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IT'S A SCHOOL OF FISH AT THE WAIKIKI AQUARIUM

HONOLULU – Each year, more than 36,000 Hawaii schoolchildren in grades K through 6 visit the Waikiki Aquarium free of charge, giving them an introduction to Hawai'i's incredible underwater world—the animals and the habitats in which they live. Led by staff and trained volunteer docents, the docent-assisted visits features a 30-minute interactive classroom presentation followed by a 45-minute tour of the Aquarium exhibits.

Docent-assisted visits are offered on Tuesday, Thursdays and Fridays from November through May and are open to kindergarten through sixth-grade school groups. Presentations and tours are different for each grade level, and the Waikiki Aquarium provides Teacher Information Packets (TIPS), with bibliographies, suggestions for pre- and post-trip activities and discussion ideas, to help educators integrate program themes into classroom lesson plans.

In addition to the docent-assisted visits, self-guided visits are available to school and community group leaders to enrich classroom lesson plans and broaden students' experiences.

Advance reservations are required for both docent-assisted visits and self-guided visits. For reservations or more information, call (808) 923-9741 and ask for the Education Department.

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About the Waikiki Aquarium

Founded in 1904 and administered by the University of Hawaii 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 3,000 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, please call 808-923-9741 or visit www.waquarium.org.

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