

# 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:

## SCIENTIST-IN-RESIDENCE



### DR. JEANETTE DAVIS

This month Dr. Jeanette Davis visited our Living Lab for a week. Dr. Davis studies microbiology and is also an acclaimed children's book author! During the week, she spent time with our 7th graders educating them on intertidal ecosystems, and with our afterschool students, teaching about invertebrate adaptations.

We also hosted a community book reading, which over 100 families, students, supporters, and alums attended. Through an interview with our ED, Shara Fiser, we all had the opportunity to learn about Dr. Davis's scientific research and pathway to her career. She fielded many questions from the crowd, including thoughtful questions from our youngest audience members, then inspired us by reading her latest book, *Jada's Journey Under the Sea*.



Ocean Discovery gave away 50 copies of Dr. Davis' book to all the students at the event, and everyone got the chance to get their books by the author herself. Excitingly we will now be providing her book to all of our Kindergarten students annually.

# CONGRESSWOMAN SARA JACOBS

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We were honored to host Congresswoman Sara Jacobs at our Living Lab to learn more about our work and dedication to the City Heights community!

Congresswoman Jacobs joined in with our after-school program, offered some inspiring words, and generously spent her time answering our students' questions. Our students were beyond excited. Thank you, Congresswoman Jacobs, for visiting and learning about Ocean Discovery!



## SCIENTIST IN RESIDENCE - DR. WILNELIA RECARTE GONZALEZ

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It was a BIG month for our Scientist-In-Residence Program. In addition to Dr. Davis, we had the opportunity to host Dr. Wilnelia Recarte González.

Originally from Puerto Rico, Dr. Wilnelia is a post-doctoral fellow at the University of San Diego. She spent a week working with students of all ages. Pictured here, Dr. Wilnelia is dissecting kelp holdfasts alongside 1st graders. She also met with our high school Ocean Leaders,

## OCEAN LEADER FIELD TRIPS

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This month, our Ocean Leaders had two amazing field trips. Our friends at Kanak Outrigger Canoe Club hosted us for an unforgettable outdoor canoe activity! Ocean Leaders got the chance to learn more about the canoe club and even got the chance to be a part of a traditional boat blessing.

We also took a trip to NOAA's Southwest Fisheries Science Center. Here students learned about critically endangered abalone species. They were introduced to a captive breeding program and research efforts to repopulate white abalone. Our students even got to measure, weigh, and record data on abalones. We had a blast!



## STUDENT COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE

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We are excited to announce that our Ocean Leader high school seniors have been receiving their college acceptance letters!

Schools that are on the acceptance list include;

- University of San Diego
- San Diego State University
- CSU San Marcos
- CSU Long Beach
- Pepperdine University
- UC Berkeley
- UC San Diego
- Fresno State
- Cal Poly Pomona



- Colorado School of Mines
- Colorado State
- Wyoming State
- CSU Channel Islands

## OCEAN LEADER IN THE NEWS

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Ocean Leader Shakur Jackson visited the San Diego Natural History Center's exhibit titled Nathan Harrison: Born Enslaved, Died an SD Legend. Shakur was inspired to continue researching and writing about Nathan Harrison's life.

We are excited to announce that Shakur wrote and directed the play, *The Legend of Nathan Harrison*, in partnership with Hoover High School's drama department.



*Shakur, was featured in the San Diego Union-Tribune and on NBC San Diego*

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