

Bloomingdale Library Attack Survivor, Queena, to Visit Winter the Dolphin at Clearwater Marine Aquarium

Surprise appearance from Nathan Gamble, star of the Dolphin Tale movies

Clearwater, FL (July 21, 2017) – Queena will reunite with her hero Winter the Dolphin at Clearwater Marine Aquarium (CMA) on Saturday, July 22 at 1:30 p.m. *Dolphin Tale* and *Dolphin Tale* 2 star Nathan Gamble, who played Sawyer, will surprise Queena during her encounter with dolphins Winter and Hope.

In April 2008, Queena was brutally attacked outside of the Bloomingdale Library in Brandon, Florida. Equipped with an incredible will to survive, Queena did not die that night, and has spent more than nine years working hard to recover from the attack. Now 27-years-old, Queena cannot walk, talk, see or eat on her own, but she is making improvements. She requires around-the-clock care and attends daily physical, occupational and experimental therapies to aid her recovery.

Queena is greatly inspired by the story of Winter the Dolphin who resides at Clearwater Marine Aquarium. After losing her tail due to an entanglement in 2005, Winter also has an incredible story of survival. Queena has visited CMA several times to visit Winter and the other resident animals with whom she shares such a special connection.

"We are happy to inspire people like Queena with the rescue and rehabilitation stories of our resident animals," says David Yates, CEO of Clearwater Marine Aquarium. "And we are inspired by the perseverance and hope Queena continues to display throughout her rehabilitation. I am excited to see her reunite with Winter and Hope."

Additional Details:

- When: Saturday, July 22, 2017 at 1:30 p.m.
- Where: Clearwater Marine Aquarium 249 Windward Passage, Clearwater, FL 33767
- Media interested in attending or receiving video and photography of the encounter, please contact Julia Anderson: Janderson@cmaquarium.org or 727.686.3499
- A benefit event for Queena will be held Sunday, August 6 at Topgolf Tampa to raise money to help pay for Queena's ongoing medical, therapy, and homecare expenses. Learn more here

For further information, contact Julia Anderson at ianderson@cmaquarium.org or 727.686.3499.

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 an 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 environment while inspiring the human spirit through leadership in the rescue, rehabilitation, and release of marine life, environmental education, research and conservation.

249 Windward Passage | Clearwater, FL 33767 | 727.441.1790 | SeeWinter.com

A Florida non-profit 501(c)(3)