



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**WAIKIKI AQUARIUM WINTER PROGRAMS OFFER A *FINTASTIC* TIME FOR
UNDERWATER ADVENTURERS OF ALL AGES**

Reserve Space Now for January through March 2009 Classes and Activities

HONOLULU (January 6, 2009) – The Waikiki Aquarium opens its doors for explorers of all ages to have a *fintastic* time with more than 3,000 marine specimens during its winter educational programs and events, including:

Aquarium After Dark

Discover if fish sleep, where sea snails snooze and how jellyfish remain suspended on an after-dark flashlight tour of Aquarium exhibits. Children must be a minimum of 5 years to attend and accompanied by an adult. \$9/adult, \$7/child (\$11/\$8 respectively for non-members).

January 16, Friday

6:30-8:30 p.m.

Exploring the Reef at Night

Go deep (or up to your knees) on a wet and wild excursion searching for crabs, shrimps, eels and octopus. This nocturnal quest is perfect for adventurers aged 5 and up, accompanied by an adult. \$10/adult, \$8/child (\$12/\$10 respectively for non-members).

January 23, Friday

6:30- 9:00 p.m.

February 6, Friday

6:30-9:00 p.m.

February 22, Sunday

6:30-9:00 p.m.

March 8, Sunday 7:00-9:30 p.m.

March 25, Wednesday 7:00- 9:30 p.m.

Marine Munchies

Watch an octopus open a jar, see seadragons slurp up shrimps, then enjoy an exclusive after-hours feeding session and serve fish food to the animals in the Aquarium's *Edge of the Reef* exhibit. Children must be a minimum of 5 years to attend and accompanied by an adult. \$16/adult, \$12/child (\$20/\$15 respectively for non-members).

Beginning in February, Every Monday (except holidays) 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Monk Seal Overnight

Eat. Nap. Play. Repeat! Spend the night with the Aquarium's charismatic, loveable and endangered monk seals, Maka onaona and Nuka'au. See the world from their point of view with critter-cam footage of seals hunting in the wild and test out operant conditioning training tricks. Overnight guests will enjoy evening refreshments and a continental breakfast. Children must be at least 5 years of age and accompanied by an adult. \$30/adult, \$25/child (\$35/\$30 respectively for non-members).

March 24, Tuesday (Spring Break) 7:00 p.m.-8:00 a.m.

Small Fry

A special class for enthusiastic young learners. Adults and their 1 to 3-year-old explorers team-up to discover the mystical underwater world. Five weekly sessions include crafts, songs, play, and exhibit education and exploration. \$50/adult & child (\$80 for non-members).

February 11-March 11, Wednesdays A Session 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

B Session 10:30 a.m. – Noon

Seastars

For those learners ready to graduate from Small Fry, Seastars offers 3 to 5-year-old keiki the opportunity to spend three afternoon sessions learning about camouflage, locomotion, predators and prey, while singing, dancing, playing and creating. \$36/adult & child (\$48 for non-members).

February 25-March 11, Wednesdays 3:30-4:45 p.m.

To book your space or for more information, call the Waikiki Aquarium's Education Department at (808) 440-9011.

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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