

Whalefest 2021 program schedule

Please note: times are approximate and subject to change

Day 1 – January 26, 6:30 – 7:30 pm PST

Opening, Introductions

Kevin Grant, acting Superintendent for NOAA's Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

“An overview of current efforts of staff and partners”

Karin Forney, Ph.D., NOAA Fisheries

“Cryptic Criters off the California Coast: Harbor Porpoises, Leatherbacks and Lesser-Known Dolphins”

The Marine Mammal Center “Rescuing Sick and Injured Marine Mammals”

7:30 – 8:30 PST

Ventana Wildlife Society “*California Condors and the Marine Environment*”

Music – Michael Martinez

Ari Friedlaender, Ph.D., University of California, Santa Cruz

“Hidden in the Ice: Uncovering the Secret Lives of Antarctic Minke Whales”

Closing Remarks

Music – WWF Jazz Trio

Day 2 – January 27, 6:30 – 7:30 PST

Opening, Introductions

Stephanie Marcos & Victoria Wade, Marine Life Studies

“Recent Trends in the Ecology of Transient Killer Whales in Monterey Bay, California 2006-2018 and a special encounter with a white killer whale”

Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve “The Slough's Macroinvertebrates”

Sea Otter Savvy “Sharing Space with Sea Otters”

Tim Thomas “History of Italian and Japanese Fishing in Monterey”

Music – Monterey International featuring Mike Marotta, Dave Dally and Oracio Aiello

Gyotaku and Origami Arts and Crafts Demonstrations

Tim Thomas “History of Abalone in Monterey Bay”

7:30 – 8:30 PST

Visit to Monterey Abalone Farm

Music – Jonah and the Whalewatchers Reggae, Michael Martinez & Nick Fettis

Monterey Bay Aquarium “White Sharks Project”

Allison Gong, Ph.D., Cabrillo College

“A Farmer, a Hitch-hiker, and a Worm Impersonator Walk into a Bar: A Trio of Intertidal Gastropods in Monterey Bay”

Getting involved:

Save Our Shores

California Coastal Commission

American Cetacean Society

Closing Remarks

Music – Monterey International featuring Mike Marotta, Dave Dally and Oracio Aiello

Day 3 – January 28, 6:30 – 7:30 PST

Opening, Introductions

For our younger audience:

“Walter the Whale”

“Sea Otter Savvy Song”

Save the Whales “Tour of Dee the inflatable model whale”

Monterey Bay Aquarium “Rey the Penguin goes on an Adventure”

The Wahine Project - Activities

Seafloor Science ROV “Opening Doors for Young Explorers”

Chad King, Ph.D., Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

“Review of October 2020 Expedition to Davidson Seamount and the Octopus’s Garden”

7:30 – 8:30 PST

NOAA documentaries: “Nautilus Mt. Davison Seamount”, “Whale Fall”

Music – Richard Carr, Louis Colaianni

Eric Wente, Wente Vineyards

“Agriculture, the Marine Environment and Sustainability”

California Killer Whale Project

Closing Remarks

Music – Dave Holodiloff & Michael Martinez

Day 4 – January 29, 6:30 – 7:30 PST

Opening, Introductions

Tim Thomas –The Rumsien, Native People of Monterey, and History of Whaling in Monterey

Art of Scrimshaw demonstration

Peggy Stap, Marine Life Studies

“Saving Whales from Life-threatening Entanglements - the Whale Entanglement Team (WET)[®] and updates on recent entanglements and projects”

NOAA documentaries: “Ocean Guardians”, “Elephant Seals”, “Harbor Seals”

Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History “Sandy the Whale”

Music – Louis Colaianni

7:30 – 8:30 PST

Music - Mads Tolling

John Ryan, Ph.D. & Nick Fettis

“The Art and Science of Whalesong”

Closing Remarks

Music – Nick Fettis