

SEA *Change*

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



GEORGIA AQUARIUM

3.1m

guests
visited
Georgia
Aquarium

600+

internal
and external
events
executed

200

total air quality
testing sites run
annually throughout
the Aquarium

93,500

total annual water quality tests run

12th

horned puffin chick hatched.
Skye hatched in August to
parents Stormy and Elmo

Through monthly, quarterly
and yearly inspections and
overhauls, our Dive Maintenance
team has maintained

5k+

pieces of equipment in
rotation for daily staff,
volunteer and field work

9k

guests spent
the night
through our
Sleep Under
the Seas program

dear friends,

2023 was a year of many accomplishments. Our teams achieved so much, and I'm proud to share these big endeavors with you, our amazing donors.

The launch of Resident Pass allowed more locals than ever to experience all the new things the Aquarium has to offer through the year, for the price of just one day. This pass was a massive success and will continue to be a way for us to engage with our local community for years to come.

One of our core goals as an aquarium is to continually offer new experiences, new animals, and new educational opportunities. Some of these new and enhanced experiences included our brand new, immersive Halloween programming, Haunted Seas, as well as Holidays at Georgia Aquarium presented by Norfolk Southern. We also were proud to continue renovations on River Scout in a gallery refresh that brought new animals, theming and messaging throughout the space. These renovations culminated in the unveiling of a big, bright new piranha habitat that can change water level to reflect the seasons.

The animal teams were hard at work, as usual, in 2023. Our Sea Otter Encounter Program relaunched after safety concerns from the pandemic in 2020 led staff to keep certain animals from being exposed to COVID by guests. Our Mammal and

Bird Team along with the Veterinary Team worked with many of our animals, including the sea otters, to be able to vaccinate them and allow our Encounter Programs to come back for guests to experience. The Mammal and Bird staff also accomplished a new puffin and chick training program that they were able to present to colleagues at the International Marine Animal Trainers Association (IMATA) Conference. Staff members on the Fish and Invertebrates team helped with rescue and relief efforts for manatees and many stranded sea turtles. Through their efforts, this year alone we were able to house, rehabilitate, and release two manatees and eight turtles.

As always, we thank you for your continued support. As donors, you are directly involved with all of our accomplishments, and I invite you to look join me in proudly reflecting on an amazing year at Georgia Aquarium.



Dr. Brian Davis
President & CEO
Georgia Aquarium



welcome letter 1

inside

global voyage

charting a course for a sustainable future 4

Hope Spot: Prince William Sound ...	6	Margaritaville	16
Box Turtle Nesting	8	Hope Spot: St Helena Island	18
SANCCOB Partnership	10	Education & Outreach	20
Beluga Metabolic Study	12	California Mammal Partnership	22
Gray's Reef NOAA Expedition	13	Military Salute	24
Jamaica Shark Conservation	14	Indonesia Zebra Shark Recovery ...	26
Carolina Coast Tagging	14	Australia Reef Expedition	26
Florida Keys Coral Bus	15	Taiwan Shark & Ray Conservation ...	27

fiscal health 28

sponsors & board ... 29

donors & gifts 30

your support 32



journey with us

as we explore Georgia Aquarium's
accomplishments around the world.

2023 had our teams traveling from
the Atlantic to the Pacific, Grey's Reef
to California, Prince William Sound to
Saint Helena ... and so much more.

With your help, Georgia Aquarium
works to positively impact communities
here at home and across the globe.

global voyage

true blue

Georgia Aquarium has continued our partnership with **Mission Blue** to help safeguard vital marine ecosystems and is proud that in 2023, **Prince William Sound** became the first Hope Spot in Alaska. Mission Blue advocates for public awareness and support of a network of marine protected areas, named Hope Spots, scientifically identified as areas critical to ocean health.

Prince William Sound encompasses 3,500 miles of coastline including fjords, islands and over 150 glaciers, serving as a connector between inland rivers and bays to the Gulf of Alaska and ultimately the North Pacific Ocean. The area is home to five species of salmon, migrating populations of humpback whales, pods of killer whales, brown and black bears, over 220 species of birds and much more.

Mission Blue has named Prince William Sound a Hope Spot in honor of its resilience, innovation and community. In the past, the area has been impacted by logging and mining activities, whaling, fur trades and the 1989 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill. Some marine mammal and seabird populations are still recovering.

Prince William Sound Stewardship Foundation (PWSSF) and Georgia Aquarium are recognized as Hope Spot Champions for this area. Together, both organizations are working to conserve, restore and encourage responsible stewardship of Prince William Sound, positively impacting the future of the area through public education and restoration projects focusing on marine debris, invasive species, trail maintenance and campsite restoration.

Bald Eagle

Haliaeetus leucocephalus

Although they spend winters and migrations alone, bald eagles maintain the same breeding pair year after year.

LC Conservation Status
Least Concern



“We are honored and delighted for Prince William Sound to join the esteemed network of Mission Blue Hope Spots as the first one in the state of Alaska. We hope this designation will encourage stewardship as well as even greater community engagement across the Sound.”

Dr. Charla Hughes, Executive Director of the Prince William Sound Stewardship Foundation



150+ GLACIERS

220+ SPECIES OF BIRDS

3,500 MILES OF COASTLINE

nurturing neighbors

A collaborative conservation effort between Georgia Aquarium staff and the **Southern Conservation Trust** resulted in a record box turtle nesting season at **The Ridge Nature Preserve** in Fayetteville, GA. Protecting 23 delicate box turtle nests in the area led to more than 40 hatchlings in 2023—double the hatchlings from the previous year. Georgia Aquarium aquarists provided their knowledge and assistance in safeguarding nests and recording data.

Eastern box turtles are considered “Vulnerable” on the IUCN Red List with habitat loss, traffic incidents and collection for the pet trade as large contributing factors. The preserve is home to a dense population of these turtles and data collected will provide insight into the local environment’s health and help researchers determine practices that will help conserve this local species in other areas.

Eastern Box Turtle

Terrapene carolina carolina

Like other reptiles, box turtles must hibernate during cold winter weather. They burrow deep under the soil and leaves, sometime in October, and usually emerge in April or early May.

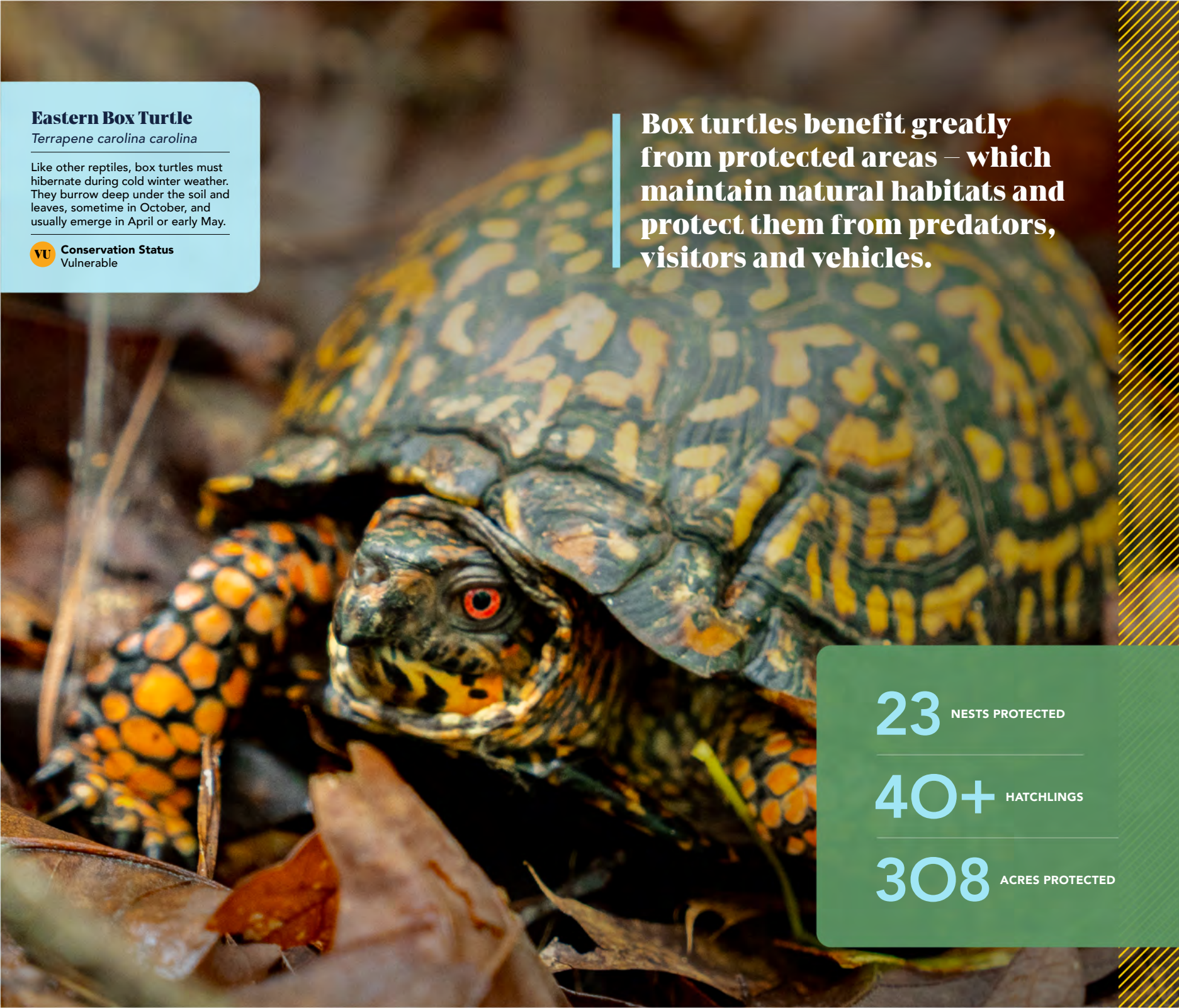
VU Conservation Status
Vulnerable

Box turtles benefit greatly from protected areas – which maintain natural habitats and protect them from predators, visitors and vehicles.

23 NESTS PROTECTED

40+ HATCHLINGS

308 ACRES PROTECTED



2 LOCATIONS: CAPE TOWN
AND GQEBERHA

FOUNDED IN 1968

81% RELEASE RATE OF
AFRICAN PENGUINS

For more than a decade,
Georgia Aquarium has
partnered with SANCCOB,
sending staff to South Africa
and providing funding for
rehabilitation and research.

SANCCOB CAPE TOWN | SOUTH ATLANTIC OCEAN
33° 50.03118' S / 18° 29.5035' E

rescue to resilience

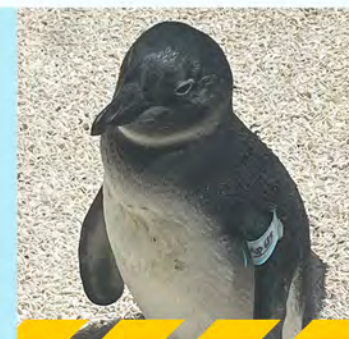
Two senior trainers from Georgia Aquarium's **Mammals and Birds team** visited **South Africa** in 2023 to assist in the rehabilitation of African penguins. Staff spent two weeks working at the **Southern African Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds (SANCCOB)**, a non-profit organization whose primary objective is to reverse the decline of seabird populations through the rescue, rehabilitation and release of ill, injured, abandoned and oiled seabirds.



African Penguin *Spheniscus demersus*

After hatching, chicks are fed by the parents for up to 3 months, until they molt their down and grow their juvenile feathers. This process is called fledging.

EN Conservation Status
Endangered



Georgia Aquarium has been a proud partner of SANCCOB for over a decade, frequently sending staff to South Africa, as well as providing funding for research projects and rehabilitation efforts. Mammals and Birds team members are passionate about our partnership and highlight these efforts in our Penguin Encounter Programs.

During their time in South Africa, Georgia Aquarium trainers participated in all aspects of penguin rehabilitation including feeding, medication administration, cleaning, diet preparation, chick rearing and release preparation. All of which continues to develop skills that are beneficial to our care of African penguins at Georgia Aquarium. Additionally, Georgia Aquarium staff participated in releasing fully rehabilitated penguins back into their natural environment.

population protection

The beluga whales at Georgia Aquarium and their trainers continue to support important metabolic research in partnership with scientists at **University of California, Santa Cruz**. Trainers from our Mammals and Birds team have trained the belugas to rest in a metabolic dome to measure oxygen consumption.



These levels are measured at rest with the whales under the dome for 10–13 minutes and then measured again after three minutes of activity. This is a major accomplishment in animal husbandry as testing must be done fasted (no food prior or during) and many other elements must be considered to successfully teach the whales these specific behaviors.

Information gathered during these tests then translates into the energetic requirements and metabolic needs of an adult beluga whale. From there, scientists can determine a beluga's needed fish consumption on a daily, weekly, monthly and even yearly basis. Other factors to consider include the energetic cost of noise pollution, boat traffic and other human-made impacts that might cause whales to dive or swim more than usual. Understanding these energetic requirements is critical to evaluating if prey availability is sufficient for survival for beluga populations and the Critically Endangered population in Cook Inlet, Alaska, in particular.

The belugas at Georgia Aquarium continue to serve as ambassadors for their species and this research contributes to conservation efforts of cetaceans around the world.

Beluga Whale

Delphinapterus leucas

Belugas are sometimes called "sea canaries" due to the extensive variety of sounds they can make.

LC Conservation Status
Least Concern*

*For a species as a whole, there are certain populations that are Critically Endangered, Endangered and Threatened.

reef relief

Georgia Aquarium along with other research organizations participated in a **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)** expedition in June 2023. The team set out on a NOAA research vessel to dive in and around **Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary**, off the coast of Georgia. The goals of the mission were to map the ocean floor and collect data on the abundance, diversity and distribution of fishes, invertebrates and any structures at the dive sites.



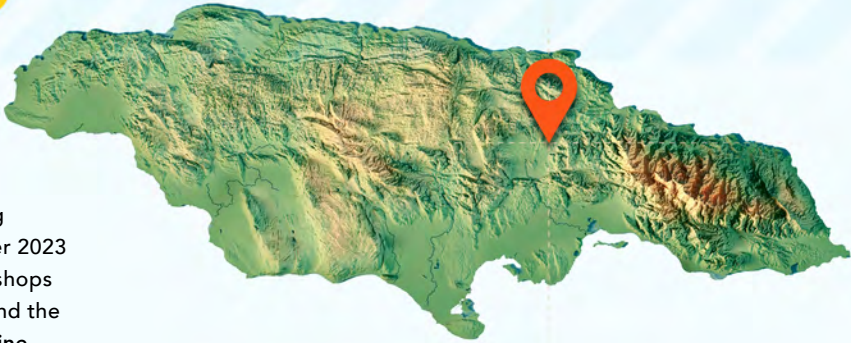
Despite rough seas, the groups conducted over 15 dives inspecting, mapping and measuring these sites. Data was collected on hundreds of different marine species, dozens of sites were recorded and photographed and multibeam mapping covered miles of previously unrecorded ocean floor.

The team from Georgia Aquarium assisted in many of the dives with a focus on species identification, ledge measurements and recordings, debris collection and photography. Lauren Rotsted and Jeff Odom from the Dive Operations team and Kat McFadden from the Fish and Invertebrates team lent their knowledge to the expedition by providing underwater species identification, recording techniques and dive safety expertise.



shark savvy

Two members of Georgia Aquarium’s Training Department traveled to Jamaica in September 2023 to facilitate shark conservation training workshops in partnership with the Sandals Foundation and the University of West Indies–Discovery Bay Marine Lab. Reaching over 140 individuals, these training sessions focused on the importance of sharks to their marine environment, providing conservation material and education on sharks typically found in Jamaican waters. The goal was to debunk myths about sharks and to expand education to enable these individuals to be trainers themselves. Participants ranged from individuals at academic institutions and government agencies to local fishermen, Sandals resort employees and even a local primary school.



driving conservation

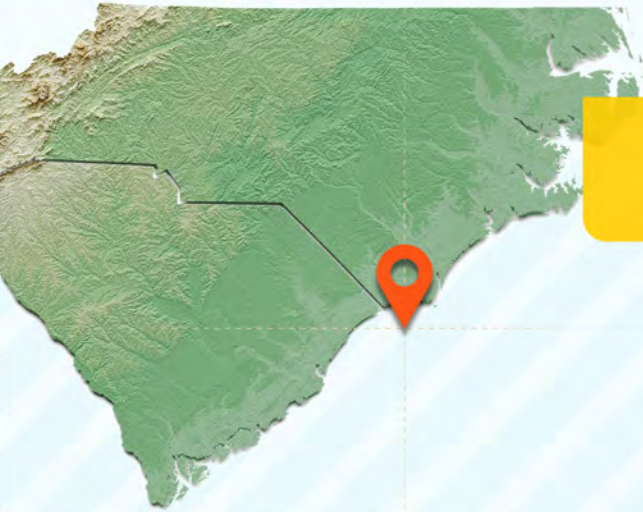
In partnership with the Coral Restoration Foundation (CRF), Georgia Aquarium was able to help design and fabricate the “Coral Bus”, a cutting-edge aquarium trailer system designed to transport nursery-raised corals safely to their new homes within the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary.

Made possible through the support from the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, the Coral Bus is a first-of-its-kind coral transport technology. The Coral Bus closely replicates the open ocean conditions to which the corals are already acclimated and enables practitioners to monitor and regulate water temperature, pH, filtration and water flow to ensure the well-being of corals during transport. The goal is to minimize any stress experienced by these fragile animals while they are on the move. Removing as many stressors as possible gives these endangered animals an even better chance of survival in the wild.



mapping movements

Researchers from Georgia Aquarium and Ripley’s Aquariums embarked on a partnership to deploy acoustic telemetry tags to understand how animals in the southernmost part of their range use their habitat along the Eastern Seaboard. Sand tiger sharks were tagged in Bennet’s Point, South Carolina and Nags Head, North Carolina in the spring of 2023 in collaboration with colleagues at the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. Detection data revealed animals to have traveled as far south as Florida to as far north as Rhode Island across the year. Further efforts will continue to tag more animals across different age classes.



“We were thrilled to have contributed to the completion of the Coral Bus, which will give CRF the ability to expand their impactful work preserving our ocean’s coral reefs.”

Steve Hartter, Associate Curator of Fish and Invertebrates, Georgia Aquarium

island vibes

In 2023, Georgia Aquarium announced a new presenting partner, **Margaritaville Vacation Club by Wyndham**, for our **Dolphin Coast Gallery**.

In partnership, the dolphin corridor received an island-themed makeover as well as a brand-new coastal bird exhibit including roseate spoonbills and scarlet ibis. Featuring both aquatic and arboreal elements, this is the first habitat of its kind at Georgia Aquarium. The exhibit educates guests on the importance, diversity and delicate balance of coastal ecosystems and provides an up-close look at these colorful and gregarious birds.

Margaritaville Vacation Club by Wyndham furthered their commitment to the city of Atlanta by supporting Georgia Aquarium’s Sponsored Education Admissions (SEA) Program, providing Aquarium admission to close to 1,000 additional students at Title I schools.



Roseate Spoonbill

Ajaia ajaja

Roseate Spoonbills will use sticks from mangrove trees to build large, deep nests. Their large spoon-shaped bill is used to sweep through the water to catch prey.

LC Conservation Status
Least Concern



This gallery features Georgia Aquarium’s own pod of common bottlenose dolphins and a presentation in our dolphin theater. Dolphin Training and Production teams designed themed presentations for Haunted Seas and Holidays at Georgia Aquarium as well as our Dolphins in Depth program.

TOTALING	REACHING
876	1,495,565
SHOWS	GUESTS

“This marine protected area and new Hope Spot of nearly half a million square miles now faces pressures largely outside its control from rapidly changing climate, invasive species and pollution. By becoming a Hope Spot, St. Helena can act as a beacon to the rest of the world.”

Dr. Sylvia Earle, Founder of Mission Blue

Masked Booby

Sula dactylatra

Masked boobies lay one or two eggs in a shallow depression on the ground with males often decorating the edge of the nest.

LC Conservation Status
Least Concern

SAINT HELENA | SOUTH ATLANTIC OCEAN
15° 56.84487' S / 5° 41.99349' W

beacon of hope

Georgia Aquarium has worked alongside **Mission Blue** to recognize **St. Helena** as a Mission Blue Hope Spot, an area scientifically identified as critical to ocean health.

St. Helena National Trust and Georgia Aquarium are recognized as the Hope Spot Champions. Georgia Aquarium has been working together with Helena Bennett, Director of the St. Helena National Trust and the St. Helena Government over the last 10 years to implement marine science and monitoring programs for the island. Mission Blue has named St. Helena Island a Hope Spot in honor of the island's ongoing initiatives to manage and monitor its marine environment and to also grow a sustainable economy.

St. Helena is a remote island in the middle of the South Atlantic Ocean, home to 4,439 residents and measuring 47 square miles. The island boasts an incredible level of biodiversity with more than 800 species calling the area home including 18 endemic species. The ocean habitat around the island is legally designated a marine protected area and encompasses the only known whale shark breeding location in the world. Georgia Aquarium researchers have made multiple expeditions to St. Helena since 2014 to study whale shark populations using techniques discovered in the aquarium setting.

The local government has published a new Marine Management Plan (MMP) for 2023–2027 facilitating continuous community engagement, fostering ocean stewardship and sustained environmental consciousness across the island. The Hope Spot recognition and dedication of the local community is vital to protecting the incredible environment of St. Helena for years to come.



47 SQUARE MILES

800+ ANIMAL SPECIES

18 ENDEMIC SPECIES

smarts, with heart

Georgia Aquarium’s outreach and education programs enrich our community and inspire the next generation.

RIVERS TO REEFS

2023 brought the revitalization of a teacher professional development opportunity for 14 teachers from Title I schools. Rivers to Reefs is a weeklong workshop that gives teachers hands-on experience to create better stewards and advocates for the waterways in their communities. Beginning at Georgia Aquarium to learn about water in Metro Atlanta, the group then set off to follow the Altamaha River watershed. Educators created connections between inland rivers and offshore habitats bringing back all that they learned into their classroom curriculum.



NOAA OCEAN GUARDIAN SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

An Ocean Guardian School is committed to the protection and conservation of its local watersheds, the world’s ocean and special ocean areas, like national marine sanctuaries. Schools submit a project proposal for funding and participation and carry out hands-on school-wide or community-based stewardship projects. Georgia Aquarium has partnered with NOAA’s Office of National Marine Sanctuaries to identify program participants and help implement project goals. With support from Georgia-Pacific, McCleskey Middle School in Marietta and Oglethorpe Charter School in Savannah will be the first NOAA Ocean Guardian Schools in the state of Georgia.

CLAYTON COUNTY PARTNERSHIP

Georgia Aquarium has partnered with the Clayton County school district to implement a K-12 Marine Science Learning Pathway in their public school system. The goal is to provide students who are underrepresented in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) with access and opportunity to explore careers in Marine Science.

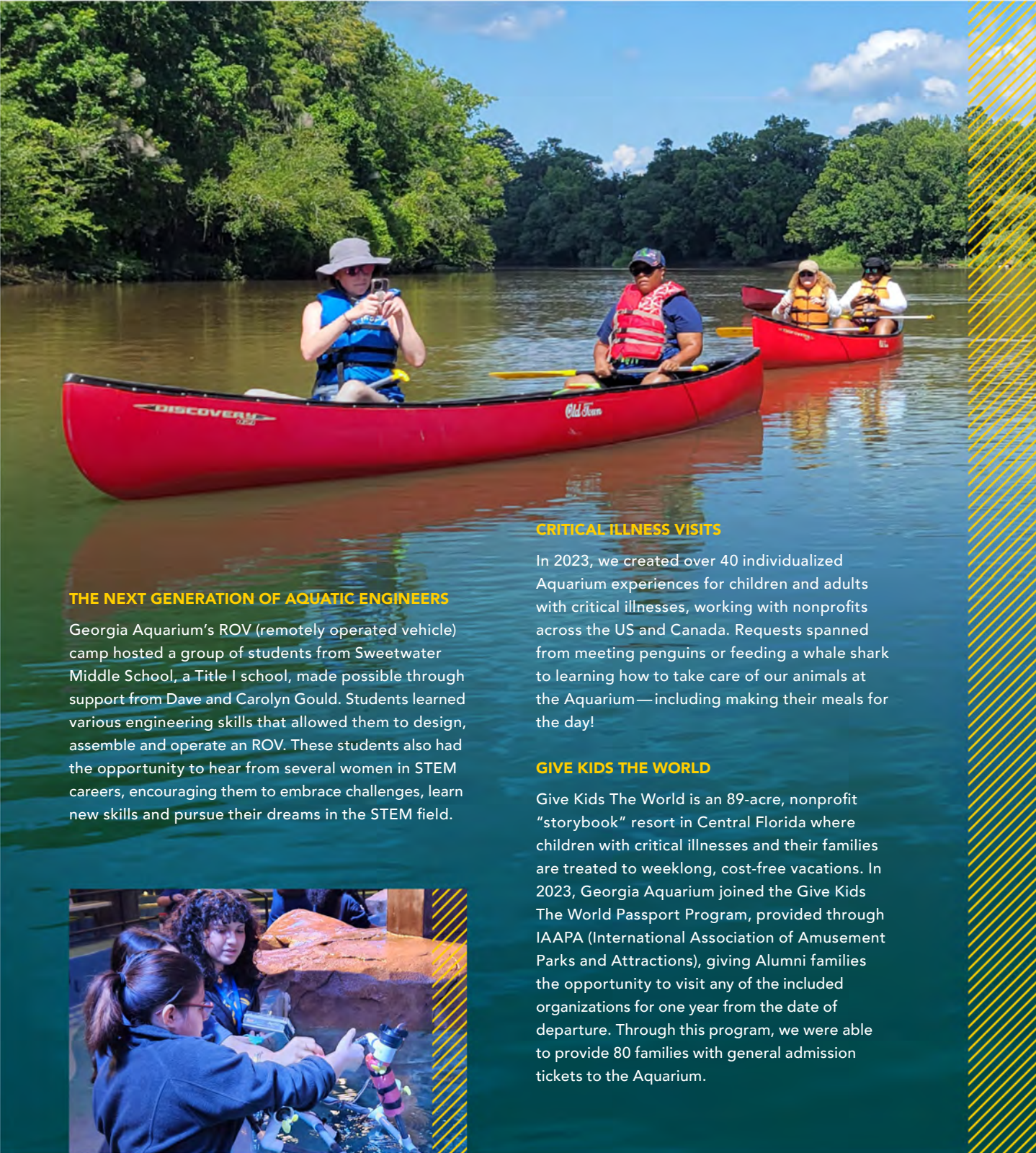


Spotted Eagle Ray

Aetobatus narinari

The spotted eagle ray has a distinctive pattern of small whitish spots across the back. This ray frequently forms large schools during the non-breeding season.

EN Conservation Status
Endangered



CRITICAL ILLNESS VISITS

In 2023, we created over 40 individualized Aquarium experiences for children and adults with critical illnesses, working with nonprofits across the US and Canada. Requests spanned from meeting penguins or feeding a whale shark to learning how to take care of our animals at the Aquarium—including making their meals for the day!

GIVE KIDS THE WORLD

Give Kids The World is an 89-acre, nonprofit “storybook” resort in Central Florida where children with critical illnesses and their families are treated to weeklong, cost-free vacations. In 2023, Georgia Aquarium joined the Give Kids The World Passport Program, provided through IAAPA (International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions), giving Alumni families the opportunity to visit any of the included organizations for one year from the date of departure. Through this program, we were able to provide 80 families with general admission tickets to the Aquarium.



turning the tide

During the summer of 2023, Georgia Aquarium sent seven employees from our **Pinniped** team to assist rescue staff at **The Marine Mammal Center** during the domoic acid crisis in California.



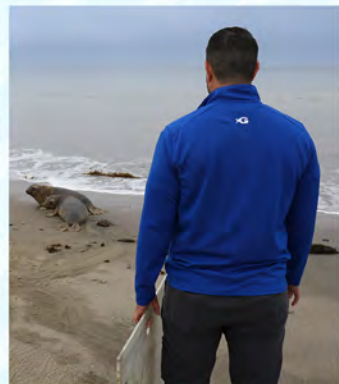
Domoic acid is a neurotoxin produced by harmful algal bloom events, sometimes known as “red tide”, that thrive in unusually warm waters off the West Coast. These conditions have unfortunately become increasingly more frequent due to climate change impacts.

The neurotoxin accumulates in smaller fish, which are then eaten by marine mammals in significant quantities. Sea lions repeatedly exposed to the toxin can suffer long-lasting and serious effects. Domoic acid attacks the brain and heart causing seizures, heart failure and, if left untreated, can cause permanent brain damage.

The Marine Mammal Center attempts to rescue, rehabilitate and release animals in need, including ones exposed to domoic acid. Georgia Aquarium staff contributed knowledge of pinniped behavior and handling skills while also learning about the rescue and rehabilitation processes.

Most of the animals treated for domoic acid toxicity are California sea lions, but seals and other marine mammals like cetaceans can be impacted as well. Animals that are assisted by the rescue team are provided fluids to help flush the toxins as well as fish sources free of domoic acid and, in some cases, anti-seizure medications. Once the animals are healthy enough, they are returned to the ocean.

Georgia Aquarium is a proud partner of The Marine Mammal Center and is committed to helping rescue animals in need.



Georgia Aquarium staff contributed knowledge and skills while learning about the rescue and rehabilitation processes.



Northern Elephant Seal *Mirounga angustirostris*

Northern elephant seals spend about 9 months of the year in the ocean. Most of this time is underwater, diving to depths of about 1,000 to 2,500 feet for 20 to 30 minute intervals with only short breaks at the surface.

LC Conservation Status
Least Concern

10,000+

MARINE MAMMALS RESCUED BY THE MARINE MAMMAL CENTER ALONG 600 MILES OF CALIFORNIA COASTLINE AND THE BIG ISLAND OF HAWAII

24,000+

CALLS ANSWERED ANNUALLY BY THE MARINE MAMMAL CENTER 24-HOUR RESCUE HOTLINE, OPERATING 365 DAYS YEAR

salute to the seas

Georgia Aquarium and our Military Salute program’s founding partner, **The Home Depot Foundation**, are proud supporters of our armed forces and are committed to serving the brave men and women, active and retired, who have served us.

Green Sea Turtle

Chelonia mydas

Green sea turtle fat is greenish in color; its vegetarian diet is believed to be the reason for this.

EN Conservation Status
Endangered

Lockheed Martin is another proud patron of our Military Salute Program, supporting both the Veterans Immersion Program (VIP) and Gold Star Family Days.

VETERANS IMMERSION PROGRAM (VIP)

Over 500 veterans participated in our swim or dive programs in our Ocean Voyager Built by The Home Depot gallery. More than 80 non-military individuals were able to participate as well, including groups from both Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta and Shepherd Center.

GOLD STAR FAMILY DAYS

Georgia Aquarium hosted three Gold Star Family Days throughout 2023 that focused on serving families that have lost a loved one in service to this country. Over 360 Gold Star Family members visited the Aquarium, participating in animal encounters, ceremonies, flag presentations and meals.

RE-ENLISTMENTS

For the first time since the pandemic, in-water Military Re-Enlistments were brought back with the help of our Dive Operations, Dive Immersion and Zoological Operations teams.



MILITARY MONDAYS

Provided free admission for veterans and active-duty military personnel and discounted admission for their families on select Mondays in May, November and December, totaling close to 6,500 individuals.

VETERANS FIELD IMMERSION PROGRAM

Providing veterans with meaningful and fulfilling experiences in the field, Georgia Aquarium took 24 veterans on three field dive trips to Key Largo and Jupiter, Florida where the focus was education, conservation and service. Partnering with both the Coral Restoration Foundation and Loggerhead Marine Life Center, veterans engaged in the therapeutic nature of the ocean along with being a part of a mission greater than themselves. Veterans participated in service projects above and below the ocean’s surface.



sustaining species

The StAR Project, led by the West Papua Provincial Government and the Research and Innovation Agency of Indonesia, seeks to reestablish a healthy population of zebra sharks by bringing aquarium-bred egg cases to hatcheries in protected areas of Raja Ampat. There, the sharks will be properly reared and tagged for release.

Five zebra shark pups from the project were released into Indonesian waters in 2023 and Georgia Aquarium was also able to contribute our first two embryos. The proven success of breeding paired with the husbandry expertise of accredited aquariums, like Georgia Aquarium, is critical in the recovery of this species.



SAUNDERS REEF | SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN
21° 0.39558' S / 149° 33.72504' E

expedition down under

Georgia Aquarium participated in an expedition led by Biopixel to the far northern part of the Great Barrier Reef in Australia. 13 researchers from seven different organizations contributed to the goal of tagging sharks and rays in the area to better understand habitat and migration seasonality. The group was able to successfully tag:

14 WHALE SHARKS:
3 FEMALES
11 MALES

1 BULL SHARK

1 OCEANIC MANTA

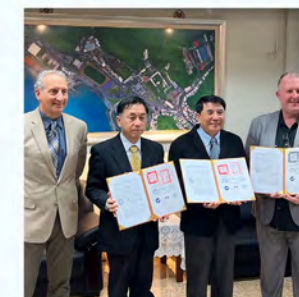
5 TIGER SHARKS



stealth science

In 2023 Georgia Aquarium signed a ten-year Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with National Taiwan Ocean University (NTOU) and the Taiwan Fisheries Research Institute to develop shark and ray science and conservation programs in Taiwan's coastal waters.

These programs include the creation of a robust coastal acoustic array network to track any radio-tagged animals in waters around Taiwan and provide funding to academic and local fishers to tag sharks and rays, including whale sharks. Dr. Kady Lyons, Research Scientist at Georgia Aquarium also carried out a shark tagging workshop at NTOU for graduate students, faculty and local fishers to help carry out field research and learn where sharks are found around the island.



BOWMOUTH GUITARFISH

Georgia Aquarium became home to three young Critically Endangered bowmouth guitarfish, born in Taiwan after their mother was inadvertently caught in a fishing net. Bowmouth guitarfish are visually striking animals and are sought after in the fish market trade. To protect these pups from being caught in the future, it was determined they should go to facilities that have experience caring for them and that could contribute to scientific understanding to help their dwindling population numbers through research.

Once they are large enough, these pups will be introduced to our Ocean Voyager Built by The Home Depot gallery where three adult bowmouth guitarfish currently reside.

"This is an extremely rare species, and thanks to our conservation partners in Taiwan we were able to bring them to Atlanta and contribute not only to their individual protection but open up future conservation possibilities for reproduction of these endangered animals." Chris Coco, Vice President of Aquatic Sustainability at Georgia Aquarium.



audited
financials
available
later in
2024

2023 presenting sponsors

Our Presenting Sponsors represent Georgia Aquarium's highest level of sponsorship. These companies help support our mission to inspire awareness and preservation of our ocean and aquatic animals worldwide.



2023 board of directors

Our Board of Directors is made up of a group of dedicated individuals who have brought their impressive combined experience into one group. Together, they are committed to steering Georgia Aquarium into the future.

Bernie Marcus
Billi Marcus
Francis Blake
Ann-Marie Campbell
Dan T. Cathy
Michael J. Coles

James S. Grien
Melanie Isbill
James Y. Kerr, II
Kirk Kinsell
Steven R. Koonin
Conrad Lautenbacher, Jr., Ph.D.
Michael A. Leven

Michael A. Morris
Timothy J. Pakenham
Gary Peacock
Ray Robinson
Derek V. Smith
Kathleen Walters

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.

🐠 acknowledges members of Georgia Aquarium's **Anchor Society**, a philanthropic membership.

- ABM Janitorial Services Southeast, LLC

🐠 Heather and Aaron Abramowski

Ace American Insurance Co. ACVB Foundation, Inc.

🐠 Mr. and Mrs. John R. Adams

Andrew Agustin

Alexandria Real Estate Equities, Inc.

Allied Universal

Alloy

Amy and Marshal Allshouse

The Allstate Foundation

Aloft Atlanta Downtown

🐠 Dr. Firelli Alonso

Alston & Bird, LLP

Amazon Smile

American Online Giving Foundation

American School Counselor Association

ASO Advertising

Amico Seasafe

🐠 James and Ryoko Anderson

🐠 Mr. Robert Anderson

🐠 Cindy Sanborn and Beth Ann Andrews

Anheuser-Busch

🐠 Anonymous

Anonymous

🐠 Carlos Arevalo

🐠 Dr. Larry Arnson

🐠 Wayne and Joan Aronson

Arrow Exterminators, Inc.

🐠 Mr. Rudy Arroyo

Asahi/America

Atlanta Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Atlanta Hilton Northeast

Atlanta Marriott Marquis Hotel

🐠 Atlanta Reef Club

Avita Care Solutions

🐠 Maria and Sai Avula

🐠 Olivia and Cameron Bardsley

🐠 Arden and Marcus Barela

Be Flawless

🐠 Ken Becker

🐠 Matt and Jeannie Beckett

🐠 Alex Beckman

🐠 Ben Bierbaum

Jessica Bilecky

🐠 Sarah and Matthew Blackmon

Frank and Liz Blake

🐠 Arthur M. Blank

🐠 Khameleon D. Bloodline

Bloomberg Philanthropies

Blue Penguin Car Wash

Patrick D. and Kimberly Bond

🐠 Dan and Marty Boone

Lydia C. Bottorff

🐠 Elizabeth and Grigor Boyadzhyan

Sharon Bradley

Brasfield & Gorrie, LLC

Brasington Bailey Construction, Inc.

🐠 Mary Ellen and Neil Brigham

Bright Funds

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Brill

🐠 Brent Browning

🐠 Mark and Timmerly Bullman

Molly Burke

🐠 Adam and Kim Burke

- The Burkehaven Family Foundation

🐠 Michael Burnette and Eniko Nagy

🐠 CB Butler

🐠 Kaity Cagle

Ann-Marie Campbell

The Candler Hotel Atlanta

🐠 Peter and Nathalie Capelluto

Dr. Bruce Carlson

Carlyle Fraser Employees Benefit Fund

🐠 Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cary

🐠 Megan Carzoli

🐠 Mileann Castillo

Catanach Service Group

Charities Aid Foundation America

Charitybuzz

Charityvest Inc.

Daniel J. Chen

Chick-fil-A, Inc.

🐠 Buffy A. Payne

Cigna Health and Life Insurance Company

Cintas Corporation

CityPASS, Inc.

Clayton County Public Schools

🐠 Katharine Paulsen Cobb

🐠 Mr. and Mrs. John Cogan

🐠 The Cole Family

Compass Group

Complete Contract Consulting, LLC

Consco, LLC

🐠 Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence E. Cooper

Coral Restoration Foundation

Cortina Productions

🐠 Janet and John Costello

🐠 Seth Crawford

Carolyn Cray

🐠 Christine Cronquist

🐠 Mr. and Mrs. Doug Crosby

🐠 Silvina Davis

🐠 Rebecca and Nick DeLaCruz

DERMAGLOVE

🐠 Claire Deselle

Marc Deshaies

🐠 Jon DeWitte

🐠 Mr. Austin C. Dickie

Dogfish Head

DonateStock

🐠 Mr. Jay Donohue

Durham Law Group, PC

🐠 Mr. Timothy Echols

Chuck Edmundson, A-1 Broadcast

🐠 Diana Einterz
- 🐠 Jeremy Ellis

Embassy Suites By Hilton Atlanta Buckhead

Embassy Suites Centennial Park

Glen and Martha Emory

🐠 Dennis and Kathy Esler

🐠 Danielle Etzbach

🐠 Tabitha Evans

Event Network, Inc.

Evoqua Water Technologies, LLC

🐠 Mr. and Mrs. Dietmar Exler

Fanatics

🐠 Megan Feindt

🐠 Joy Lynn Fields and Deborah Bannworth

🐠 Judy Fineman

🐠 Amy Fondren

🐠 Vanessa Ford

🐠 Mr. Mitchell A. Foster, II

🐠 Miller Charitable Foundation

Bill Frank

🐠 Danielle Frazier

🐠 Kris Freeman

🐠 Mr. Abraham Friedlander

Frontstream

🐠 Kevin Furlong

🐠 Brian Gardner

🐠 Jeanette and Juan Gasca

Georgia Department of Revenue

Georgia Natural Gas

Georgia World Congress Center

Georgia-Pacific

Georgia-Pacific Foundation

🐠 Robert Michael and Rose Ellen Glover

🐠 Ms. Sarah D. Goldberg

🐠 Victoria Gomez

goodr

David and Carolyn Gould

🐠 Michelle Green

🐠 Patricia Greenwood

Gregg Chandler

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Grien

🐠 Michael Griffith

Amber N. Groom

🐠 John and Laura Guitar

🐠 Jo Ann Haden-Miller and Bill Miller

🐠 Eric Hagan

Lynne M. Halpern Trust

🐠 Jim and Susan Hannan

Hard Rock Cafe International

🐠 Suzanne Harper

🐠 Mr. Antione J. Harrell

🐠 Tina Hebb

Henderson Electric

🐠 Ed and Cindy Hernandez

- 🐠 Dean and Leslie Hettenbach

Hilton Atlanta

Hilton Garden Inn Atlanta Midtown

Hilton Garden Inn Downtown Atlanta

🐠 Erika Hodgson

🐠 Ms. Carrie N. Hoff and Mr. Jonathan D. Rupp

Holiday Inn Express & Suites

🐠 Linda and Daniel Holloway

🐠 Mr. and Mrs. David Holly

🐠 John and Lisa Holzemer

The Home Depot

The Home Depot Foundation

🐠 Terri and John Hope

🐠 Suzanne and Matthew Howard

🐠 Mr. Scott Hoyte

🐠 Lisa Hutfloss and Jason Bothwell

Hyatt House Atlanta Downtown

Hyatt Place Atlanta Centennial Park

Hyatt Regency Atlanta

🐠 Mr. Ebenezer Ikenebomeh

IMCMV Holdings

🐠 Lisa Jacobson

🐠 R.J. Janota

🐠 Elizabeth Jensen

🐠 Amy and Josh Jernigan

🐠 Malcolm and Hali Jewell

🐠 Matt Johnson and Yiqing Chu

🐠 Kimberly Johnson

🐠 Shoshannah Jonathan

🐠 Cecile Jones

🐠 Mike and Emily Jones

🐠 Trevor Jones

🐠 Mr. Ravi Kahan

David & Jennifer Kahn Family Foundation

Kaiser Permanente

🐠 Solomon Kelati

Kia Motors

🐠 Bum Kim

🐠 Mr. and Mrs. Christopher King

🐠 Georgette Kiser

🐠 Keisha Knight

🐠 Nell Koneczny

🐠 Kozak Family Fund at The Chicago Community Foundation

John and Karla Kreideweis

🐠 Susan Kreuzer

🐠 Vesna Krnjetin

Kroger

Elaine Krom

🐠 Mr. and Mrs. William Kuhn
- 🐠 Craig Lambert and Leslie Jumper

🐠 Mr. and Mrs. Scott Lampert

Maggie Lautzenheiser-Page

🐠 Christina Lea

🐠 Jenny and George LeCroy

🐠 Dr. Myong S. Lee

Legends Hospitality

🐠 Dr. and Mrs. Nori and David Levine

🐠 Kuilin Li

🐠 Tory Lindahl

🐠 Meredith A. Lineberry

🐠 Ms. Jade Lintott

🐠 Daniel Liu and Olivia Clark

Lockheed Martin

🐠 Mr. Roland Loe

LPS of America, Inc.

🐠 David and Darian Luke

🐠 Amanda and Michael Lupoli

🐠 Dr. and Mrs. Hugh Mainzer

The Marcus Foundation

🐠 David and Dorothy Markert Family

MARS Fishcare

🐠 Sherri Martin

Mr. and Mrs. Trip Martin

🐠 Randy and Angelique Martinez

🐠 Diane and Tony Martino

🐠 Mr. Josh McAfee

🐠 Lauren McCoy

🐠 Kristin and Angus McFadden

McKenney's, Inc.

🐠 Daniel and Cathy McLagan

🐠 Justin McLoghlin

🐠 Leola McNeill

🐠 Ebony Metzger

- Mini Melts, Inc.

🐠 Lisa S. Skittone and Jay C. Moran

The Morris Family Foundation

🐠 Brandon Morris

🐠 Elizabeth and Chris Morris

William R. Morrison

NanoLumens, Inc.

Nassal Company

🐠 Mrs. Ashley Neill

🐠 Mai Nguyen

🐠 Paul L. Nguyen

🐠 Lauris Nicholson

🐠 Mrs. Carlie J. Nix

🐠 Jim Norberg

Norfolk Southern Corporation

🐠 David and Marsha Norris

Northside Hospital

🐠 Victor and Onyinye A. Okeh

Omni Hotel

Otis Elevator Company

International Ozone Services, Inc.

Pace Academy

🐠 Nathan H. Pak

Palmetto Automatic Sprinkler Co., Inc.

🐠 Mr. and Mrs. Matt Palmgren

🐠 Jeff Pannell

🐠 Ms. Cherie Pashley

🐠 Robert Pavao

🐠 Laurel Peace

🐠 Mr. and Mrs. Neville Pereyo

Performance Contracting, Inc.

PGAV Destinations
- 🐠 Nancy Pollock and Amy Hudson

Kendal Powell

🐠 Shannon Prewitt and Bryce Thomason

🐠 Matthew Pritchard and Elizabeth Moraff

Pulseworks

Race Roster

🐠 Rob and Terri Rakusin

🐠 Mary Ramsey

🐠 Ms. Kathy Read

Residence Inn By Marriott Downtown

🐠 Denise A. Rinaudo

The Ritz Carlton

Lillie Robbins

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Robinson

🐠 Blanca Rojas

🐠 Ms. Margaret Roth

🐠 Mason and Ana M. Rountree

🐠 Safety National Casualty Corporation

🐠 Ms. Yvonne Saunders-Brown

Amit Saxena

🐠 Dr. Arthur Schiff, Dr. Patricia Schiff, Dr. Julia Schiff and Daniel Schiff

🐠 Mr. Robert Schwartz

Katherine Scott

🐠 Kristin Seemann

🐠 Carlton and Miranda Segrest

🐠 Mr. and Mrs. George Sertl

🐠 David K. Shellington

Shuman Farms, Inc.

Greg and Susan Sickal

Signia By Hilton Atlanta

🐠 Ms. Gloria Smith

- Southern Pipe & Supply Company, Inc.

Spectrum Brands

Spotify USA, Inc.

Springhill Suites by Marriott Atlanta Downtown

🐠 Linda and Tom Spudic

🐠 Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Stevens

Stonhard

Mr. and Mrs. John Strange

Stromquist & Co., Inc.

🐠 Mr. Ryan Strowman

🐠 Deborah and Stephen Sturgeon

Anne Sturtevant

🐠 John Susong

🐠 Jasmine Swann

🐠 Chris and Lisa Sward

SweetWater Brewing Company

🐠 Dr. and Mrs. Edwin I. Swords, III

🐠 Dr. Yasir Taha

🐠 Tim and Maria Tassopoulos

Team Artboy

🐠 Linda and Mel Teetz

The American By Tapestry Hilton

The William Carter Company

Thurston Charitable Foundation

Tom Barrow Co.

Ben Tomasik

Mr. and Mrs. Ramon Tome

Tomlinson Memorial Foundation

Truist

🐠 William and Miranda Tuggle

Stephen and Fern Unger
- United Distributors, Inc.

USI Insurance Services, LLC

🐠 Caroline and Billy Van Eaton

🐠 Angela R. Vanderlinden

🐠 Mr. Yashwant Verma

🐠 Rachel Virden

🐠 Joseph Vivona and Heather Cumbie-Vivona

Kathy and Stan Walters

🐠 Marsean Warren

and Iesha Bennett

Kenneth Wedding

🐠 Krystal Wendler & The Georgia Kig Society

🐠 Craig West

🐠 Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Westfall

Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel

Westrock

🐠 Michael D. White

🐠 Susan and Tony White

🐠 Nick and Pishamonch Whitney

🐠 Mr. Hobert E. Williams

🐠 Linda Williams

🐠 The Frances and Michael Williamson Family Charitable Fund

🐠 David Willingham

🐠 Joshua and Kimberly Wilson

🐠 Mr. Clinton S. Winchester

🐠 Holly Wood

Lan Wu

Wyndham Vacation Ownership, Inc.

Young Again Foundation

The Zaban Foundation

🐠 Matthew Zinkus and Jennifer French

- LPS of America, Inc.

Mini Melts, Inc.

Omni Atlanta Hotel at Centennial Park

Piedmont Healthcare

Ponko Chicken

The Rounds

Sand Cloud

Showtime Pictures

Signia by Hilton

Six Flags Over Georgia
- Sugar Shane's

Team Artboy

Tiff's Treats

United Distributors

Varuni Napoli

Wild Adventures

Wolfgang Puck Catering

World of Coke

Xocolatl Small Batch Chocolate

Zoo Atlanta

gifts in kind

- Aggressor Adventures

The American Hotel

Atlanta Falcons

Bain & Company

Josh Blaylock

Carriage Automotive Group
- CityPASS

The Cloakroom Kitchen & Bar

The Coca-Cola Company

D. Geller & Son

DERMAGLOVE

These donations were received between January 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023. 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**.

help us create a Sea Change

54,400+

Sponsored Education Admission
(SEA) students

As a leader in marine research, Georgia Aquarium contributes to the advancement of knowledge of our blue planet by studying animals here at the Aquarium and in their natural environments.

Our goal is to better understand our aquatic world so that we may conserve it for generations to come.

Your support is invaluable to Georgia Aquarium's commitment to helping present and future generations gain a greater understanding of the connection between human, marine and ocean health.

3

new cause marketing partnerships launched supporting Research and Conservation initiatives with: SweetWater Brewing, goodr, Overtime Elite

500+

hours volunteered by Georgia Aquarium staff with local nonprofits including: Atlanta Community Food Bank, Aurora Day Camp, AWARE Wildlife Center and more



RECORD-BREAKING

600+

in-person and virtual education outreaches



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.

1,012

instructor-led education programs

2

onsite conservation workshops hosted

Carolina Hammerhead Workshop

Rice's Whale Conservation Workshop



160k+

total students served across field trips and offsite programs

RECORD-BREAKING

1,800

homeschool program and Tuesday In the Field education guests

please support Georgia Aquarium

For more information on all the ways you can help, please contact our Development department at **404.581.4136** or **Development@GeorgiaAquarium.org**, or visit **GeorgiaAquarium.org/Support**.





GEORGIA AQUARIUM

225 BAKER STREET NW, ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30313
404.581.4000 | GEORGIAAQUARIUM.ORG