

# NEWSLETTER



Our newsletter provides an opportunity to catch up on some of our organizational highlights. Here is a four-minute read of this past month's exciting news:

#### WINTER STAFF RETREAT TO END THE YEAR ON A HIGH NOTE

As the year drew to a close, our staff retreat unfolded as a journey of community immersion and connection!

We embarked on a City Heights tour, visiting local businesses, partners, and other nonprofits making an impact in City Heights. This handson experience deepened our understanding of the diverse landscape of City Heights, allowing us to strengthen connections, gain insights, and commit to making a positive impact in City Heights.

Our day finished off at one of our Board members' homes. There, we enjoyed a delicious potluck meal filled with laughter and a touch of festive spirit through a fun gift exchange. It was a perfect way to wrap up our retreat, fostering professional bonds and genuine friendships.





### FUN PRE-CHRISTMAS BREAK ACTIVITIES FOR OUR OCEAN LEADERS



Before our winter break, our Ocean Leaders came together for an epic Gingerbread House Extravaganza!

Collaborating in teams, our Ocean Leaders crafted imaginative gingerbread masterpieces, turning a simple activity into a creative bonding experience. But that's not all! The festive spirit continued with community-building activities that strengthened the ties within our close-knit group.

To add to the fun winter farewell, our incredible Grants Manager, Vero, treated everyone to a delightful array of cookies - a sweet ending to a fantastic day!





#### 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR EVALUATION REPORT

We are thrilled to present some of our programs' highlights and showcase our students' remarkable achievements in the 2022-23 academic year.

This report serves as a comprehensive guide for those seeking a deeper understanding of our initiatives and our programs' impact on our students. Readers will gain valuable insights into our programs through an array of impactful statistics.

These numbers help us enhance our programs to ensure our students have great learning experiences.





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## PUBLICATION IN THE OCEANOGRAPHY SCIENCE JOURNAL BY JOEL BARKAN

Exciting news accompanies our Evaluation Report as we proudly share that Joel Barkan, our Program Manager, is the main author in the publication titled, "Ocean Discovery Institute's Model for Empowering Underrepresented Students in STEM: Community-Based, Continuous Belief."



This publication is your backstage pass to our unique model, demonstrating how science can transform young lives gives power to the science and the students. With Joel leading the way, we uncover the background behind our community-based initiatives and share why we believe every single student has the potential to be the next generation of science leaders.

If you're curious about what we do and how we do it, this is a must-read!



