

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, including:

- City Heights: Dia de Muertos Celebration - *Page 1*
- Help us Unlock a \$50,000 Matching Gift - *Page 2*
- Scientist in Residence - *Pages 3-4*
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CITY HEIGHTS: DIA DE MUERTOS CELEBRATION

We were delighted to participate in the City Heights Day of the Dead Celebration, where we had the opportunity to connect with amazing families and celebrate this tradition together.

Events like this beautifully highlight the richness of life in City Heights, the power of cultural traditions, and the beauty of diversity. We're already looking forward to next year's celebration!



Honoring loved ones through the vibrant traditions of Día de Muertos, a celebration of life and memory



This marks our fifth year of participation

DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT: HELP US UNLOCK A \$50,000 MATCHING GIFT

Thanks to a generous donor, Ocean Discovery Institute has the chance to unlock a \$50,000 matching gift—but we need your help to make it happen!

This matching gift opportunity is more than just a chance to support our work—it's a chance to double the impact of your donation. **Every dollar you contribute will be matched, dollar for dollar, up to \$50,000.** That means your gift will go twice as far in providing life-changing experiences for our students, from engaging with scientists doing research on the Gulf of California to exploring new career pathways with global leaders in industry like Neurocrine Biosciences or ASML.



Jorge, Ocean Leader alumni Class of 2011, owns his own environmental consulting firm, Oliver Holdings LLC

Your support today will provide:

- **Hands-on science experiences** that ignite curiosity and foster critical thinking, helping students build essential scientific skills and self-confidence.
- **Mentorship from industry experts** with shared lived experiences, creating connections that inspire students and provide valuable tools for their success in science related careers.
- **Pathways to success by building the growth mindset** needed to help overcome the challenges along their pathways and opening doors to pursue high-demand, high-paying careers and reshape the future of science.

Now is the time to take action. Every gift, no matter the size, brings us closer to reaching our goal. Together, we can create more opportunities for young people who will transform their lives, community, and our world. **To donate and double your impact, click the button below.**

[Click here to make your donation today!](#)

November 2024



Scientist in Residence

SCIENTIST IN RESIDENCE

Shellby Johnson-Rodney, NOAA Ocean Exploration

The Scientist-in-Residence experience is a mentorship initiative where science leaders visit our Living Lab and stay for a week to mentor our students. The goal is to inspire young people, challenge negative stereotypes about science, and encourage curiosity and learning.

Scientists from various fields participate in this program to engage with the community, show that science is accessible to everyone, and help build a more science-informed society.

In October, we had the pleasure of hosting Shellby from the NOAA Ocean Exploration program. She shared her experiences with the program, highlighted some of the exciting discoveries made at sea, and explained how she chose her career path.

Her visit and personal story deeply inspired both our students and staff. Shellby's passion for ocean exploration and her journey in science reminded us of the importance of staying mission-aligned and committed to our work. Her message motivated us to continue fostering curiosity, breaking down barriers in science, and empowering the next generation of science leaders



Shellby with our Ocean Leaders having a one on one conversation about Ocean Exploration



Shellby guiding our after school students as they operate their ROV's on their way to Mars

**SIGN UP TO BE A
SCIENTIST IN RESIDENCE**



PROGRAM UPDATES

USD COLLEGE CORP FELLOWS

We would like to give a shout out to our newest College Corps fellows who will be supporting our Ocean Leaders throughout the 2024-25 school year!

Thank you all for your time and dedication to our students and mission! From supporting students in study sessions to providing your guidance and experience in college and career coaching, we are thankful for your contributions to our program and look forward to working together for the remainder of the school year!!

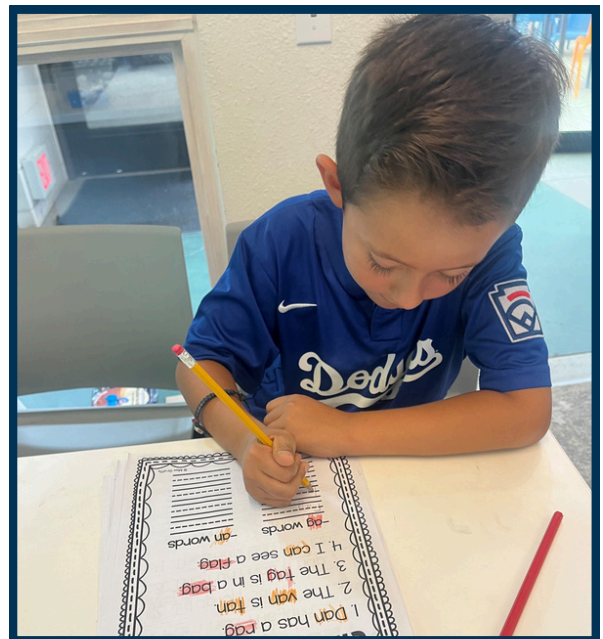


With the support of our College Corps, Ocean Leaders get one-on-one mentoring every Wednesday!

EXTRA SUPPORT ON MINIMUM DAYS IN OUR OUT-OF-SCHOOL PROGRAMS!

This year, our Out-of-School programs are going the extra mile by picking students up early on minimum days, providing them with even more support and enrichment opportunities.

With the additional time on Wednesdays, we've introduced extra activities like Homework Help, designed to boost academic success and instill a strong sense of confidence in our students. These added components allow us to engage students meaningfully, helping them stay on track and develop essential skills in a supportive environment!



A young scientist diving into homework at the Lab!

November 2024



Support Tomorrow's
Science Leaders

MAXIMIZING TAX BENEFITS OF CHARITABLE GIVING

BY THE SAN DIEGO FOUNDATION

We are happy to provide some valuable insights on how to optimize your charitable giving during your retirement before the end of the year. Our partners at the San Diego Foundation shared this and additional information in their article titled "Maximizing Tax Benefits of Charitable Giving During Your Retirement."



[CLICK HERE TO READ
THE FULL ARTICLE](#)



*We offer one of a kind hands-on
science experiences*



*100 % of our Ocean Leaders
attend higher education*

Save the Date **SPLASH!**

**OCEAN DISCOVERY INSTITUTE'S
ANNUAL FUNDRAISER**

April 5th, 2025

FOUR O'CLOCK

**Ocean Discovery Institute
4255 Thorn St. San Diego, CA 92105**

Join us for *SPLASH! 2025*, an unforgettable evening at the Living Lab.

This cocktail-style event will include drinks and appetizers from our local Mexican Eatery, opportunities to mingle with other Ocean Discovery supporters, alumni, and volunteers, and, of course, chances to hear directly from our students about their experiences!



More details and a formal e-invitation to follow.

2024 *SPLASH!* SPONSORS

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**CONSIDERING BECOMING A 2025 *SPLASH!* SPONSOR?
CONTACT MSANDY@OCEANDI.ORG**