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## **2009 SPECIAL EVENTS AT THE WAIKIKI AQUARIUM**

HONOLULU (January 5, 2009) – From seasonal celebrations to summer concerts to cultural observances, the Waikiki Aquarium will continue to make a splash with residents and visitors alike in 2009 with its calendar of special events:

### **SEADUCTION**

*February 14, 2009*

Love will be in the air...and in the water as the Waikiki Aquarium invites couples to participate in its annual Seaduction Valentine's Day dinner. The opportunity to enjoy a romantic candlelit dinner in the galleries is limited, and will feature a champagne reception, three-course meal with wine catered by Ginniberries, a romantic souvenir for each lady, and valet parking.

### **SEAHUNT**

*April 4, 2009*

Families are invited to hop on down to the Waikiki Aquarium for SeaHunt, a seasonal event designed to celebrate the Easter tradition. Keiki between the ages of 2 and 7 years may hunt for toy-filled eggs, and children of all ages may visit with the Easter Bunny, fish for prizes at the "fish pond," and enjoy entertaining arts, crafts and games.

### **EARTH DAY**

*April 11, 2009*

In celebration of Earth Day, the Waikiki Aquarium will host the 2nd Annual *Mauka to Makai Environmental Expo*, showcasing efforts of city, state and federal agencies to preserve and protect Hawaii's environment with an emphasis on the Islands' unique water resources from *mauka* to *makai*. Family-friendly and hands-on educational displays, Ocean Network presentations and the

Aquarium's marine conservation efforts will highlight the day. The public is also invited to cheer on the release of hatchery-raised Pacific threadfin (*moi*) in the waters behind the Aquarium within the Waikiki Marine Life Conservation District.

## **SEASONS AND THE SEA**

*May 2, 2009*

Celebrating the official changing of the seasons at a special sunset observance, Seasons and the Sea will feature traditional chant, hula and mo`olelo (storytelling). From a site just `ewa of the Aquarium grounds, celebrants will observe the official change from Ho`olilo (wet season) to Kauwela (hot or warm-dry season) as the sun sets into the crown of Pu`u o Kapolei (an occurrence that happens only once a year).

## **KE KANI O KE KAI**

*June 18, July 2, July 16, July 30 and August 13, 2009*

Building on the success of its annual summer concerts series, the Waikiki Aquarium will once again host "Ke Kani O Ke Kai" with five oceanside concerts featuring some of the islands' top performers. In addition to live entertainment under the stars, the concerts will feature food by various restaurant partners and fun for the entire family. Artists to be announced at a later date.

## **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](http://www.waquarium.org) <<http://www.waquarium.org>> .

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