

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

## Clearwater Marine Aquarium "Making Waves" Speaker Series

- Free educational seminar on Thursday, April 21, 2016
- Featured Speaker: Abby Stone, Senior Marine Mammal Trainer and Stranding Coordinator
- Topic: CMA to the rescue with Abby and the Stranding Superheroes

Clearwater, FL (April 11, 2016) – Clearwater Marine Aquarium (CMA) will feature the Stranding Team for the April session of the free Making Waves Speaker Series. The CMA Stranding Team is responsible for responding to local marine life in distress, including dolphins, sea turtles, and river otters. Presenting speaker is Abby Stone, CMA Stranding Coordinator.

Abby Stone's history with CMA began in 1996 as a part of the aquarium's internship program, joining the Stranding Team shortly thereafter. Over the past 20 years, Abby has played an integral role in the growth of the aquarium, especially regarding the facility's most famous resident, Winter the dolphin. Abby's talents have majorly contributed to the hundreds of responses the Stranding Team conducts each year.

Abby's presentation will allow guests to gain an understanding of the care and treatment of sick or injured dolphins, including a hands-on rescue demonstration. Using specific dolphin stranding cases that have occurred within CMA's response area, Abby will give guests a glimpse into the world of marine life rescue.

This free speaker series is geared toward anyone wanting to learn more about marine life and conservation and is open to guests of all ages. To learn more about upcoming sessions, visit our website here: http://www.seewinter.com/educate/educational-events/making-waves-speaker-series

6.00pm Welcome and refreshments provided by Costco Wholesale

6.30 – 7.30pm CMA speaker, Abby Stone

7.30 – 8.00pm Q & A session

Location: Clearwater Marine Aquarium

249 Windward Passage, Clearwater, FL

###

Media Contact: Becca Romzek, bromzek@cmaquarium.org (727) 441-1790 ext. 289

## **About Clearwater Marine Aquarium:**

Clearwater Marine Aquarium (CMA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit working marine rescue center dedicated to inspiring the human spirit through leadership in education, research, rescue, rehabilitation and release. CMA is home to rescued dolphins, sea turtles, river otters, stingrays, nurse sharks and more. Winter the dolphin's story of survival, after the injury that caused her to lose her tail, has impacted millions of people around the world. A major motion picture, Dolphin Tale, highlighted her life story in 2011. The sequel, Dolphin Tale 2, was released in September 2014 and features the incredible story of Hope, a young resident dolphin of CMA. The mission and potential to change people's lives differentiates Clearwater Marine Aquarium from any other aquarium in the world.

WE BELIEVE in preserving our marine life and environment while inspiring the human spirit through leadership in education, research, rescue, rehabilitation, and release.