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**SUMMER WEDNESDAYS AT THE WAIKIKI AQUARIUM
PRESENTED BY AQUA HOTELS & RESORTS**

HONOLULU, HI (June 5, 2012) – The sun is up and school is out, so grab the keiki and swim on over to the Waikiki Aquarium each Wednesday for family fun presented by Aqua Hotels and Resorts. Families and keiki ages 4 to 8 can listen to master storytellers and puppeteers, create honu petroglyphs and enjoy hands-on activities. While at the Aquarium, enjoy the new Kids Talk audio tour that brings to life the many exhibits and marine life featured.

“This is a great opportunity for keiki and their parents to enjoy stories by the sea, a critter encounter or even a creative movement session while also spending the day at the Aquarium,” said Andrew Rossiter, Ph.D., director of the Waikiki Aquarium. “We’re very appreciative of Aqua Hotels and Resorts for presenting these activities for our families.”

Summer Wednesdays are offered weekly at 3:00 p.m. The activities last anywhere from 10 to 20 minutes and are designed for ages 4 to 8, but everyone is welcome. Among the special Summer Wednesday programs:

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-2- SUMMER WEDNESDAYS AT THE WAIKIKI AQUARIUM

PRESENTED BY AQUA HOTELS & RESORTS

Puppeteer fun with Master Storyteller Jeff Gere – June 13, 2012

As one of Hawaii's most prolific and popular storytellers, Gere blends talents as a painter, puppeteer, mime, teacher, and director into a performance style that has electrified audiences of every age throughout Hawaii and the mainland for two decades. Gere's physical energy, wide range of voices, morphing elastic face and clear characterizations make his performances unforgettable events. Diamond Bakery will also provide sea animal snacks.

Reading with Author Tamara Montgomery – July 11, 2012

Montgomery is an author, puppeteer and retired professor at the University of Hawai'i where for 38 years she was the director of the graduate program in theatre, puppetry and mask making. Join this program and listen to readings from Montgomery's authored books.

Art Activity with Author and Artist Lynn Cook – July 18, August 8, 2012

Honu are the kupuna of the ocean, swimming in the seas for over 200 million years. To learn the importance of their existence in the Hawaiian culture, Hawaii-based freelance writer and artist Lynn Cook will teach keiki how to make honu petroglyphs.

Summer Wednesdays and the Kids Talk audio tour is included in Aquarium admission. For more information, please call (808) 923-9741 or visit www.waquarium.org.

ABOUT THE WAIKIKI AQUARIUM

Founded in 1904 and administered by the University of Hawaii at Manoa since 1919, the Waikiki Aquarium is located on the shoreline of Waikiki Beach next to a living reef and across from Kapiolani Park. The Aquarium – third oldest in the U.S. – showcases more than 500 marine species, and maintains more than 3,500 marine specimens. Public exhibits, education programs and research focus on the unique aquatic life of Hawaii and the tropical Pacific. The Aquarium welcomes more than 330,000 visitors annually, and is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. except Honolulu Marathon Sunday and Christmas Day. Admission is \$9 for visitors; \$6 for local residents, active duty military with ID, students with ID and seniors; \$4 for youths ages 13-17 and persons with disabilities; \$2 for juniors ages 5 to 12; and free for children 4 and under and Friends of Waikiki Aquarium (FOWA) members. For more information about

the Waikiki Aquarium, including membership, please call 808-923-9741 or visit www.waquarium.org.

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