For Immediate Release

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**Fisherman's Wharf Association Presents the 11th Annual Whalefest Monterey virtually on four evenings, January 26-29, 2021**

January  2021. Monterey, CA. Don’t miss the award-winning 11th Annual Whalefest Monterey, a free virtual video event available for viewing from anywhere around the world with something entertaining and educational for all ages.

**At a Glance:**

What: Fisherman's Wharf Association Presents the 11th Annual Whalefest Monterey

When: Tuesday – Friday, January 26-29, 2021 from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm streamed for free

Where: There will be several ways to access the programming. Go to [montereywharf.com](http://monterywharf.com/) for links.

Websites: [www.montereywharf.com](http://www.montereywharf.com/) and [www.whalefest.org](http://www.whalefest.org/) will feature program schedule and background information on the presentations and music

**About:**

Whalefest Monterey 2021 is a free virtual video event held over four evenings, January 26-29, 2021 from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm. In place of the traditional scientific Symposium, exhibits, entertainment and activities around Fisherman’s Wharf; each night’s program features a variety of fascinating talks and cutting-edge presentations by world-renowned scientists; videos from local marine, environment and sustainability-oriented non-profits sharing their goals, research and activities; history walks, arts and crafts demonstrations, an eclectic array of mostly original music performances, and more for all ages.

The event will be live-streamed each night. For links, go to the Whalefest page at [www.montereywharf.com](http://www.monterywharf.com/).

Afterwards, it will be posted on the Whalefest You Tube channel at

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkT222sMxS9PK30L7_3_Crg?sub_confirmation=1>

**About the program**

This year’s program will have presentations about Minke whales, dolphins and porpoises, leatherback turtles, intertidal gastropods, orcas, and amazing creatures from the deep sea. Other topics cover new ways to prevent whale entanglements, the latest developments in the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary and the connection between vineyards and the ocean environment. A final treat explains the art and science of whale song and how to compose with whales.

Local non-profits will share their research and activities covering marine mammal rescues, tiny creatures in Elkhorn Slough, mighty condors in Big Sur, sea otters, and killer whales. Learn how to get involved in beach cleanups, learn to surf, or operate underwater ROVs.

Local history will come alive with stories about the native people of Monterey, the whaling days, fishing and the sardine industry, and all about abalone, including a tour of today’s abalone farm. Arts and craft demonstrations illustrate the art of scrimshaw and the ancient Japanese way of gyotaku.

Musicians provide original entertainment in between presentations and there will be lots of gorgeous footage of local sea mammals to view.  See the Whalefest Monterey page for a list of these award-winning musicians.

**Thank you to our sponsors:**

AquaFina; Arts Council for Monterey County; Fisherman’s Wharf Association; 90.3 KAZU; KMBY; KSBW/ABC/Estrella TV; Letty Sloma Photography; Marine Life Studies; Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute; Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary; Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Foundation; Monterey Herald; John and Marylyn Rallis; Shagbag, Dave Marzetti, KION; TheWecker Group .

**More about Whalefest Monterey**

Whalefest Monterey, a recent recipient of the prestigious Sea Star Award from the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, has been held for the past decade as a free, fun and educational interactive public event for all ages on Old Fisherman’s Wharf celebrating the biodiversity of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Traditionally, the event attracts thousands of visitors to Monterey and features a 2-day Symposium in a conference setting with world-renowned marine experts, creative activities, musical entertainment, and dozens of exhibit booths with interactive displays that showcase marine life, educate about ocean related environmental issues, and emphasize sustainability practices. It benefits many local and national marine organizations that educate, inspire, and empower the public to protect the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS). People come from around the world to view the many whales, orcas, dolphins, seals and sea lions, otters and sea birds in Monterey Bay.

For more information about Whalefest Monterey, go to the Whalefest page on [www.montereywharf.com](http://www.montereywharf.com/) or call (831) 238-0777.