



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT:
Caroline Witherspoon
or Tess Staadecker
Becker Communications, Inc.
(808) 533-4165

GIFTS FROM THE OCEAN CAUSE SHOPPERS COMMOTION!
Waikiki Aquarium Natural Selection Gift Shop Offers Prehistoric Finds for the Whole Shoal to Enjoy

Honolulu, HI (December 18, 2009) - Shoppers looking for a one-of-a-kind gift can swim over to the Waikiki Aquarium for new items in the Natural Selection Gift Shop. Dating back as far 145 million years ago, the Aquarium's fossil collection is a perfect stocking stuffer for young explorers.

Fossilized Great White Shark Teeth, Ammonites and Nautilus, deeply rooted in ten million years of history, are a few of the fossils available for purchase. Sea Urchins ranging from five to 24 million years old sit among Starfish from the Jurassic era, while Madagascar clams assemble next to a whale rib. Prices range from \$40 - \$368.

The Natural Selection Gift Shop also includes popular children's books, educational activities, and stuffed animals, as well as a of variety of selections for the adult marine enthusiast.

Annual memberships also available for purchase, ranging from \$30 for Seniors to \$85 for Family Plus. Please visit <http://www.waquarium.org/gift-memberships.asp> for more information.

About the Waikiki Aquarium

Founded in 1904, the Waikiki Aquarium is the third oldest public aquarium in the United States. A part of the University of Hawaii at Manoa since 1919, it is located next to a

living reef on the Waikiki shoreline. Exhibits, programs, and research focus on the aquatic life of Hawaii and the tropical Pacific, with roughly 320,000 people visiting the Aquarium each year. Over 3,000 organisms are on exhibit representing more than 500 species of aquatic animals and plants. The Waikiki Aquarium is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. except 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, call (808) 923-9741 or visit online at www.waquarium.org.

#