

A close-up, high-contrast photograph of a seal's face, focusing on its eyes and whiskers. The seal's fur is dark and textured, and its whiskers are long and light-colored, radiating outwards. The background is dark and out of focus.

# SEA *change*

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



GEORGIA AQUARIUM





# A YEAR OF REEMERGENCE

## FRIENDS,

2021 proved to be a year of reemergence. Georgia Aquarium focused on rebuilding our team and getting back to full steam ahead on our mission-based activities, returning to field work, and exploring new conservation initiatives.

Additionally in 2021, I took on the role of Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) chair. This positions Georgia Aquarium even more as a leader in the industry, playing an increasingly important part in shaping the future of zoos and aquariums.

Recently, Georgia Aquarium has become a designated Center for Species Survival by the Species Survival Commission of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN). We are the first aquarium in North America and one of only two United States facilities to be Centers for Species Survival. This means we will continue to focus on preserving and restoring endangered species in our living collection, while also conducting Red List Assessments, hosting workshops and training other zoos and aquariums in species conservation.

As a part of our efforts to expand our reach beyond our walls, we welcomed Dr. Dayne Buddo in a new position as the Director of External Engagement. Dr. Buddo has begun leading a number of initiatives that seek to deepen our ties with the community at different levels, including strengthening

local community engagement, pushing forward regional programs, and serving as a point person for national and international relationships.

Our commitment to education and the state of Georgia continues, too. Beginning in 2021, as a part of our partnership with Invest Atlanta, Georgia Aquarium has begun to offer scholarships to rising westside Atlanta college students primarily focused on those pursuing degrees in marine biology and other related marine and aquatic fields. The goal is to provide approximately ten \$2K scholarships annually for a duration of ten years.

In a year where many were truly evaluating what was important to them and where they wanted to focus their support, I thank you all sincerely for your belief in and continued support of Georgia Aquarium. It wouldn't be possible without you.

*Georgia Aquarium is a nonprofit committed to inspiring awareness and preservation of our ocean and aquatic animals worldwide.*



Sincerely,  
**Brian Davis, PhD**  
  
President & CEO  
Georgia Aquarium

## MOON JELLY

**SCIENTIFIC NAME** | **ANIMAL FACT** The moon jelly's diet consists primarily of *Aurelia aurita* zooplankton, including small shrimps, fish eggs and larvae.

**CONSERVATION STATUS** Not Evaluated

EXTINCT		THREATENED					LEAST CONCERN			
EX	EW	CR	EN	VU	NT	LC	DD	NE		



# INSIDE

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## AROUND THE AQUARIUM

The animal life, volunteers and  
guests who make us who we are



## AROUND TOWN

Enriching our greater community

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## AROUND THE WORLD

Our global research and impact



26 SPONSORS  
& DONORS

30 FISCAL  
HEALTH

32 YOUR  
SUPPORT

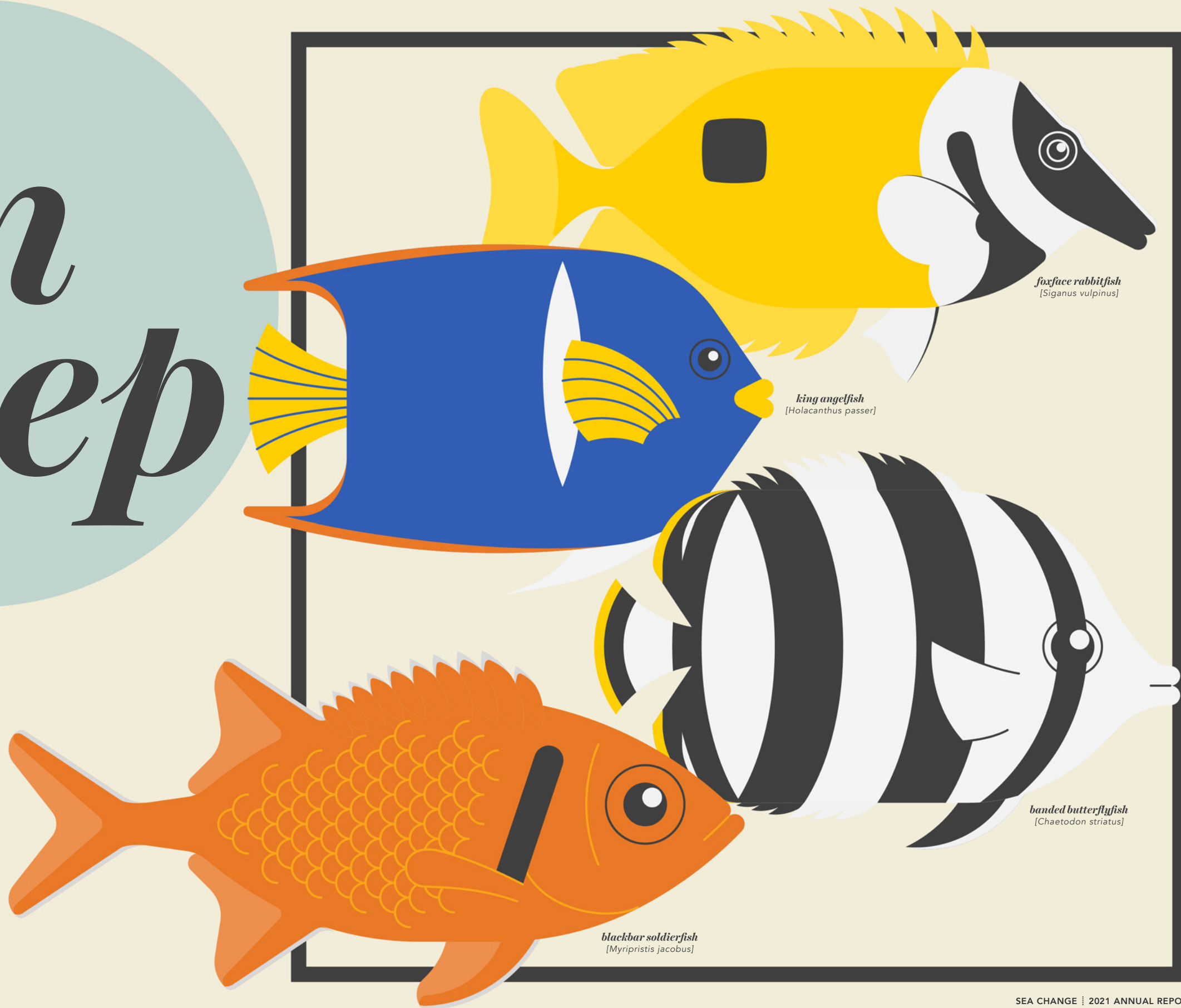




# Fin Deep

## GEORGIA AQUARIUM BENEATH *the* SURFACE

Georgia Aquarium is a scientific institution that educates and entertains, features high-caliber exhibits and programs, and provides guest experiences that promote the conservation of the aquatic world.



*foxface rabbitfish*  
[Siganus vulpinus]

*king angelfish*  
[Holacanthus passer]

*banded butterflyfish*  
[Chaetodon striatus]

*blackbar soldierfish*  
[Myripristis jacobus]



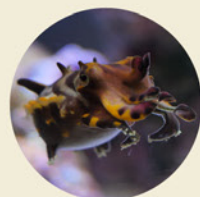
## ANIMAL CARE *by the numbers*

2021 was a year of beginnings  
and noteworthy anniversaries.



### *Celebration of Tank's Gotcha Day*

Tank is our resident green sea turtle and has been with us in Ocean Voyager for **ELEVEN YEARS**, where he serves as an important ambassador for his species. He was rescued following a shark bite injury and deemed non-releasable. Green sea turtles are currently listed as endangered under the U.S. Endangered Species Act.



### *flamboyant cuttlefish*

born onsite in  
Tropical Diver

Hatched  
**one**  
*horned puffin chick*

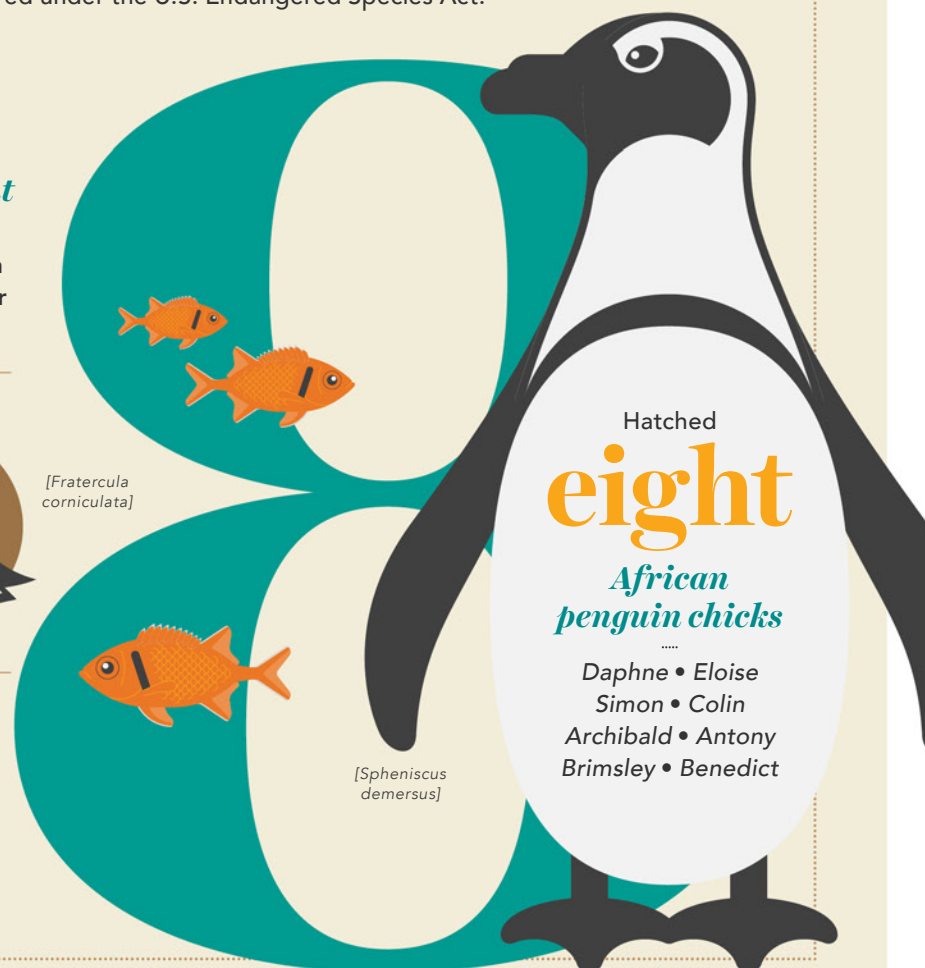
Dandelion



[Fratercula corniculata]



Birth of  
*sandbar shark pup*  
in Ocean Voyager



# 95%

First full year of our  
*Shark & Ray Interaction*,  
bringing in **THOUSANDS** of guests  
at a capacity rate of over



## ANIMAL ENCOUNTER *attendance*

2021 brought back some  
of our amazing animal  
encounters and experiences,  
as well as launched new  
and exciting programming.

Relaunched  
*Harbor Seal  
and Penguin  
Encounter  
programs*  
which had been  
offline since 2020



Launched new  
*Beluga Encounter program*  
for guests to participate in a poolside  
experience with beluga whales, interacting  
in a variety of different and fun ways



*“Keeping them healthy and comfortable in their geriatric years is very important to us.”*

Jenn Odell, Senior Curator, Zoological Operations/  
Animal Training—Mammals and Birds, Georgia Aquarium

## SAFEGUARDING our SENIORS

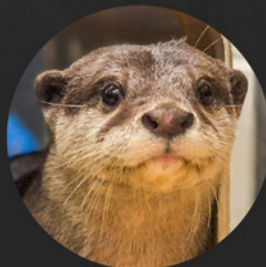
Georgia Aquarium is home to a group of geriatric Asian small-clawed otters.

At this point in their lives, they are most often seen sleeping or grooming one another. Changes in their activity level and mobility necessitated their shift from the main habitat to a behind-the-scenes habitat that is easier for them to navigate.

Their care is specialized for their geriatric needs. This includes close monitoring by trainers, individualized diets, and routine exams by veterinary staff.

In addition, on exhibit, are the two new arrivals to Georgia Aquarium! Triton (female) and Han (male) both came to Atlanta through the AZA's Species Survival Plan breeding and transfer process. Triton was born in May of 2017, Han October of 2018.

“We are so excited to welcome two new Asian small-clawed otters to the Aquarium, while still being able to provide for and learn from our older otters,” says Jenn Odell, Senior Curator, Zoological Operations/Animal Training—Mammals and Birds.



[Aonyx cinerea]

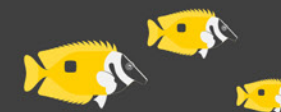
Member appreciation events returned with  
**Merry Member Morning**  
welcoming almost

**500**

members for breakfast,  
photos with Santa Claus, and  
keeper talks with our Fish &  
Invertebrates and Penguin teams

**Added member discounts**

as a thank-you for  
members of the  
United States  
Armed Forces  
and Educators



**MEMBERSHIP**  
*highlights*

## VOLUNTEER engagement

2021 total  
*volunteer hours*

**48,773**



Brought  
back the  
**teen  
volunteers**  
and  
**internships  
programs**

**65**  
*volunteers*

celebrated  
their

**15+**  
*year anniversaries*

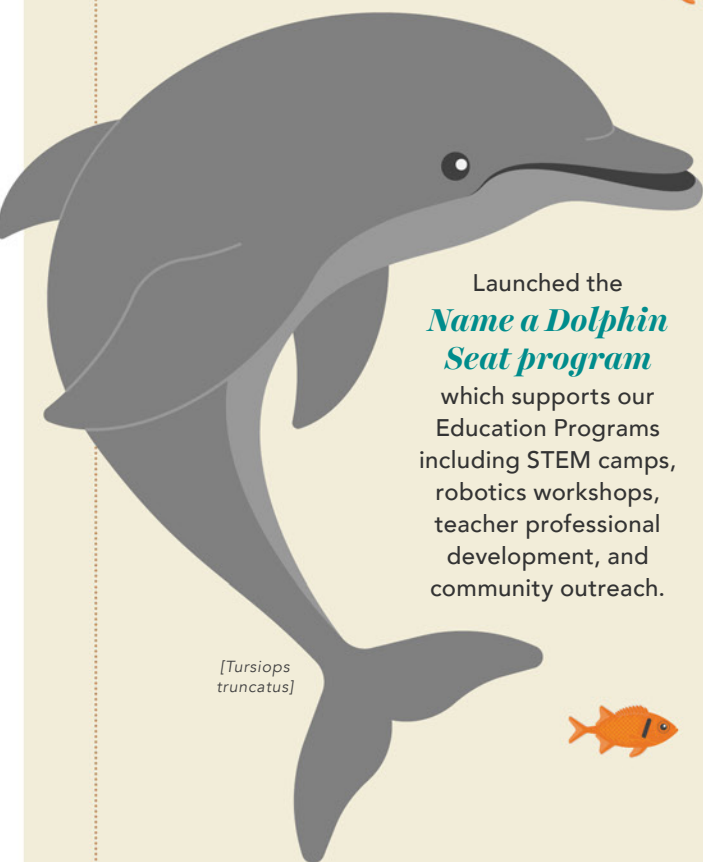


Began onboarding  
**new volunteers**  
in the last quarter



## EDUCATION

### *facts & figures*



#### Launched the *Name a Dolphin Seat program*

which supports our Education Programs including STEM camps, robotics workshops, teacher professional development, and community outreach.

#### *instructor-led programs*

reached

# 1,610

students

Education brought  
Georgia Aquarium to

# 150

students with our  
*outreach programs*

# 456

students participated in our  
*Homeschool event*

# 25

#### *Fun, Weird, Science*

**TWENTY-FIVE** girls were selected from a local Title I school, Yeager Middle School, to participate in Fun, Weird, Science: a camp with the goal to inspire these young women towards careers in STEAM. The girls performed science experiments, designed roller coasters, flew drones and calculated equations—all made possible with the support of The NCR Foundation.

# 144

*virtual programs*  
hosted



# 207

*Georgia schools*  
visited on field trips

## ENTERTAINING *while* EDUCATING

Georgia Aquarium became the first Cognia STEM certified aquarium in the entire world in 2020.

In 2021, we renovated our gallery **Aquanaut Adventure: A Discovery Zone** reflecting this commitment to education and inspiration. The exhibit updates provide a fully immersive experience, traveling in the footsteps of scientists and explorers through some of the most extreme environments on Earth.

The gallery is separated into six zones, from dry deserts to deep oceans, and is home to some new animal exhibits including wood frogs, bioluminescent animals, and insects.

By using immersive design, theming and storytelling, the Georgia Aquarium team was able to create a fully engaging experience of exploration and discovery alongside STEAM professionals in the most extreme environments our planet has to offer.





## a NATURAL PARTNERSHIP

Georgia Aquarium partnered with Georgia Natural Gas (GNG) to add enhancements to our southern sea otter exhibit.

This interactive element includes two games that teach visitors the important role southern sea otters play in reducing carbon emissions. While playing, guests also learn how they can help protect the environment by making their natural gas usage carbon neutral with the Greener Life program from GNG.

Sea otters are considered a keystone species because of their role in keeping kelp forest ecosystems in balance. Kelp is important to the ecosystem as it can naturally absorb and hold a substantial amount of carbon from the atmosphere. A large population of sea urchins can devastate a kelp forest by eating the kelp's "holdfasts," or the root-like structures that anchor them to the seafloor. By hunting sea urchins, sea otters keep the population in check and in turn, the kelp forests can thrive.

The Greener Life program from GNG uses Environmental Protection Agency standards to calculate the amount of greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere from customers' use of natural gas. GNG then purchases and retires carbon offsets to balance the impact of those customers' emissions. This product helps GNG consumers do their part for the environment and reduce their carbon footprint.



*"We are always looking for innovative ways to reduce our environmental impact and to share that message with our guests."*

Michael Lewis, Vice President of Exhibits and Projects, Georgia Aquarium

[Enhydra lutris nereis]

## GUEST PROGRAMS & EVENTS participation

2021 brought many events back to Georgia Aquarium.



Almost  
**4,000**  
guests celebrated at the Aquarium through our *birthday parties*

**3,000**

guests spent the night through our *Sleep Under the Seas program* including general guests, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts



### Aqua Vino

After missing 2020, Georgia Aquarium's largest fundraising event, Aqua Vino, was held on October 1, 2021. Guests enjoyed wine tastings, small bites, live music, and exciting auction items while exploring our galleries. All proceeds supported our vital Research and Conservation initiatives.

Other events throughout the year supporting Georgia Aquarium programs included



**5K  
Race**



**Fish &  
Chips Golf  
Tournament**



**Science  
on Tap**

Hosted  
**185**  
events  
and

**11**  
external  
*Aquarium buyouts*



Close to  
**39,000**  
guests participated in our *Behind the Seas Tours* gaining a deeper understanding of the Aquarium and our mission



# Pathways TO Promise

**OPENING UP  
NEW AVENUES  
FOR OUR GREATER  
COMMUNITY**



Georgia Aquarium is continuously striving to be a bigger part of the greater Atlanta community as a whole, and takes pride in our conservation and community enrichment efforts across the city.







# MILITARY SALUTE

Georgia Aquarium and our Military Salute program’s founding partner, The Home Depot Foundation, are proud supporters of our armed forces. Through our Military Salute programming, we are dedicated to impacting military personnel with positive experiences.

In 2021, Georgia Aquarium was able to bring on Adam Rosbury to manage our Military Salute program. We were able to grow our external outreach to Veterans Service Organizations, Veterans Affairs groups, and other military groups that had no prior knowledge of what Georgia Aquarium offers the military and their families.



## VETERANS IMMERSION PROGRAM (VIP)



NOW SERVING **34 DIFFERENT VETERANS GROUPS** (MORE THAN DOUBLE THE NUMBER OF GROUPS SERVED IN PREVIOUS YEARS!)

SUCCESSFULLY ORGANIZED AND FUNDED **TRAVEL FOR VETERANS GROUPS** THAT WOULD NOT HAVE THE ABILITY TO ATTEND OUR VIP EVENTS OTHERWISE

EXPANDED OUR REACH TO VETERANS IN **15 DIFFERENT STATES**

OVER **1,000 VETERANS** PARTICIPATED IN IMMERSION PROGRAMS IN 2021

IMPLEMENTED THE **NEW SHARK CAGE DIVE** INTO THE VETERANS IMMERSION PROGRAM (VIP)



## GOLD STAR FAMILY DAYS

We brought back Gold Star Family Days to Georgia Aquarium to serve families that have lost a loved one in service to this country. We hosted presentations honoring the fallen heroes as well as provided experiences for all families in the Aquarium including admission, interactive programs, meals, parking, and photos and videos.



## VETERANS CARE PACKAGES

We had over 300 volunteers join us for a large-scale, multiday volunteer event to assemble 10,000 care packages for local veterans and first responders. This supported 22 local first responder and VA groups.



## BATTLE BUDDIES DAY

Service animals in training for disabled veterans visited Georgia Aquarium to roam with their trainers to help the animals learn to cope with large crowds and distractions.



## VETERANS FIELD IMMERSION PROGRAM

This newly created program under the Military Salute umbrella uses an integration of the therapeutic nature of diving and service projects to provide veterans with a meaningful and fulfilling experience in the field. Two dive trips were planned and executed to Jupiter, Florida at no cost to the participating veterans.



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

As a leader in aquatic research and exceptional animal care, Georgia Aquarium is dedicated to fostering a deeper appreciation for our ocean and its animal inhabitants. We give back to our city by partnering with like-minded organizations and providing resources that encourage, inspire, and support our local community here in Atlanta.

## ARTFULLY SUPPORTING A GREAT CAUSE

Georgia Aquarium received a one-of-a-kind violin from artist, Antonio “Tonny” Barajas, to support Shepherd Center patients’ rehabilitation programs. The Georgia Aquarium Violin, decorated with incredible detail of many animals you can find at the Aquarium, came as a tribute to the Aquarium, a place the artist admires and respects, and as a thank you to the Shepherd Center. In 2018, Tonny’s grandfather suffered an accident and was rehabilitated at Shepherd Center. Georgia Aquarium and Shepherd Center held a raffle in September 2021, at the culmination of Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month, raising over \$3,000 for patients at Shepherd Center to participate in our Journey with Gentle Giants program.



## INVESTING IN FUTURE GENERATIONS

Georgia Aquarium partnered with Invest Atlanta to support our newest gallery, **SHARKS! Predators of the Deep**. This partnership includes Georgia Aquarium’s commitment to providing community benefits to Atlanta’s Westside district.

Ten students from Booker T. Washington High School in Atlanta were selected to receive the inaugural Georgia Aquarium College Scholarship. A reception was held in May 2021, honoring these special students, as well as Invest Atlanta, in our dynamic shark gallery. That evening, Dr. Brian Davis, President & Chief Executive Officer at Georgia Aquarium, surprised the students by doubling their scholarship amount, further supporting these students’ goals for the future, and inspiring the next generation of aquatic advocates.



## ENCOURAGING WOMEN IN SCIENCE

Made possible through support from **The UPS Foundation**, Georgia Aquarium was able to host apprentices from Spelman College. This program was created to offer minority, female students a unique opportunity to enhance their careers in STEM.

Each apprentice logged 12 to 40 hours each week assisting in animal care on our Fish and Invertebrates team with an emphasis on coral husbandry. The apprentices helped culture and propagate numerous coral species and packed and sent dozens of Georgia Aquarium cultured corals to other AZA partner facilities. Apprentices also assisted in the construction of a new 250-gallon coral holding system to help support the AZA Florida Reef Tract Coral Rescue Program.

Two of the apprentices completed their confined water Scuba certification and will be working on Open Water soon. We hope to continue to celebrate and inspire future female scientists while encouraging equity, diversity, and inclusion.



# RIPPLE EFFECT

## EXPANDING GEORGIA AQUARIUM'S GLOBAL REACH

2021 saw the return to the field for the Georgia Aquarium Research & Conservation team, with projects and activities taking place around the Southeast and as far away as the Galapagos.





# GEORGIA AQUARIUM FIELD WORK IN THE GALAPAGOS

In fall of 2021, members of Georgia Aquarium's Research and Conservation, Animal Health, Dive, and Marketing and Communications teams undertook an expedition to the Galapagos Archipelago.

Joined by colleagues from the Galapagos Whale Shark Project and the Galapagos National Park Directorate, the goal of the expedition was to carry out field work for the long-term study of whale sharks in the far northern region of the Galapagos.

During a week of work, the group used various field methods to gather data that will continue to shed light on some of the remaining mysteries of whale sharks: where are they going? Where are they eating? Are they interacting with other animals?

While in the Galapagos, the main research activities included identifying whale sharks with photo-ID and spot pattern recognition, as well as attaching satellite tags, animal-borne video cameras and sampling the whale sharks' microbiome. The satellite tags not only track the whale sharks' travels but also give insight about their diving behavior and habitat preference using 3D movement data. The animal-borne video cameras give a full visual understanding of the sharks' movements underwater and any possible interactions with other animals. All microbiome samples taken help facilitate innovative research that looks at the role these play in determining elasmobranch health and how the whale sharks' unique microbiome might be involved in disease, host immunity, nutrition, and waste processing.



During this expedition, the Georgia Aquarium team also carried out field work alongside local fisherman to collect data on other sharks in the area. The goal was to obtain blood and tissue samples from tiger, silky and Galapagos sharks and to explore the relationship between plastic ingestion (microplastics) and diet. Tiger sharks are generalist feeders and many of the species they eat, including sea birds and sea turtles, are also heavily impacted by ocean plastics. Researchers can study microplastics in the bloodstream non-invasively by collecting a blood sample. Diet can also be estimated similarly in blood-based chemistry and with the premise "you are what you eat". These samples will provide insight for other projects focusing on microplastics.

Georgia Aquarium is proud to continue to take part in field research of our flagship species to help better understand and protect these gentle giants.

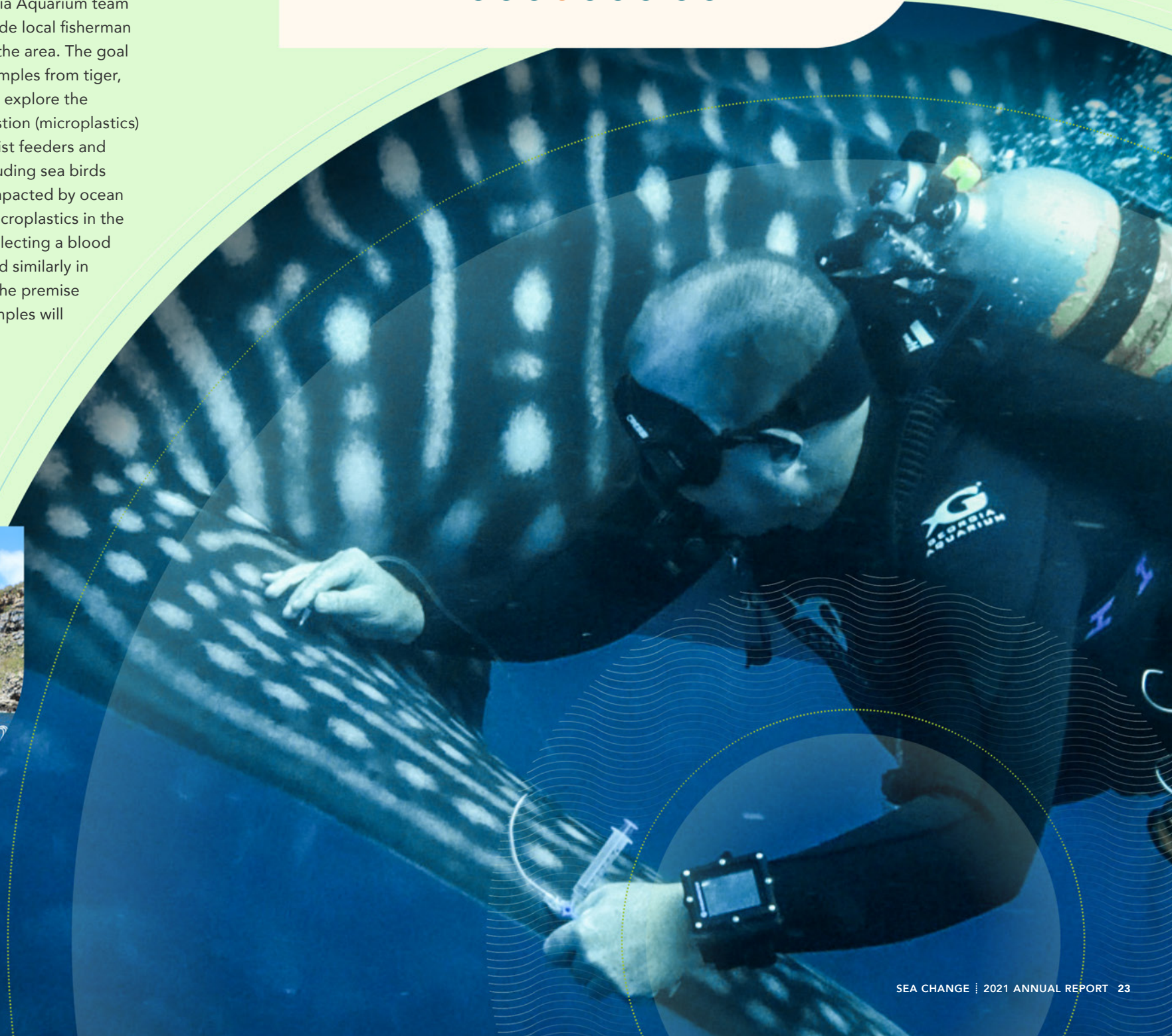


## WHALE SHARK

**SCIENTIFIC NAME**  
*Rhincodon typus*

**ANIMAL FACT** Each whale shark has its own individual spot pattern; like human fingerprints, no two are exactly alike.

**CONSERVATION STATUS**  
Endangered





## A PLACE TO WARM UP

At the end of 2021, Georgia Aquarium received some new temporary residents; eight cold stunned loggerhead sea turtles that were rescued off the coast of New England.

Colder weather can cause sea turtles to become susceptible to hypothermia which makes it difficult for them to find food and swim to the best of their abilities.

Each year, zoos and aquariums from across the country work alongside our partners at U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to help provide cold stunned turtles with temporary homes to warm up and gain strength.

These turtles will continue to receive incredible care from our Animal Care and Veterinary teams behind the scenes and once they are deemed strong enough, be released back to the ocean.

### LOGGERHEAD SEA TURTLE

**SCIENTIFIC NAME**  
*Caretta caretta*

**ANIMAL FACT** Loggerhead sea turtles migrate huge distances between their feeding grounds and their breeding/nesting sites.

**CONSERVATION STATUS**  
Vulnerable

EXTINCT THREATENED LEAST CONCERN  
EX EW CR EN VU NT LC DD NE



## SHARK RESEARCH & ESTUARY HEALTH

Georgia Aquarium's research team conducted field research in three sound systems along the Georgia coast evaluating estuary health.

The team, in collaboration with University of Georgia at Skidaway Island and Kennesaw State University, conducted a fishing survey where they collected samples from 200 juvenile sharks from Doboy Sound (i.e. Sapelo Island), Ossabaw Sound, and Wassaw Sound (i.e. Savannah), which have varying degrees of human impact. The aim is to use sharks as "canaries in the coal mine" to learn about the health of these important coastal ecosystems.

A small blood sample was taken from juvenile sharks to quantify total mercury levels as well as measuring bacteria and heavy metals in the water and sediment at each sampling site. All work was performed as part of Allyson Stiles' Master's thesis project through Kennesaw State University, under the observation and guidance of Dr. Kady Lyons, Research Scientist at Georgia Aquarium. Allyson Stiles is currently writing her Master's thesis summarizing findings from this field work and aims to defend in Summer 2022. Georgia Aquarium and our research partners will continue to monitor and further investigate the role juvenile sharks play in determining the health of Georgia's estuaries.

### BONNETHEAD SHARK

**SCIENTIFIC NAME**  
*Sphyrna tiburo*

**ANIMAL FACT** Bonnethead sharks are the smallest of the hammerhead shark genus, *Sphyrna*.

**CONSERVATION STATUS**  
Endangered

EXTINCT THREATENED LEAST CONCERN  
EX EW CR EN VU NT LC DD NE



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PRESENTING  
SPONSORS



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TUFTED PUFFIN

**SCIENTIFIC NAME**  
*Fratercula cirrhata*

**ANIMAL FACT** Puffins have small wings and legs set far back on their body that make them much better at swimming and diving than walking on land or flying.

**CONSERVATION STATUS**  
Least Concern

EXTINCT: EX  
THREATENED: EW, CR, EN, VU  
LEAST CONCERN: NT, LC, DD, NE



# THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

As a 501(c)3 nonprofit, we rely on the support of our community to ensure that we can continue our groundbreaking research initiatives, conservation efforts, educational programs, and community partnerships. By supporting Georgia Aquarium, these generous donors allow us to make a positive impact on the health and welfare of aquatic life from around the globe and remain at the forefront of aquatic science.

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👉 acknowledges members of Georgia Aquarium’s **Anchor Society**, a philanthropic membership.

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👉 Mr. Andrew Kraft	Mars Fishcare
👉 Susan Kreuzer	👉 Sherri Martin
👉 Vesna Krnjetic	👉 Randy and Angelique Martinez
Elaine Krom	👉 Diane and Tony Martino
Mrs. Rebecca Kujawa	👉 Chris McCameron
Kulturecity	Laurie L. Mccollum
👉 Craig Lambert and Leslie Jumper	McKenney’s, Inc.
Conrad C. and Susan E. Lautenbacher, Jr.	👉 Daniel and Cathy McLagan
👉 Michelle Lee	McRoberts Sales Co., Inc.
👉 Phillip Lester	👉 Merrill Family
👉 Dr. and Mrs. Nori and David Levine	👉 Mrs. Mitchell L. Mignola
👉 Glenn and Jeannie Lightsey	Jennifer Miller
Charles Lindamood, III	👉 Miller Charitable Foundation
👉 Christina Lineberry	Miller Clapperton
👉 Meredith A. Lineberry	👉 Mr. Richard K. Mills
Lucy Liu	Mini Melts, Inc.
Lockheed Martin	Morris Family Foundation
👉 Mr. Roland Loe	👉 Brandon Morris
Loews Atlanta	👉 Nicholas Murray
👉 Taninma Logan	Nanolumens
👉 Alisa Long and Edward Inman	Narwhal Digital LLC
LPS of America, Inc.	National Marine Sanctuary Foundation
👉 Hao Lu	National Philanthropic Trust
👉 Lisa Hutfluss and Jason Bothwell	NCR Foundation
Hyatt House Atlanta Downtown	👉 Tara Neighbors
Hyatt Place Atlanta Centennial Park	Mr. & Mrs. Kent C. Nelson
Hyatt Regency Atlanta	Carolyn Nguyen
👉 Mr. Ebenezer Ikenebomeh	👉 Mai Nguyen
Mr. Edward H. Inman II	👉 Peter Nicolay
Phil and Jenny Jacobs	👉 Steve and Jennifer Noggle
👉 R.J. Janota	Nordson Corporation Employee Giving
👉 Cody Jenkins	Amy Norris
👉 Malcolm and Hali Jewell	👉 David and Marsha Norris
👉 Sherry Jilinski	Northside Hospital
👉 Christopher Johnson	
👉 Cecile Jones	
👉 Linda Jones	
👉 Amanda D. Jordan	
David & Jennifer Kahn Family Foundation	
Kaiser Permanente	
👉 Linda Kasper	
Ms. Patricia A. Kent	
Kia Motors	
👉 Mr. and Mrs. Christopher King	
👉 Lewis King	
👉 Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Klopman	

👉 Jane Olsen
Karen R. Olson
👉 Thiago and Taylor Olson
Omni Hotel
👉 Rai and Jennifer Oshima
International Ozone Services, Inc.
👉 Alma and Jonathan Page
👉 Mr. and Mrs. Ajitabh Pandey
👉 Michelle M. Patton
Angelique Paul
👉 Jessica Pegues
PGAV Destinations
Kay Pon-Brown
👉 Mr. David S. Pritchett
Publix Super Markets Charities
👉 Kelley Qesati
The Quikrete Co.
Race Roster
👉 Mallory Rahman
👉 Rob & Terri Rakusin
👉 Kathy Read
👉 Catherine Reese
Reverb Atlanta by Hard Rock
👉 Dr. Kevin Reynolds
👉 Mrs. Lindsay Richards
👉 Jacob and Brandy Riherd
Ritz Carlton Atlanta
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Robinson
👉 Edwin A. Rosa
👉 Ms. Margaret Roth
👉 Mason and Ana M. Rountree
👉 Latoya Ryle
👉 Safety National
👉 Jesus F. Sanchez
👉 Dr. Arthur Schiff, Dr. Patricia Schiff, Dr. Julia Schiff and Daniel Schiff
👉 Paula Schlich

👉 Mr. Robert Schwartz
👉 Daniel Schwartzberg
👉 Mrs. Annie Scoles
👉 Mr. and Mrs. George Sertl
Douglas B. Shores
👉 Stephen and Catherine Shultz
👉 Rad Slough
👉 Arthur and Allison Smith
👉 Gerard Smith-Kenny
👉 Rebecca Sorrentino
Southern Company
Southwest Airlines
👉 Alexis Sparrow
Spectrum Brands
👉 Nicole Spencer
Springhill Suites by Marriott Atlanta Downtown
👉 Linda and Tom Spudic
👉 Wanda Staebell
👉 Josh and Shannon Stapp
👉 Ben Statham
Elizabeth Wheeler Stewart
👉 John and Jacqueline Stewart
Stokes Wagner A.L.C.
👉 Johanna Stout
John W. and Betty Strange
Michelle Sutich and Sean Durkin
👉 Chris and Lisa Sward
👉 Dr. and Mrs. Edwin I. Swords, III
T Mobile
👉 Dr. Yasir Taha
Team Artboy
👉 Linda and Mel Teetz
Teresa Tomlinson
👉 Rick Torres
Truist
Truist Foundation

The UPS Foundation
USI Insurance Services, LLC
👉 Ryan Valduga
👉 Caroline and Billy Van Eaton
👉 Ms. Jane Van Laar
👉 Mr. Steven Velkei & Mr. Jhamal Robinson
👉 Mr. Yashwant Verma
👉 Rachel Virden
👉 Cynthia and Michael Voccio
WAM Essentials Inc.
👉 Marsean Warren and Iesha Bennett
👉 Robert and Renee Warren
Waste Management
👉 Randolph and Melodie Watson
Kenneth Wedding
👉 Mr. and Mrs. David J. Weeg
👉 Emily Weese
👉 Krystal Wendler & The Georgia Kig Society
Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel
👉 Mrs. Maureen Whatley
👉 Michael D. White
👉 Susan and Tony White
Todd Williams
👉 Debbie and Dave Williams
👉 Diane Williams
👉 Eric and Erin Williams
👉 Jason S. Williams and S. Jane Fox
👉 Mrs. Vanessa Williams-Nash
👉 David Willingham
👉 Erin M. Wilson
👉 Mr. Clinton S. Winchester
👉 Dr. Jennifer Wohlers
👉 Pete Wrobel
👉 Bryan Yi
Young Again Foundation
👉 Mr. Scott Yum
The Zeist Foundation

# GIFTS IN KIND

Active Production and Design, Inc.	Atlanta Brewing Company	Fleming’s Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar	Proof of the Pudding	The Westin Jekyll Island
American Association of Zookeepers, Jacksonville Chapter	Atlanta Falcons	Greenville Zoo Foundation	Reynolds Lake Oconee	Tony Brewer & Company
ASW Distillery	Atlanta Hawks	Kia Motors	Showtime	Total Wine & More
Atlanta Botanical Garden	Beaufort Inn	LPS of America, Inc.	SkyView Atlanta	TOUR Championship
Atlanta Braves Foundation	DERMAGLOVE	Mini Melts, Inc.	South Carolina Aquarium	Truist Atlanta Open
	Elkay	Nashville Zoo	Southwest Airlines	United Distributors
	Fernbank Museum	Piedmont Healthcare	Tennessee Aquarium, Chattanooga, TN	Zoo Atlanta

These donations were received between January 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021. We have done our best to ensure correct listing; however, if your name is incorrect or omitted, please contact the Development department so we may correct our records. You can reach us at 404.581.4136 or [DEVELOPMENT@GEORGIAAQUARIUM.ORG](mailto:DEVELOPMENT@GEORGIAAQUARIUM.ORG).



# 2021 BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS

Cash & Investments	\$67,636,340
Prepays	\$2,045,016
Receivables	\$10,404,952
PP&E, Net	\$429,957,443
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$510,043,751</b>

LIABILITIES

AP & Accrued Expenses	\$11,789,370
Deferred Revenue	\$5,261,026
Debt & Other	\$63,595,967
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$80,646,363</b>

NET ASSETS

With Restrictions	\$403,058,829
Without Restrictions	\$26,338,559
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$429,397,388</b>

# 2021 INCOME STATEMENT

REVENUE

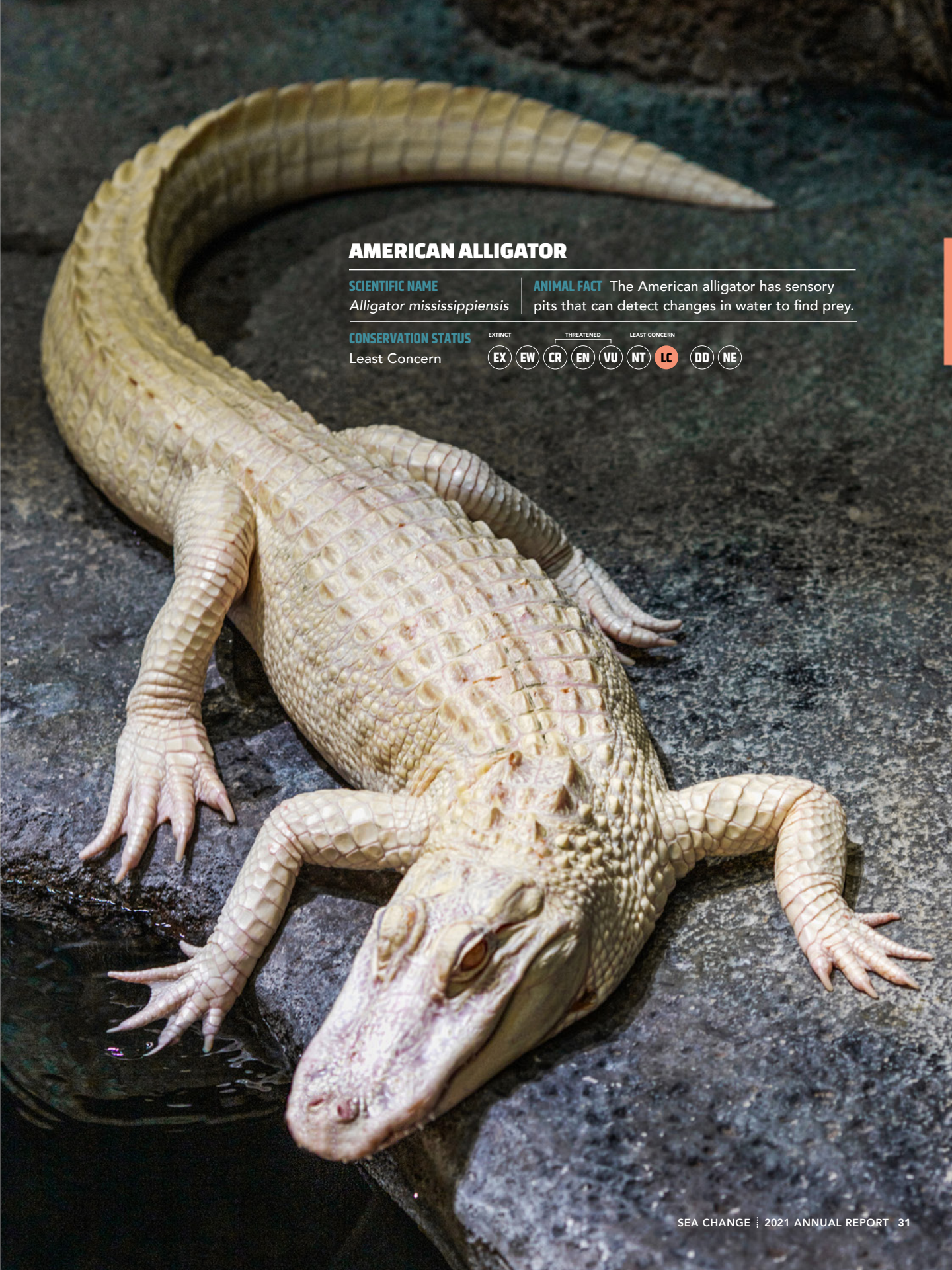
Admissions & Memberships	\$94,032,809
Commissions & Events	\$11,817,548
Fundraising	\$4,984,654
Shuttered Venue Operators Grant	\$10,000,000
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$120,835,011</b>

EXPENSES

Program Services	\$61,817,573
Support Services	\$28,554,897
Fundraising	\$130,802
Other Expenses	\$1,013,228
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$91,516,500</b>

<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$29,318,511</b>
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**Note:** The statements shown above are condensed versions of our audited financial statements and do not include footnote disclosures. Complete audited financial statements are available upon request.



AMERICAN ALLIGATOR

**SCIENTIFIC NAME**  
*Alligator mississippiensis*

**ANIMAL FACT** The American alligator has sensory pits that can detect changes in water to find prey.

**CONSERVATION STATUS**  
Least Concern

EXTINCT  
THREATENED  
LEAST CONCERN

EX EW CR EN VU NT LC DD NE



Georgia Aquarium  
is a nonprofit committed  
to inspiring awareness and  
preservation of our ocean and  
aquatic animals worldwide.

IN ORDER TO  
CONTINUE THESE  
EFFORTS, WE NEED  
YOUR HELP

# HELP CREATE A SEA CHANGE

## PLEASE SUPPORT GEORGIA AQUARIUM

Together, we can create a sea change—in our ocean,  
and for the wondrous life that inhabits it.

You can support the work being done in our facility  
and in the field through a tax-deductible contribution  
to Georgia Aquarium. Your contributions are vital to the  
success of our mission. We couldn't do this without you!

For more information on how you can help,  
please contact our Development department at  
**404.581.4136** or [Development@GeorgiaAquarium.org](mailto:Development@GeorgiaAquarium.org)  
or visit [GeorgiaAquarium.org/Support-Georgia-Aquarium](https://GeorgiaAquarium.org/Support-Georgia-Aquarium).

### MANTA RAY

SCIENTIFIC NAME  
*Mobula sp. cf. birostris*

ANIMAL FACT Manta rays are primarily plankton  
feeders, but can also consume small fishes.

#### CONSERVATION STATUS

Vulnerable







GEORGIA AQUARIUM

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