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WAIKIKI AQUARIUM KICKS OFF MONTH-LONG CELEBRATION OF WORLD OCEANS DAY ON JUNE 8, 2012

HONOLULU (May 2, 2012) – For the fourth year in a row, the Waikiki Aquarium will celebrate World Oceans Day by cleaning marine debris and educating the community about the dangers of ocean pollution. This year's events will be held throughout the month of June, starting with an opportunity for everyone to get involved with keeping our oceans clean on June 8, 2012.

Friday, June 8 activities include:

1. Dr. Seuss' Cat in the Hat Knows a lot About That, 'Reef Magic'

Kids can travel with the Cat in the Hat to the Scuba Marine where fish do tricks like you've never seen. Life on the reef is tough but keiki will learn how various marine life protect themselves through their own unique camouflaging tricks. The 12-minute video will play every 15 minutes throughout the day. Guests can also enter to win Dr. Seuss prize packs.

2. State's Storm Water Management Program, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Guests will enjoy interactive activities and educational displays on how to keep storm drains free of pollution.

3. Marine Wildlife Identification Activity, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Staff of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument will show guests live fish and coral specimens that until last year were only seen by scientists conducting research in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. These isolated islands are home to 280

marine species that are found nowhere else on Earth.

4. Youth Produced Video Announcement, 11:00 a.m.

This is a chance for guests to enjoy the humorous winning video of the Youth On Board contest. This contest is a collaborative ocean awareness project with the Waikiki Aquarium, the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium in California, and Nausicaa Aquarium in Boulogne, France.

5. Celebrate at Kona Brewing Company Koko Marina Pub

Grab a bite to eat at the Kona Brewing restaurant in Hawaii Kai, and be a part of the ocean conservation celebration! Upon ordering simply mention, “World Oceans Day and the Waikiki Aquarium”, and Kona Brewing Co. will donate a portion of proceeds to Friends of Waikiki Aquarium.

Waikiki Aquarium staff will also clean Kaimana Beach fronting The New Otani Kaimana Beach Hotel. Concurrently, staff from Duke’s Waikiki will tackle marine debris at Baby Makapu’u and fill up a Matson’s Ka Ipu ‘Āina container. The proceeds Duke’s Waikiki receives from their clean up efforts will be generously donated to the Waikiki Aquarium.

Additional June activities include:

Beach Clean Up at Sandy Beach, Saturday, June 9, 8:00 to 10:00 a.m.

Waikiki Aquarium and Hard Rock Café encourage the public to join them to clean up Sandy Beach. Bags and garbage picks will be provided.

Ka ike o ka Moana, June 12-28

The Knowledge of the Ocean! A special ocean art exhibit free to the public, will be displayed at the Honolulu Hale. Mark your calendar for the public reception for artists and participants on June 14, from 5 to 7:00 p.m. Coordinated by the Waikiki Aquarium and NOAA with Mayor’s Office on Culture & Arts.

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 320,000 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, call (808) 923-9741 or visit www.waquarium.org.

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