



18th Annual Gila River Festival

September 22 - 25, 2022

May 23, 2022

Dear Friend of the Gila River,

We are gearing up for the 18th Annual Gila River Festival - *One Water, Many Currents* scheduled for September 22 – 25. We've got exciting speakers and events planned that we'd like to share with you, along with letting you know how you can continue to support the festival's unique programming.

This year's event will explore the many ways in which water connects us and is the common thread weaving together the Gila River watershed's human and ecological communities of the past, present and into the future.

We'll be organizing another hybrid (in-person and virtual) festival, featuring *Nuevomexicana* writer and biologist **Leeanna Torres**, who will share her personal narrative through the thread of the great Gila as the Sonnie Sussillo Memorial Keynote presenter. Leeanna's latest piece about the Gila appears in *First & Wildest The Gila Wilderness at 100* recently released by Torrey House Press.

A panel discussion focused on the indigenous connections to the Gila River from its headwaters in New Mexico to the Great Bend of the Gila in southwest Arizona includes Archaeology Southwest's Tribal Outreach Fellow **Skylar Begay**, Gila River Indian Community historic preservation officer **Barnaby Lewis**, Fort Sill Apache Tribe Chairwoman **Lori Gooday Ware** (invited) and moderated by Diné anthropologist Alex Mares.

Daytime field trips include rock art interpretation with **Alex Mares**, an ever-popular Gila River Festival presenter of Diné and Mexican descent, along with Fort Sill Apache Tribal Historian **Michael Darrow**. Owners of Pitchfork Ranch, **A.T. and Cinda Cole**, will showcase the results of years of restoration work at Burro Ciénega. Other festival field trips will include birding, wildflowers, archaeology, hydrology, riparian restoration, butterflies, and fishing, as well as the Dance of the Mountain Spirits by the **Fort Sill Apache Fire Dancers with the Gooday Family**.

We know that the economic situation is difficult right now for many. We sincerely hope that you will join with other Gila River Festival supporters at the highest level you are able so that we can continue to bring high quality festival programming to our community.

On behalf of New Mexico's last wild river, we thank you for your support!

For the Gila,

Jody Norman, Coordinator
Gila River Festival

2022 Gila River Festival Sponsorship Levels
(Deadline to be included in promotional material is June 15, 2022)

<u>Friends</u> <u>\$150-\$300 level</u>	<u>Sponsors</u> <u>\$500 level</u>	<u>Major Sponsors</u> <u>\$1000 level</u>
* Inclusion in website program credits	* Black & white logo on Festival website * Exposure on social media * 1 ticket to event of your choice	* Color logo with hyperlink on Festival website * Your color logo in local and regional advertising * Exposure on social media * 2 tickets to online events of your choice

The Gila Conservation Coalition/Gila River Festival operates under the fiscal agency of the 501(c)(3) Gila Resources Information Project (FEIN 85-0452944). All contributions are tax exempt to the extent allowable by law.

For more information regarding sponsorships, call Allyson Siwik at 575.538.8078 or email info@gilaconservation.org

18th Annual Gila River Festival Sponsorship Form

Yes, I would like to support the 18th Annual Gila River Festival! A check is enclosed for \$ _____

Please include me on promotional materials as:

Name, phone number and/or email address:

Web Address (URL) you would like us to use:

Please make your check payable to GCC, and mail along with this form to:
Gila Conservation Coalition, 305A N. Cooper St., Silver City, NM 88061

For more information, call Allyson Siwik at 575.538.8078 or email info@gilaconservation.org

PLEASE RESPOND BY WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 2022 TO BE INCLUDED IN PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS.