Our young scalloped hammerheads are settling well into the Open Sea. Visit Shorelines online to discover how we transport these unique sharks.
This school year is notable because—thanks to your generosity—our educators are also preparing to dramatically expand the impact we’ll have on each and every visiting school group. As they deliver programs for this year’s students, they’re also creating new and engaging experiences to prepare for the opening of our Bechtel Family Center for Ocean Education and Leadership in 2019.

When the Center is complete, every visiting student will be able to participate in a classroom program led by our staff, connecting them more deeply to living ecosystems and scientific processes. We’ll also double our capacity to serve emerging teen leaders and the teachers we host for professional development workshops.

The building is quickly taking shape, and I look forward to showing it off! Now, our most important goal will be to continue creating dynamic learning experiences for years to come. We need you more than ever to help us make a difference for every student, teen and teacher. I’ll be reaching out to you soon, and I hope to count on your support so we can fulfill the promise we made, together, for our exciting new Center.

We’re raising our aspirations to make a difference on other critical fronts as well. I’m especially proud of the many ways Seafood Watch, and our work to transform global fisheries and aquaculture, is turning the tide. We’re attracting new business partners who are using their purchasing power to drive improvements by seafood suppliers worldwide. The most recent is Red Lobster, the world’s largest seafood restaurant chain, which has committed to eliminating all Seafood Watch-rated Avoid species from its menus by 2025. EatingWell magazine recognized the significance of our work in its 2018 American Food Heroes issue. You can read more on page 8.

This month, we played a central role in the Global Climate Action Summit in San Francisco, helping assure that the ocean had a prominent place in the proceedings. I look forward to sharing more about our initiatives to tackle the grave threat that climate change poses to ocean ecosystems.

We’re making progress, too, in addressing ocean plastic pollution through the nationwide Aquarium Conservation Partnership that reaches 25 million visitors each year, and by supporting legislation in California that curbs single-use plastic. You can follow these issues on our Future of the Ocean blog.

Earlier this year, our science team partnered with colleagues from Stanford University, MBARI and other institutions in a month-long expedition to the White Shark Café aboard the Schmidt Ocean Institute’s R/V Falkor. You can learn about their fascinating findings on pages 4 and 5. Collaborations like this, among global ocean research institutions, will be essential to unlock the mysteries of the ocean that remain unsolved.

The ocean is Earth’s largest ecosystem, yet too few people appreciate its vital role in sustaining us all. With your generous support, we’ll continue to tell the ocean’s story—and make a difference.
I n the heart of what was once deemed an oceanic “desert,” the researchers discovered that the Pacific’s high seas teem with abundant and unusual life forms – organisms that researchers suspect play a critical role in explaining the fascinating behaviors of white sharks in the open ocean.

The team, headed by Barbara Block, principal scientist from Stanford University, embarked from Honolulu aboard the Schmidt Ocean Institute’s R/V Falkor and headed east to an expanse of the Pacific dubbed the White Shark Café, halfway between Hawaii and Mexico.

On the research cruise, Aquarium Senior Research Scientist Sal Jorgensen led the shark ecology group. Other groups included colleagues from the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI), University of Delaware, NOAA, Montana State University and ocean technology innovator, Saildrone.

**Location Services for White Sharks**

In preparation for the expedition, the team deployed 34 tags on adult white sharks off the coast of California in fall 2017, knowing that a few months later those same sharks would swim toward the middle of the Pacific Ocean.

The tags were programmed for release during the month the Falkor was in the Café, delivering their stored data to orbiting satellites. Following the blips emitted from the tags as they popped to the surface, the team recovered 10 of those unbelievably small pop-up satellite tags from the open ocean.

“In one month at the Café, we doubled the amount of tagging data in our collection,” Sal says. “The trip was hugely successful in that regard.”

**Deep Data Discoveries**

The tags provided locations for the team to collect a wide variety of samples and data that will eventually help create 3D diagrams of the Café’s living, underwater structure – especially which animals move through its waters.

The team found a diversity of deep-sea fishes and squid (over 100 species), demonstrating the lower rungs of a viable food ladder that could support larger animals such as sharks and tunas.

“Although it appears to be a desert on the surface, the Café is far from the desert it was thought to be,” says Sal. “It is home to an abundance of life that satellite imaging is not detecting.”

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“A Legacy of White Shark Research

The expedition to the White Shark Café follows over 20 years dedicated to white shark research by the Aquarium, Stanford and other partners around the world. White sharks have long captured public interest, evoking awe and imparting a sense of prehistoric wildness that’s larger than us.

“It’s been fascinating to learn more about their activities and, through the tagging that the Aquarium sponsored, the white sharks led us to one of the most overlooked and under-studied places in the ocean,” says Sal.

“These white sharks are showing us that there is something truly important about the open ocean,” he adds. “They’ve heralded the need to ask new and better questions about how apex ocean predators thrive in their underwater world.”

You can find a more in-depth story of this journey to the White Shark Café in Shorelines online.

This valuable expedition is made possible in part with support from Aquarium members and donors. Thank you!
How can we continue to lead the way in protecting our ocean planet unless we invest — now — in the children who will one day lead us?

Since opening our doors in 1984, the Aquarium has welcomed over 2.5 million schoolchildren — free of charge. We’re unique among aquariums in this wonderful commitment, thanks to the generous support of our members and donors.

“We reach over 80,000 students each year through conservation- and science-focused field trips and in-depth programs for teens that engage them in scientific inquiry, while improving their readiness for college and careers,” says Rita Bell, vice president of education.

“We’re also very proud to provide immersive professional development opportunities for teachers — our critical partners who reach thousands of students over the course of their careers,” she adds.

Help Us Fulfill Our Promise
Together, we’ve made a significant commitment to schoolchildren and teachers by building the Bechtel Family Center for Ocean Education and Leadership.

When the Center opens next year, we’ll be poised to deliver the most robust suite of education and youth development programs of any aquarium in the nation. We’re working now to raise $5 million to develop new curriculum, hire additional educators and deploy state-of-the-art technology — all to reach more students and teachers than ever before.

It’s a pivotal moment for the Aquarium and the children we serve, and we need your help to fulfill the remarkable promise of our new Center.

There’s Truly Not a Moment to Lose
California’s leadership in protecting the environment is undeniable, and our state is playing a central role in defending our many conservation successes.

At the same time, even in California, funding for our public schools is woefully inadequate. Student performance lags far behind the nation in both science and math. Sadly, young people are also spending less and less time outdoors, losing those vital early connections with nature that inspire a lifetime of caring for the environment.

That’s why one of our most urgent priorities is to help bridge the gap in science learning while engaging students in ocean conservation.

Our goal is to help children understand the complexity of the natural world as they gain critical thinking skills they need to make thoughtful decisions about their future — and the future of our planet.

Please join us in advancing our most important work by investing in the next wave of leaders who will ensure a healthy future for the ocean — and for us all.

Visit MontereyBayAquarium.org/NextWave to learn more and make your contribution. Thank you!

For a young child, touching a sea star for the first time can inspire scientific curiosity that lasts a lifetime.

For a teen, talking with Aquarium visitors about sea otters can help them find their voice for future actions.

For a teacher, exploring tide pools can spark new ideas about how to ignite their students’ sense of discovery.

Join Us in Inspiring the Next Wave of Ocean Leaders

California leads the nation in science and technology, but ranks near the bottom in public school spending and student performance in science.

California Schools

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Our state’s rank in per-student spending</th>
<th>Our state’s rank in student performance in science</th>
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<td>41 out of 50</td>
<td>42 out of 50</td>
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What’s New

Red Lobster Partners with Seafood Watch

Our work to shift global fishing and aquaculture in more sustainable directions has earned us an important new business partner and significant national recognition. Red Lobster, the world’s largest seafood restaurant chain, became an official Seafood Watch partner in May, pledging to serve only Seafood Watch-recommended seafood by 2025 at more than 100 restaurants worldwide.

The impact of our work was also recognized in June when Executive Director Julie Packard was named one of 10 American Food Heroes by EatingWell magazine.

It recognized Julie for the “wildly successful Seafood Watch program” and the global impact of our work to advance sustainable seafood, including our new effort to drive positive change in the industry and lead the way in sustainable and responsible seafood sourcing. Red Lobster is committed to taking a leadership position in conserving and protecting every kind of seafood we source. Our partnership with Seafood Watch is the natural next step in keeping these commitments.”

Kim Lopdrup, CEO of Red Lobster, says, “Because of our size and scale, we can use our influence to drive positive change in the industry and lead the way in sustainable and responsible seafood sourcing. Red Lobster is committed to taking a leadership position in conserving and protecting every kind of seafood we source. Our partnership with Seafood Watch is the natural next step in keeping these commitments.”

Dive into a Kelp Forest—Digitally!

Thanks to our Education team’s imagination, kids, parents and teachers can now explore a virtual kelp forest with our interactive game, The Kelp Forest: My Aquarium, and related interactive ebook, The Kelp Forest: A Young Explorer’s Guide. Both offer engaging and educational features geared for children eight to 11 years old, but are fun for all ages:

• Discover the kelp forest ecosystem and ocean animals that call it home.
• Learn more about our Kelp Forest exhibit and the people who help it thrive.
• Create your own digital kelp forest and practice being a “Kelp Forest Bodyguard.”

The free, interactive apps have earned rave reviews, Joey says. That’s encouraging, as we hope to broaden our digital curriculum offerings in the future—especially as part of the expanded programs at our new Bechtel Family Center for Ocean Education and Leadership, which will welcome its first students in 2019.

Joey says her team chose the kelp forest for the first digital project because of our expertise with that ecosystem. We’re the first in the world to exhibit a living kelp forest, and one of our partner institutes has a strong emphasis on the kelp forest. The apps integrate well into that program.

The educational concepts in the ebook and game are aligned with Next Generation Science Standards, Common Core State Standards and Ocean Literacy Principles. The apps, created in collaboration with GameCloud apps, created in collaboration with GameCloud, are fun and educational. The apps have earned rave reviews, and Joey says her team couldn’t be happier with the results.

The Kelp Forest: My Aquarium is available for children eight to 11 years old and is fun for all ages. The Kelp Forest: A Young Explorer’s Guide is available for everyone.

New Seabirds, New Stories

The Aquarium has some new feathered friends to share—Alika and Sula—a red-footed booby. As their training progresses and they become more comfortable around people, we hope that Alika and Sula will, like Makana, take part in public programs and interact with guests. To prepare them, Aviculture staff take the birds on periodic trips inside and outside the Aquarium before hours. In the meantime, you might see our newest seabirds and Makana in their rooftop aviary during behind-the-scenes tours.

The new seabirds are settling in well, says Curator of Aviculture Aimee Greenebaum. “Alika and Makana have been good sports and are working hard to become comfortable with people. They’re doing well in their training and are becoming more comfortable around people.”

Alika and Sula can often be seen hanging out together and sleeping by each other,” Aimee says. “Sula is a very curious and playful bird.”

Makana has thrived during her decade-plus stay at the Aquarium, in large part because our Aviculture team has provided her with a wide range of enrichment experiences. We’ll do the same for Alika and Sula. Makana has also become a superstar ambassador for seabirds and other marine life facing grave threats from ocean plastic pollution. Her daily program helps us share with visitors what’s at stake from this growing threat. We hope that Alika and Makana will step into this program in the future, swapping appearances with Makana.

Sula was rescued near San Diego with injuries caused by swallowing a fishing hook, and nursed back to health by staff at SeaWorld San Diego. But after several release attempts it was determined that she also couldn’t be returned to the wild. Her backstory is an example of how another ocean pollution problem, forgotten fishing gear, can harm seabirds and other marine wildlife.

Your support as members helps us re-home injured wildlife like Alika and Sula. Thank you.

Sula sula

The scientific name of the red-footed booby, Sula sula, is named after its striking coloration. The white body and red legs make Sula sula a very unique and attractive seabird. It is also very curious and playful, often swimming around in circles or flying in circles before diving down to the surface to catch its prey. Sula sula are native to the tropical and subtropical oceans of the world, particularly in the Pacific and Indian Oceans. They are known for their strong swimming ability and are often seen following large schools of fish to catch their prey.

Makana

Makana is a young Laysan albatross and a “guardian” in Hawaiian and, name means “protector” or “guardian” in Hawaiian and, Makana’s life story is quite the adventure. She was injured as a chick and unable to survive on her own. Her name reflects the scientific name of the red-footed booby, Sula sula. As their training progresses and they become more comfortable around people, we hope that Alika and Sula will, like Makana, take part in public programs and interact with guests. To prepare them, Aviculture staff take the birds on periodic trips inside and outside the Aquarium before hours. In the meantime, you might see our newest seabirds and Makana in their rooftop aviary during behind-the-scenes tours. The new seabirds are settling in well, says Curator of Aviculture Aimee Greenebaum. “Alika and Sula can often be seen hanging out together and sleeping by each other.”

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**Member Activities Calendar**

**October**
- October 27: Halloween Dinner 6:15-9:30 p.m.  
- October 26: Member Night 7-9 p.m.  
- November 10, 11, 12, 22, 23, 24, 25: December 3, 30, 31: Early Openings 7-10 p.m.

**November**
- November 19, 20: Member Night 7-9 p.m.
- November 20: Halloween Dinner 6:15-9:30 p.m.
- November 27: Member Night 7-9 p.m.

**December**
- December 27: Member Night 7-9 p.m.
- December 26: Halloween Dinner 6:15-9:30 p.m.
- December 25: Member Night 7-9 p.m.
- December 24, 25, 26: Early Openings 7-10 p.m.

**January**
- January 19, 20: Member Night 7-9 p.m.
- January 18, 19, 20: Early Openings 7-10 p.m.

**Ocean Legacy Circle**

**Thank You**
The Ocean Legacy Circle honors the 57 donors who have designated gifts to the Aquarium for their will, long-term or other part of their estate. These gifts include bequests, charitable remainder trust, real estate, donations of retirement plan or insurance policies. We’re delighted to be able to acknowledge their generosity and to recognize their dedication to the Aquarium and to the health of our ocean.

**October 2022**
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**Glorious Praised**

**Sons and Daughters of the Glorious Praised**

**Donor Recognition**

**November 2022**
- Please enter through the Member Entrance. For the health and safety of our animals, some exhibits may not be available until the Aquarium reopens to the public.

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**Glorious Praised**

**Sons and Daughters of the Glorious Praised**

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Creating a Family Legacy for the Ocean

Martin and Virginia Sword were raised in the Santa Clara Valley and frequently visited the Central Coast with their young daughters, Linda and Sabrina. Virginia was an early advocate of ocean conservation and imparted the importance of environmental protection to her two girls.

Through her inspiration, both Linda and Sabrina developed a deep concern for the long-term health of the ocean and joined the Aquarium’s Ocean Legacy Circle. “My biggest concerns are the increasing threats to marine water quality, and to sustainable fishing,” Linda says. “Thankfully, the Aquarium’s Seafood Watch program addresses both issues.”

Now retired, Linda plays the dulcimer and researches her family history, which to her surprise includes many musicians. In the Sword family, music and ocean conservation are family interests that span generations.

The Monterey Bay Aquarium is incredibly grateful to the Sword family for their lifelong dedication to protecting the ocean.

Sadly, Sabrina passed away in 2016, but her generous gift through her trust will advance our conservation initiatives and help us inspire new generations of ocean advocates.

To learn how you can secure our programs for the future with a gift in your will or trust, please contact Mary Mullen, vice president of gift planning, at 831.648.4913 or lastinglegacy@mbayaq.org.