incl. Q&A  
Mordechai Aviam

**A History of Capernaum's Sacred Architecture** 4:00-4:30, incl. Q&A  
Sharon L. Mattila

**BREAK** (refreshments in Atrium [but not in Auditorium]) 4:30-4:45 ZSB Atrium

**More than Just Mosaics: The Ancient Synagogue at Huqoq in Galilee** 4:45-5:45, incl. Q&A  
Jodi Magness

5:45 PM – **Bedouin Hospitality Tent Reception** CNEA

7:00 PM – **Authentic Galilean Banquet** (cost \$50) ZSB Atrium  
Lawrence Geraty, Emcee  
Stories from the Field by Jodi Magness, Mordechai Aviam, James R. Strange  
Musical Selections on the Harp by Natasha Thomas

[In modern Hebrew the Sea of Galilee is called Kinneret, named after its shape like a kinnor or harp.]

## 2019 Archaeology Discovery Weekend

### Meet the Presenters (arranged alphabetically)

**Mordechai Aviam** is professor of archaeology in the Kinneret College on the Sea of Galilee, Land of Israel Studies Department. He earned his B.A. and M.A. from Hebrew University and his PhD from Bar Ilan University. Founder of the Kinneret Institute for Galilean Archaeology and its director to date, he has taught at the University of Rochester and University of Miami. For 11 years he was the district archaeologist of Western Galilee for the Israel Antiquities Authority and excavated a number of salvage excavations and scientific excavations. His most important projects involved ancient Yodfat, ancient synagogues at Baram, the fortress at Qeren Naftali, the Jewish village at Shikhin (with J.R. Strange), the 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup>-century synagogue at Tel Rekhesh, the site of el-Araj (Bethsaida?), and 15 Byzantine churches in Western Galilee. Aviam has published two books with another to appear soon, edited two others, wrote more than 100 articles and given hundreds of lectures in Israel, America, and Europe.



**Jodi Magness** holds the Kenan Distinguished Professor for Teaching Excellence in Early Judaism chair in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She received her B.A. in Archaeology and History from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and her Ph.D. in Classical Archaeology from the University of Pennsylvania (1989). Magness has been extremely prodigious in her excavations and research, in her many award-winning publications, in hundreds of lectures to academic and popular audiences around the world, and in her dynamic teaching career, all of these reflected in her 48-page curriculum vitae. She has been the recipient of numerous prestigious grants and awards, including NEH, Skirball, and Fulbright fellowships, and has served in a number of capacities in professional archaeological organizations like the W. F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research and the American Schools of Oriental Research, and currently carries the responsibilities of president of the Archaeological Institute of America.

**Sharon Mattila** is a tenured faculty member at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke and a graduate of the University of Toronto (M.A.) and the University of Chicago (Ph.D.). She spent a year of dissertation research in Israel as a Lady Davis Fellow and an Associate Fellow of the W. F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research. Although not herself an archaeologist, Dr. Mattila's intensive research on the site of Capernaum, which has included a guided visit to the site and careful reading of almost all the archaeological reports—in English, Italian, and French—together with collaborative work with the Franciscan archaeologist, Stefano De Luca, have resulted in her becoming a recognized expert on this particular site. She has written three published articles on ancient Capernaum, which according to the Gospels, was the center of Jesus' Galilean ministry and the home of the apostle Peter.



## 2019 Archaeology Discovery Weekend

### Meet the Presenters (arranged alphabetically)

**Byron R. McCane** is Professor in the Department of Religion at Centre College in Danville, Kentucky. Educated at the University of Illinois (B.A. in 1976) and Duke University (Th.M. in 1987 and Ph.D. 1992), he has excavated at several sites in Israel and Jordan: Beth Shemesh, Sepphoris, Khirbet Qana, Yotvata, `Ayn-Gharandal, and Huqoq. Currently he co-directs the synagogue excavation at Horvat Kur. McCane has taught at Duke University, Washington & Lee University, Converse College, Wofford College, and Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College. His work includes film and TV media with programs on the National Geographic Magazine, CNN, the Discovery Channel, and the History Channel. He has published numerous articles, translated one volume, published a book on death and burial in the time of Jesus, and is working on another book. In addition, he has delivered scores of lectures to academic and popular audiences around the world.



**Charles Anthony Stewart** is an Associate Professor and Chair of Art History at the University of St. Thomas in Houston, Texas, having earned his Ph.D. in Art History at Indiana University, Bloomington. He has also taught at Miami University (Oxford, Ohio). Stewart specializes in the development of Roman and early medieval architecture, especially in the eastern Mediterranean region. His research investigates transitional periods of history, as well as artistic, technological, and economic exchange between neighboring cultures. These interests have led him to study the development of material culture of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. His most recent publication treats the relationship of synagogues and churches in the *Oxford Handbook of Early Christian Archaeology* (2019). Recipient of numerous awards and fellowships, Stewart has authored, co-authored, and/or edited several volumes and scores of articles and has lectured globally on 40+ occasions, in addition to consulting for and contributing to museums.

**James Riley Strange** holds the Charles Jackson Granade and Elizabeth Donald Granade Chair in New Testament at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama. Strange is Director of the Shikhin Excavation Project in Israel and researches the archaeology of Palestine in the Hellenistic through Byzantine periods, early Christianity, and post-biblical Judaism. He teaches courses in New Testament, ancient Greco-Roman Religions, and the archaeology of Palestine. He received his B.A. (Classics) from Furman University, an M.Div. from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, an M.A. (Formative Christianity and Judaism) from the University of South Florida, and his Ph.D. (New Testament and Formative Christianity) from Emory University. His publications include (with David A. Fiensy) *Galilee in the Late Second Temple and Mishnaic Periods, Volumes 1 and 2*, *The Moral World of James*, *The Emergence of the Christian Basilica in the Fourth Century*, and articles for journals, volumes of essays, and dictionaries and encyclopedias.



# 2019 Archaeology Discovery Weekend

**Sunday, November 17**

11:00 am – 12:45 pm – Archaeology Advisory Council (by invitation, lunch included) CNEA  
Douglas Clark and Lawrence Geraty, Co-presiding

1:00-4:00 pm – **Illustrated Presentations and Q&A — Session 2** ZSB Troesh Auditorium

La Sierra University Welcome by Provost Cindy Parkhurst  
Kent Bramlett, Associate Director, Center for Near Eastern Archaeology, Presiding

**Galilean Synagogue Survey & Religion** 1:05-1:50, incl. Q & A  
James R. Strange

**Architecture as Symbol: Synagogue and Church Typology** 1:50-2:35, incl. Q & A  
Charles Stewart

BREAK (refreshments in Atrium [but not in Auditorium]) 2:35-2:50  
ZSB Atrium

**Second Temple-period Synagogues in Galilee: Magdala and Tel Rekhesh** 2:50-3:25, incl. Q & A  
Mordechai Aviam

**The Ancient Synagogue at Horvat Kur** 3:25-4:00, incl. Q & A  
Byron McCane

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2:00-4:00 pm – **Kids (& Parents) Dig at CNEA dig sites (\$5)** CNEA  
Mr. Craig Lesh

3:00-6:00 pm – **Middle Eastern Refreshments at Hospitality Bedouin Tent (no cost)** CNEA

4:00-5:00 pm - **Kids (& Parents) Interactive Program — Making Mosaics** CNEA

5:00-6:00 pm – **Hands-on Lab Activities at CNEA** CNEA

- 1—How old are these lamps, pots, and plates?—dating pottery
  - 2—Writing my name in Greek or Hebrew
  - 3—Pottery puzzles | Craig Lesh
  - 4—What's this stuff made of?—X-ray fluorescence | Jennifer Helbley
  - 5—Color me beautiful—color analysis | Jennifer Helbley
  - 6—Spinning yarns—hands-on use of spindles to make yarn | Mary Boyd
  - 7—Mixing ancient eye shadow and makeup—Sierra Collins
  - 8—Sacred or secular? Is this a religious artifact or not? | Chang Ho Ji
  - 9—3D laser scanner | Dawn Acevedo
  - 10—3D C.A.V.E. demo | Kent Bramlett
  - 11—Family photo booth for Bedouin pictures
- And more!

## Special Thanks to:

- CNEA Founding Members and Supporters
- All Presenters and Specialists here for the 2019 Archaeology Discovery Weekend
- Co-sponsors of the 2019 Archaeology Discovery Weekend (see listing below)
- The Archaeology Planning Committee and Archaeology Advisory Council
- Event coordinators: Dawn Acevedo and Douglas Clark
- Event planners—decorations, cuisine, and the Bedouin Tent: Suha Huffaker, Cay Paw, Sue Sumarli, Audrey Shaffer, Gillian Geraty, Carolyn Waldron, Bernina Ninow
- Darla Tucker, Publicity
- Lovelyn Razzouk and Abby Lyder, Zapara School of Business
- Craig Lesh, Heritage Education Programs, for the Kids Dig
- Najwa Medina (Najwa's Mediterranean Cuisine), Galilean banquet catering
- La Sierra University Administration
- La Sierra University Advancement, Marketing, Physical Plant, Custodial, and Security

## Other Activities connected to the Center for Near Eastern Archaeology 2019-2020 [Visit the Center for Near Eastern Archaeology website — [www.lasierra.edu/archaeology](http://www.lasierra.edu/archaeology)]

- Lectures
- *Archaeology Adventures*
- Archaeology undergraduate major and minor
- MA degree in Near Eastern Archaeology
- Volunteering in the Collections Lab
- Homecoming Weekend 17-19 April 2020
- Possible excavation in Madaba, Jordan May 2020
- Archaeology Discovery Weekend 14-15 Nov 2020

Center for Near Eastern Archaeology  
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