# **NEWSLETTER**

Sep 2023

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.

## LEADERSHIP PROGRAM KICK OFF

This month, we held our Leadership Program Academic Year Kickoff. 60 Ocean Leaders will be meeting weekly here at the Living Lab and will participate in academic achievement, college preparedness, math enrichment, and tutoring.

This year, the program aims to build our Ocean Leaders' math capacity and confidence through deeper understanding and positive academic performance. In addition, students will practice how to turn challenges into opportunities to learn and grow rather than permanent obstacles.

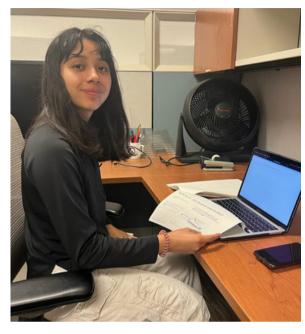


## **ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS**

## SANDRA AT NOAA

Sandra Santos, an Ocean Leader alumna, spent the summer at Southwest Fisheries Science Center. She conducted research on sea lion populations in the rocky environment at La Jolla Cove to better understand human interactions and how they can co-exist.

Sandra gained practical experience in NOAA-related science, policy, and management while doing hands-on research and education activities.



Sandra, Ocean Leader Class of 2022

## THERESA AT SCRIPPS



Theresa, Ocean Leader Class of 2021

Theresa Nguyen, Ocean Leader Alumna, was selected to be part of the 2023 Scripps Undergraduate Research Fellow (SURF Program) at Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Theresa is a junior at the University of San Diego, majoring in biology and minoring in chemistry.

She studied a common genus of microscopic marine algae that produces domoic acid, a neurotoxin. Learning more about this marine algae is important because the neurotoxin it produces can lead to illness and death in seabirds and marine mammals and amnesic shellfish poisoning in humans. Go Awesome!!

# THANK YOU SAN DIEGO UNIFIED



We are so thankful for our amazing San Diego Unified School District partners! This year, they are providing free transportation from all 14 of the Hoover Cluster schools to our afterschool and leadership programs.

On top of that, they are providing meals for every student who participates in our afterschool and leadership programs. This incredible support gives our students convenient access to our Living Lab and programs and the opportunity to experience 100% tuition-free hands-on science.



# Thank you for Supporting Ocean Discovery Institute!

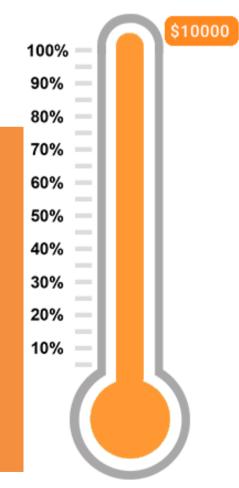
We did it! Our SD Gives fundraiser was a huge success—we couldn't have done it without all of our amazing supporters. Thanks to everyone who contributed, we're proud to announce that **we've raised over \$10,000 in funds**—and with all contributions being doubled, that's double the impact!





Your donations will support 100% tuition-free programs like:

- Intensive leadership programming for 50 Hoover High School students our Ocean Leaders!
- Hands-on science experiences for thousands of K-9th grade students in City Heights during the school day!
- College & career mentoring for EVERY
   Ocean Discovery student!



The power of the community cannot be underestimated.

Thank you for continued generosity and support!



# SPLASH! 2023

#### NOVEMBER 04

FOUR O'CLOCK OCEAN DISCOVERY INSTITUTE 4255 THORN ST. SAN DIEGO CA 92105

Ocean Discovery would be thrilled to have you join us for Splash! - a cocktail fundraiser supporting tuition-free programs for thousands of students in City Heights.

TICKETS \$50 | HOST COMMITTEE \$500 (10 TICKETS)

PLEASE RSVP BY CLICKING THE LINK BELOW OR CALL (619) 300-8735

#### SPLASH! ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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### TITLE Southwest's

**PLATINUM** 



#### **GOLD**







**SILVER** 





#### **BRONZE**











