THUNDER BAY INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL OCEAN FILM FESTIVAL GREAT LAKES. GREAT FILMS.

THE FRIENDS OF THUNDER BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY PRESENT A UNIQUE FESTIVAL SHOWCASING OCEAN AND GREAT LAKES FILMS FROM AROUND THE WORLD. ALPENA, MICHIGAN I THUNDERBAYFRIENDS.ORG DIVE IN – JANUARY 20–29, 2017



THUNDER BAY







Contents	Welcome	3
	Film Schedule	5-15
	Film List	16-36
	Science on a Sphere	38-39
	Filmmakers	40-41
THUNDER BAY	Student Film Competition	43
	Sponsors	44

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERSI





Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 5th annual Thunder Bay International Film Festival. We are excited to bring these world-class films to northeast Michigan. As you know, the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary is part of the national marine sanctuary system, a network of 14 marine protected areas, encompassing more than 170,000 square miles of ocean and Great Lakes waters. These films illustrate how all of us are connected to the ocean.

This festival truly builds upon Thunder Bay's efforts to preserve the Great Lakes and their rich history through research and education. By fostering an understanding of our connections to the Great Lakes and oceans, the sanctuary works to ensure that future generations will continue to experience and value our irreplaceable underwater treasures.

Thank you for your support and enjoy the show!

Sincerely,

Off Sung

Jeff Gray Sanctuary Superintendent

Thank you to our sanctuary volunteers. This event couldn't happen without you!

Interested in volunteering? Please e-mail thunderstruck@thunderbayfriends.org THE FRIENDS OF THUNDER BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY PRESENT A UNIQUE FESTIVAL SHOWCASING OCEAN AND GREAT LAKES FILMS FROM AROUND THE WORLD.

Sanctuary Thunder S Watch trailers from the 2017 Thunder Bay International Film Festival films while sipping the latest vintage from downtown Alpena's Thunder Bay Winery. Proceeds from this event benefit the Friends of Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary. 6:00-9:00PM, NO COVER CHARGE THUNDER BAY WINERY TUESDAY, JANUARY 24 THUNDER RAY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20 6:00 - 9:00 PM - \$5 ADMISSION TBIFF ON THE ROAD - PROGRAM 1 ALCONA COUNTY LIBRARY, HARRISVILLE

6:00 PM - Reception

7:00 PM - Films

Earth is Blue: Your National Marine Sanctuary System (USA) 3 min

Project Shiphunt: Discovering the M.F. Merrick (USA) 6 min

Great Lakes, Bad Lines (USA) 28 min

The Cook, The Hunter, The Whales and Their Watchers (Canada) 5 min

A Plastic Sea (USA) 12 min

INTERMISSION

Life on the Reef (Australia) 56 min



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25 6:00 - 9:00 PM - \$5 ADMISSION TBIFF ON THE ROAD - PROGRAM 2 ROGERS CITY THEATER, ROGERS CITY

6:00 PM - Reception

7:00 PM - Films

Earth is Blue: Your National Marine Sanctuary System (USA) 3 min

I am Morgan: Stolen Freedom (New Zealand) 5 min

Reflections of an Underwater Cameraman (Ireland) 5 min

A Plastic Sea (USA) 12 min

Great Lakes, Bad Lines (USA) 28 min

INTERMISSION

SILA and the Gatekeepers of the Arctic (USA) 65 min



TBIFF on Road

WITH THUNDER BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

ALCONA COUNTY LIBRARY FRIDAY. JANUARY 20 6:00-9:00 PM - \$5 ADMISSION HARRISVILLE. MICHIGAN

2 ROGERS CITY THEATER WEDNESDAY. JANUARY 25 6:00-9:00 PM - \$5 ADMISSION ROGERS CITY. MICHIGAN

EVERY JANUARY THE FRIENDS OF THUNDER BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY PRESENTS A UNIQUE FESTIVAL SHOWCASING OCEAN AND GREAT LAKES FILMS FROM AROUND THE WORLD.

Purchase tickets online at thunderbayfriends.org or at the following locations: Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center, Alpena Alcona County Library, Harrisville Presque Isle County Library, Rogers City

THUNDER BAY INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26 6:00 - 9:00 PM - \$30 ADMISSION ICE BREAKER: RECEPTION & FILMS - PROGRAM 3 GREAT LAKES MARITIME HERITAGE CENTER, ALPENA

6:00 PM - Ice breaker reception featuring cash bar and hors d'oeuvres

Speechless – The Polar Realm (New Zealand) 44 min This film will be shown in the Main Exhibits throughout the Reception

7:00 PM - Ice breaker night films

Earth is Blue: Your National Marine Sanctuary System (USA) 3 min

Tallurutiup Tariunga - Lancaster Sound (Canada) 4 min

SILA and the Gatekeepers of the Arctic (USA) 65 min

INTERMISSION

Power and Fragility: An Astronaut's View of Earth (USA) 4 min

The Cook, The Hunter, The Whales and Their Watchers (Canada) 5 min

The Hand of Franklin (Canada) 52 min

Please be in your seat no less than 10 minutes prior to the start of the program.





Are you one of the lucky **THUNDER PASS** holders? The **THUNDER PASS** is an all-access pass to every reception, panel, and screening during the festival. Go VIP and purchase a **THUNDER PASS**!

If you are a THUNDER PASS holder, please be in your seat no less than 10 minutes prior to the start of the program or your seat may be sold.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27 6:00 - 9:00 PM - \$30 ADMISSION RECEPTION & FILMS - PROGRAM 4 GREAT LAKES MARITIME HERITAGE CENTER, ALPENA

6:00 PM - Reception featuring cash bar and hors d'oeuvres

7:00 PM - Films

Earth is Blue: Your National Marine Sanctuary System (USA) 3 min

Fish (Iran) 4 min

Sonic Sea (USA) 55 min

INTERMISSION

Stories from the Blue: A Teacher's Perspective (USA) 3 min

Great Lakes, Bad Lines (USA) 28 min

Please be in your seat no less than 10 minutes prior to the start of the program.



SATURDAY, JANUARY 28 GREAT LAKES MARITIME HERITAGE CENTER, ALPENA

THEATER 1

10:00 AM - \$6 ADMISSION FILMS - PROGRAM 5

Earth is Blue: Your National Marine Sanctuary System (USA) 3 min

Preserving History: Saving the Lighthouse on Squaw Island* (USA) 30 min

THEATERS

Offshore Outposts (USA) 62 min

The Treacherous Coast* (USA) 29 min

1:00 PM - FREE FILMMAKERS' PANEL - PROGRAM 7

3:00 PM - FREE STUDENT FILMS - PROGRAM 9

4:30 PM - FREE FRESH TAKES VIDEO CONTEST

See page 46 for more information

* Filmmaker expected for Q&A

THEATER 1

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28 GREAT LAKES MARITIME HERITAGE CENTER, ALPENA

THEATER 2

11:00 AM - \$6 ADMISSION FILMS - PROGRAM 6

Earth is Blue: Your National Marine Sanctuary System (USA) 3 min

Earth is Blue: Students Care for our Great Lakes (USA) 3 min

FINconceivable (USA) 4 min

Cute Sharks on the Hook in Borneo (Malaysia) 8 min

How Do Sharks and Rays Use Electricity to Find Hidden Prey? (USA) 4 min

Stoked Steves (USA) 3 min

Rail to Rail (Australia) 5 min

The Fantastic Fur of Sea Otters (USA) 3 min

Zoe and Her Adventures (Italy) 3 min

The Legend of the Great Auk (USA) 5 min

Two Miles Deep (USA) 27 min

HEY FILM FESTIVAL FANS!

This year, in order to pack in as many films as possible, we're screening in **TWO** theaters at the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center!

Make sure your ticket text matches your destination theater.

THEATER 2

SATURDAY THEATER 2

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28 GREAT LAKES MARITIME HERITAGE CENTER, ALPENA

THEATER 2

1:00 PM - \$6 ADMISSION FILMS - PROGRAM 8

Earth is Blue: Your National Marine Sanctuary System, (USA) 3 min Santa Cruz del Islote (USA) 19 min

Shark Shepherd (Canada) 2 min

Whale Aware (USA) 8 min

Reaching Blue: Finding Hope Beneath the Surface (Canada) 45 min

Please be in your seat no less than 10 minutes prior to the start of the program.



SATURDAY, JANUARY 28 GREAT LAKES MARITIME HERITAGE CENTER, ALPENA

THEATER 1

6:00 PM - \$30 ADMISSION RECEPTION & FILMS - PROGRAM 10

6:00 PM - Reception featuring cash bar and hors d'oeuvres

7:00 PM – Films

Earth is Blue: Your National Marine Sanctuary System (USA) 3 min

A Love Affair (USA) 5 min

A Plastic Sea (USA) 12 min

A Small Surfer Makes Big Waves (Australia) 7 min

Home at Dawn (Peru) 5 min

I am Morgan: Stolen Freedom (New Zealand) 5 min

Reflections of an Underwater Cameraman (Ireland) 5 min

The Great Wide Open (Ireland) 10 min

INTERMISSION

Pigeon River: A River Made Whole* (USA) 3 min

Thailand's Seafood Slavery (UK) 14 min

Ocean Stories: Greg Stone (USA) 31 min



* Filmmaker expected for Q&A

Please be in your seat no less than 10 minutes prior to the start of the program.

SUNDAY JANUARY 29 GREAT LAKES MARITIME HERITAGE CENTER, ALPENA

THEATER 1

10:00 AM - \$6 ADMISSION FILMS - PROGRAM 11

Earth is Blue: Your National Marine Sanctuary System (USA) 3 min

Silence* (USA) 5 min

The Weekend Sailor (Mexico) 75 min

12:00 PM - \$6 ADMISSION FILMS - PROGRAM 13

Earth is Blue: Your National Marine Sanctuary System (USA) 3 min

Ocean Driven (USA) 55 min

Of the Sea (USA) 56 min

2:00 PM - \$6 ADMISSION FILMS - PROGRAM 15

Earth is Blue: Your National Marine Sanctuary System (USA) 3 min

Saving Our Tuna (Australia) 23 min

Antarctic Edge: 70 Degrees South (USA) 72 min

Please be in your seat no less than 10 minutes prior to the start of the program.

* Filmmaker expected for Q&A

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29 GREAT LAKES MARITIME HERITAGE CENTER, ALPENA

THEATER 2

11:00 AM - \$6 ADMISSION FILMS - PROGRAM 12

Earth is Blue: Your National Marine Sanctuary System (USA) 3 min

We Live Underwater (Germany) 7 min

Life on the Reef (Australia) 56 min

Beneath Wallace's Line (USA) 19 min

1:00 PM - \$6 ADMISSION FILMS - PROGRAM 14

Earth is Blue: Your National Marine Sanctuary System (USA) 3 min

Changing Seas - Grand Cayman's Famous Stingrays (USA) 27 min

SEDNA Epic Expedition (USA) 4 min

Bringing the Ocean to Eye Level: Inuit Youth Build Marine Technology (Canada) 4 min

Bringing the Ocean to Eye Level: Mobile Aquariums Showcase Arctic Sea life for Inuit (Canada) 4 min

Inuit Girls with Gear: An Arctic Snorkel Safari in Frobisher Bay (Canada) 3 min

Wisdom on Ice: An Inuit Elder's First Snorkel in Arctic Waters (Canada) 1 min

Iqaluit Dawn: Cultures Connecting (Canada) 46 min

3:00 PM - \$6 ADMISSION FILMS - PROGRAM 16

Earth is Blue: Your National Marine Sanctuary System (USA) 3 min

Three Miles from Safety: The Story of the USS Conestoga (USA) 19 min

Power and Fragility: An Astronaut's View of Earth (USA) 4 min

Restoring Hope (USA) 4 min

On the Brink: Unchartered Waters (USA) 54 min

THEATER 2

SUNDAY



A LOVE AFFAIR (USA), 5 MIN Nick and Cheryl Dean

You want diversity? The bright green and yellow Jolly Green Giant chromodorid is just one of 2,300 known species of nudibranchs that live in our oceans. You want sexual creativity? Nudibranchs are hermaphroditic, able to change sex overnight. And if you want color? These shellless mollusks, also known as sea slugs, are right up there with Birds of Paradise. **PROGRAM 10**



A PLASTIC SEA (USA), 12 MIN Justin Lewis & Michelle Stauffer

In the Sargasso Sea and around Bermuda, fragments from the breakdown of plastics, especially single-use plastics, are accumulating in sea life, and we are all responsible. The issue of the impact of plastic in the oceans is gaining increasing attention and this film succinctly presents the problems – and hints at a solution to reversing some of them. **PROGRAM 1, 2, 10**



A SMALL SURFER MAKES BIG WAVES (AUSTRALIA), 7 MIN Scott Gamble

Scott Gamble

Check out this six-year-old surfer, who doesn't let her size or her medical condition deter her from shredding the waves and the skate park. **PROGRAM 10**



ANTARCTIC EDGE: 70 DEGREES SOUTH (USA), 72 MIN Dena Seidel

A look at life aboard a research vessel demonstrates the importance and hazards of Antarctic science. Over 20 years, scientist Oscar Schofield has seen the period of winter ice coverage diminish by three months, temperature rise by 11° F, and the collapse of the Ross Ice Shelf become inevitable. In the beauty of the Antarctic summer, studies of phytoplankton, krill, Adélie Penguins, seals and whales reveal changes in weather and biology. SFIOFF 2016 Ocean Science Award. **PROGRAM 15**



BENEATH WALLACE'S LINE (USA), 19 MIN Nick and Cheryl Dean

Wallace's Line is the demarcation in Indonesia separating Asian from Australian terrestrial species. Less well known is The Coral Triangle on the ocean floor in the same area. As on the land above, there is an incredible abundance and diversity of life under the sea: beautiful corals and marine species unmatched elsewhere on earth. **PROGRAM 12**



BRINGING THE OCEAN TO EYE LEVEL: INUIT YOUTH BUILD MARINE TECHNOLOGY (CANADA), 4 MIN Becky Kagan Schott

In the summer of 2016, the women of the Sedna Epic Expedition traveled to the Canadian Arctic to launch their innovative ocean outreach program and set the stage for their 2018 record-attempt to snorkel the Northwest Passage. In this short film, the team works with the community to build underwater robots and explore careers in science and technology. **PROGRAM 14**



BRINGING THE OCEAN TO EYE LEVEL: MOBILE AQUARIUMS SHOWCASE ARCTIC SEA LIFE FOR INUIT (CANADA) 4 MIN Becky Kagan Schott

In the summer of 2016, the women of the Sedna Epic Expedition traveled to the Canadian Arctic to launch their innovative ocean outreach program and set the stage for their 2018 record-attempt to snorkel the Northwest Passage. In this short film, the team collects biological specimens from local waters and then "brings the ocean to eye level" for members of the community, young and old. **PROGRAM 14**



CHANGING SEAS – GRAND CAYMAN'S FAMOUS STINGRAYS (USA), 27 MIN Alexa Elliott

You've probably seen pictures of tourists posing with stingrays, but what if you knew that interacting with the stingrays might actually be harming them? How do you balance eco-tourism with animal safety? Find out how the Grand Caymans developed a plan to meet the needs of the stingrays, scientists, government, and tour operators. **PROGRAM 14**



CUTE SHARKS ON THE HOOK IN BORNEO

(MALAYSIA), 8 MIN Aaron Bertie Geronski

Like large iconic oceanic sharks, small cat sharks and dog sharks are on the menu. In an investigative series from Borneo, Shark Stewards from San Francisco Bay joins with Malaysian partners to track down these elusive elasmobranchs in reefs, fish markets, and restaurants. **PROGRAM 6**



EARTH IS BLUE: STUDENTS CARE FOR OUR GREAT LAKES (USA), 3 MIN National Marine Sanctuaries

Earlier this fall, Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary joined students from Alcona Elementary School for the 2016 International Coastal Cleanup. Check out our video to learn how the sanctuary is working with the Northeast Michigan Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative to teach students the importance of keeping the Great Lakes clean! **PROGRAM 6**



EARTH IS BLUE: YOUR NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY SYSTEM (USA), 3 MIN David J. Ruck

When astronauts first launched toward the moon and looked back at our planet for the first time, they made an unexpected discovery: Earth is Blue. Working with communities around the country, NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries is making a difference for the sake of our blue planet. SHOWN AT THE BEGINING OF EACH PROGRAM!



FINCONCEIVABLE (USA), 4 MIN

Lily Williams

What happens if sharks disappear? This animated film explores the importance of sharks to the marine world, and the dire consequences if the appetite for shark fin soup should cause the extinction of the fiercest ocean predators. SFIOFF 2016 Animation Award. **PROGRAM 6**



FISH (IRAN), 4 MIN Saman Hosseinpuor

In some societies, clean water is not easily come by. Sometimes one needs to improvise, finding happiness in small ways. **PROGRAM 4**



GREAT LAKES, BAD LINES (USA), 28 MIN

Colin McCarthy

Discover the story of two Michigan born adventurers and their 500-mile, fossil-free journey across the Michigan's Upper Peninsula along the route of Enbridge Oils Line 5, a 63-year-old pipeline that threatens our inland waters and Great Lakes. Through the lens of adventure, personal stories, and natural beauty, this film highlights the ecosystems and livelihoods that are at risk and inspires all to take action within their own lives. **PROGRAM 1, 2, 4**



HOME AT DAWN (PERU), 5 MIN Billy Silva & Guille Isa

Ceviche is perhaps the most popular seafood trend around the globe right now. While it is a featured Peruvian dish in five-star restaurants, it is also the critical catch of some of Lima's humblest fishermen. **PROGRAM 10**



HOW DO SHARKS AND RAYS USE ELECTRICITY TO FIND HIDDEN PREY? (USA), 4 MIN Josh Cassidy

Sharks and rays have a "secret sense" that detects animals' bioelectric fields, so concealment by prey is ineffective, resistance is futile (well ... sometimes.) "You can run, but you can't hide." We've just begun to understand this unique mechanism. Could this help us coexist with sharks, keeping them out of our nets, and away from our surfers? **PROGRAM 6**



I AM MORGAN: STOLEN FREEDOM (NEW ZEALAND), 5 MIN

Heiko Grimm, Carlos Godo Borras, & Irene Buesa Garcia

Close your eyes. Imagine the exuberance of freedom in the sea, the companionship of your true whale kin, the thrill of the hunt, the indefinable spirit of being "orca." Now imagine living each day in the glass and concrete coffin in which you will die. For killer whales in captivity this is reality. (The only language you'll hear in this film is orca). **PROGRAM 2, 10**



INUIT GIRLS WITH GEAR: AN ARCTIC SNORKEL SAFARI IN FROBISHER BAY (CANADA) 3 MIN Becky Kagan Schott

A group of young women experience snorkeling in icy Arctic waters for the first time under the guidance of the all-women expedition team, Sedna Epic. Through such interactive experiences, the Sedna Epic team aims to inspire the next generation to pursue careers in science, exploration, and technology, and to protect the world's special marine places. **PROGRAM 14**



Iqaluit Dawn: Cultures Connecting (Canada), 46 MIN James Flaherty

The film, *Iqaluit Dawn* documents the journey of a group of high school students who travel from Ontario to Iqaluit, Nunavut for the first time. They experience the vast landscape and majestic tundra, spending a day on the land with an Inuit guide who shares his knowledge of hunting and environmental stewardship. Through connection to land, culture and community, this group of students are given a better understanding of the perseverance and survival of the Inuit people. **PROGRAM 14**



LIFE ON THE REEF (AUSTRALIA), 56 MIN Nick Robinson

The Great Barrier Reef, stretching 1,500 kilometers across the northeast edge of Australia, is rich and beautiful, but is seriously impacted by warming oceans and coastal development. Visits to Raine Island and Osprey Reef in remote stretches of the reef show how much beauty remains -for now. **PROGRAM 1, 12**



OCEAN DRIVEN (USA), 55 MIN

Nadia Tarlow, Adrian Charles, Sean Dewil and Chris Bertish

South African big wave surfer Chris Bertish doesn't let a fractured knee, broken ribs or near drowning interfere with his ten-year goal of making it into the Mavericks Big Wave Invitational. Bertish's persistence, training, and drive help him master the big waves of Mavericks, Waimea Bay, Todos Santos, and Jaws on Maui. **PROGRAM 13**



OCEAN STORIES: GREG STONE (USA), 31 MIN Patrick Creadon

"The Ocean is telling us it doesn't need us, we need it. And we better stop abusing it.... Our condition is far more vulnerable." Greg Stone reminisces about his life as an ocean scientist, explorer and marine conservationist. His romantic fascination with the ocean as a young boy became his life work. Now that science has identified the ocean's problems, Stone challenges us to find a solution. **PROGRAM 10**



OFFSHORE OUTPOSTS (USA), 62 MIN

Ric Mixter

Dubbed the loneliest jobs on Earth, the lighthouse keepers took charge of giant beacons that guided ships for over a century. Many were located far from shore, sometimes on isolate islands or built on man-made pedestals that were often battered by hurricane-strength waves. Hear from the men who called these sentinels home and learn of the shipwrecks that led to the light's construction. **PROGRAM 5**



OF THE SEA (USA), 56 min Mischa Hedges

Few California fishing families remain. In 1981, there were nearly 7,000 families; today there are only 1,800. To revive a fading way of life, Bay Area fishermen and entrepreneurs are exploring ways to support sustainably produced seafood. **PROGRAM 13**



ON THE BRINK: UNCHARTERED WATERS

(USA), 54 MIN Vincent Soberano

Whale sharks were fished and then overfished. Now thousands of tourists take special trips to swim with them. The whale sharks are protected, and all feels good. But could we be loving our whale sharks to death? SFIOFF 2016 Conservation Award. **PROGRAM 16**



PIGEON RIVER: A RIVER MADE WHOLE (USA), 3 MIN Line 45

After more than a century, the Pigeon River now flows freely in northeast Michigan. Facilitated by Huron Pines among many partners and funders, this effort removes barriers to upstream habitat for fish like brook trout, brown trout and steelhead. **PROGRAM 10**



POWER AND FRAGILITY: AN ASTRONAUT'S VIEW OF EARTH (USA), 4 MIN David J. Ruck

As National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Administrator Dr. Kathryn Sullivan says, "No matter what you see out your living room window or off of your back porch, you are first and foremost a citizen of the planet—and a citizen of an ocean planet." With that in mind, we launched #EarthIsBlue to bring you incredible images and videos of America's underwater treasures. **PROGRAM 3, 16**



PRESERVING HISTORY: SAVING THE LIGHTHOUSE ON SQUAW ISLAND (USA), 30 MIN Corey Adkins & Kevin Essebaggers

A historic lighthouse was in trouble on a small island in northern Lake Michigan. The owners of Squaw Island stepped up to save it. But this is no ordinary project. See how a dedicated construction crew overcame isolation, lack of power, and poison ivy to stop the decay of the lighthouse. Along the way, they also learned a little about themselves. **PROGRAM 5**

"With a film festival, we are able to inspire, excite, educate, and inform large numbers of local people and tourists...the return on investment is incalculable." -Greg McFall, Superintendent, Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary



PROJECT SHIPHUNT: DISCOVERING THE M.F. MERRICK (USA), 6 MIN Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary

Join Dr. James Delgado and five high-school students from Saginaw as they use state-of-the- art technology to search for a lost ship in Lake Huron's infamous 'Shipwreck Alley.' Teaming up with the world's leading oceanographic researchers, these students go looking for shipwrecks, and find much more. **PROGRAM 1**



RAIL TO RAIL (AUSTRALIA), 5 MIN Joel Sharpe

In a small village on the coast of El Salvador, Zancudo, Spanish for mosquito, develops his own style of surfing in the most unexpected way – on a bodyboard. Though good enough to compete in traditional surfing competitions, he forgoes the opportunity, opting to surf his own way. **PROGRAM 6**



REACHING BLUE: FINDING HOPE BENEATH THE SURFACE (Canada), 45 min Ian Hinkle & Andy Robertson

The Salish Sea around Vancouver Island forms a labyrinthine marine ecosystem where massive humpbacks and porpoises surge through emerald waters teeming with prey; where fisher folk have harvested its bounty since time immemorial. Exquisite cinematography captures this coastal lifestyle, now under threat, but an oyster farmer, a writer, and a scientist find hope for the future in stories of our past. **PROGRAM 8**



REFLECTIONS OF AN UNDERWATER CAMERAMAN (IRELAND), 5 MIN Ken O'Sullivan

Philosophical musings of an underwater cameraman explain his fascination with the underwater world and why he wants to document what he observes. Time slows down as he captures images of the undersea world of the Atlantic. **PROGRAM 2, 10**



RESTORING HOPE (USA), 4 MIN

John Antonelli

Hurricane devastation and extreme poverty have forced Haitians to cut their mangrove forests to make charcoal and to overfish their island waters. After two decades of political work and citizen participation, Jean Wiener's foundation persuaded the government to establish Haiti's first Marine Protected Area to safeguard these mangroves and reefs, both nursery areas for juvenile fish. This act, together with work by local people to replant mangroves, is bringing back the depleted fisheries. **PROGRAM 16**



SANTA CRUZ DEL ISLOTE (USA), 19 MIN

Luke Lorentzen

On a tiny Caribbean island—the most densely populated on Earth—peace and tranquility reign. No crime exists because "Whatever happens to one family happens to everyone...this island is like one heart." But their oncethriving tuna industry is gone and their subsistence way of life is in jeopardy. A fisherman and a young boy speak to this challenge as they move into an uncertain future. **PROGRAM 8**



SAVING OUR TUNA (AUSTRALIA), 23 MIN Patrick Fries

Mankind consumes 4.5 million tons of tuna annually. Half of this catch is taken from the waters around the island nations of the Western Pacific. In many places, this is the only industry that supports the local Pacific Islanders. These nations have joined together to use advanced satellite, sonar and aerial technologies to work toward sustainability, prevent illegal fishing, and develop sound principles of ecosystem management. **PROGRAM 15**



SEDNA EPIC EXPEDITION (USA), 4 MIN

Joanna Lentini

Join the all-women expedition team, Sedna Epic, along with Inuit elders and young women as they explore the frigid waters of Frobisher Bay, Nunavut. Through their ocean educational outreach programs including mobile aquariums and ROV operations, the team helps to bring the ocean to eye level for the youngest members of Iqaluit's community. **PROGRAM 14**



SHARK SHEPHERD (CANADA), 2 MIN Benjamin Von Wong

If fashion models can help sell cars, maybe they can help save sharks. An underwater photographer places a terrestrial shepherdess under the sea watching over threatened sharks. **PROGRAM 8**



SILA AND THE GATEKEEPERS OF THE ARCTIC (USA),

65 MIN

Corina Gamma*

To the Inuit of Qaanaaq, 1,200 miles above the Arctic Circle, "Sila" is the weather, the sky —, "all that is out there." From a remarkable opening sequence to interviews with Inuits, whose language sounds like it has been chipped from ice, director and cinematographer Corina Gamma uses superb images, restrained but forceful editing, and Jorge Corante's music to show us a world where Sila is slipping out of balance, while a team of international scientists tries to find out why, the Inuit struggle with its consequences. SFIOFF 2016 Coastal Culture Award. **PROGRAM 2, 3**



SILENCE (USA), 5 MIN

Brian Belanger, Anne-Marlowe Belanger

Northeast Michigan is home to the natural side of the state teeming with woodlands and water. Along the Lake Huron shores, known as the Sunrise Coast via U.S. 23 Highway, visitors will find small communities that provide a uniquely different appeal. This 200-mile route begins in Standish and ends at Mackinaw City. Along this coastline route, visitors experience some of the most pristine lands that are sparsely populated. The winter season offers a whole new opportunity to enjoy a variety of "silent sports". "Silence" takes the approach of highlighting perhaps some of the un-obvious winter activities that will get one off the sofa and out into the beauty of northeast Michigan. **PROGRAM 11**



SONIC SEA (USA), 55 MIN Michelle Dougherty & Daniel Hinerfeld

Our oceans are awash in man-made noise, and it is killing marine life. Sonic Sea recounts the complicated mystery behind a mass whale stranding. In seeking an answer it explores an ocean's delicate acoustic habitat where creatures feed, find mates, navigate, communicate, and cope with the sudden, dramatic changes our species has wrought. Featuring Ken Balcomb, Christopher Clark, Sylvia Earle and Sting – this film offers solutions, and underscores how the ocean's destiny is indeed our own. SFIOFF 2016 Environment Award. **PROGRAM 4**



SPEECHLESS – THE POLAR REALM (NEW ZEALAND), 44 MIN

Richard Sidey

From images of millions of seabirds swirling about nests on sheer island cliffs, to vistas of blue-white glacial landscapes, to close-ups of grunting walruses in beach wallows, this film explores both the lands and seas of the polar realm and its remarkable creatures. Miriama Young's graceful music reinforces a pace that allows us the time to see what the images gloriously offer. At the film's end a double exposure of a polar bear's ghostly figure ambles through its threatened Arctic world. SFIOFF 2016 Wildlife Award. **PROGRAM 3**



STORIES FROM THE BLUE: A TEACHER'S PERSPECTIVE (USA), 3 MIN David J. Ruck

Through his "Shipwreck Alley" class, high school teacher John Caplis has been connecting Alpena High School students directly to the nearby Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary, and through it, to Great Lakes history, ecology, geology, meteorology and more. "The idea that we're exposing two-thirds of every kid who graduates from Alpena High School to Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and its mission and the positive effect it has on the community -- I think that's a powerful thing," he says. Watch our video to experience John's Story from the Blue and to learn about the amazing educational collaboration his class has fostered. **PROGRAM 4**



STOKED STEVES (USA), 3 MIN Stephen Emery

An animated journey from the surf to the sun leaves our heroes riding cosmic waves. **PROGRAM 6**



TALLURUTIUP TARIUNGA - LANCASTER SOUND (CANADA), 4 MIN Carlyle Paetkau

In Canada's far north, Lancaster Sound is home to both the world's largest population of narwhals, and a healthy community of Inuit who live off the sea's bounty. It is also the eastern entrance to the Northwest Passage. As the Arctic ice melts, giving way to new shipping routes, the narwhals' migratory patterns, and the lives and culture of the people are threatened. **PROGRAM 3**



THAILAND'S SEAFOOD SLAVERY (UK), 14 MIN

Charlie Johnson

Filming undercover, the Environmental Justice Foundation exposes the abusive and corrupt employers and officials in Thailand operating with impunity in Malaysian and Indonesian waters. Workers trapped in an endless cycle of debt, exploitation and brutal abuse risk death if they try to escape. The boats catch "trash fish" – small species and juvenile fish unfit for human consumption but vital to the food web, to create fishmeal to feed Thai shrimp for export. **PROGRAM 10**



THE COOK, THE HUNTER, THE WHALES AND THEIR WATCHERS (CANADA), 5 MIN Gord More & Steve De Neef

Iceland has a dilemma. Two types of vessel lie at anchor in the bay off Reykjavik. Some boats set out full of tourists eager to see whales in their natural environment. Their neighbors carry harpoons, and return to port with whales strapped to their sides, passing whale watchers on their way. While the fin meat is exported to Japan, minke flesh supplies the domestic market. **PROGRAM 1, 3**



THE FANTASTIC FUR OF SEA OTTERS (USA), 3 MIN Josh Cassidy

How do sea otters stay warm in cold Pacific waters? Sea otter fur is surprisingly complex. This KQED science production takes an in-depth look at sea otters' fur—at up to 1 million hairs per square inch, it's the densest fur of any mammal on Earth. **PROGRAM 6**



THE GREAT WIDE OPEN (IRELAND), 10 MIN Ciarán Dooley

"He lives in the 'Great Wide Open, my granddad. The 'Great Wide Open' at the bottom of our garden". A story of a granddaughter helping her grandfather make his boat seaworthy again. SFIOFF 2016 Short Award. PROGRAM 10



THE HAND OF FRANKLIN (CANADA), 52 MIN Frank Wolf

Warming climate in the Arctic has made possible a great expansion of human activity. Four men team up to examine these changes by rowing the Northwest Passage. In addition to a great adventure, they report on current and historic conditions in the far northwest of Canada using their firsthand experience as well as the knowledge of Nunavut elders who have seen great changes in their lifetimes. SFIOFF 2016 Adventure Award. **PROGRAM 3**



THE LEGEND OF THE GREAT AUK (USA), 5 MIN Rachel Price

A rascally murre chick decides he's ready to go to sea on his own. A ghost of the extinct Great Auk gives him other ideas, reminding him that the ghost's kind was abundant on the same island until humans wiped them out. The murre tyke heeds the wise specter's words about his world's many dangers. **PROGRAM 6**



THE TREACHEROUS COAST (USA), 29 MIN Noble Odyssey Foundation

This film takes a look at Michigan's treacherous coastline along the "thumb" area, including current lighthouses and their historic presence during the heyday of the commercial shipping industry. Join the Noble Odyssey dive team as they search for shipwrecks in this area and delve into a bygone Great Lakes shipping era. **PROGRAM 5**



THE WEEKEND SAILOR (MEXICO), 75 MIN Bernardo Arsuaga

In 1973, the first ever Whitbread Round the World Yacht Race, now the Volvo Ocean Race, was won by an unlikely competitor from a country with no sailing history. The captain of this venture also had no boat and barely a crew. Competing against experienced sailors from around the world, Ramon Carlin is the perfect skipper, and the perfect leader – getting the best out of his crew through respect and example. SFIOFF 2016 Director's Award. PROGRAM 11



THREE MILES FROM SAFETY: THE STORY OF THE USS CONESTOGA (USA), 19 MIN David Ruck

When you think of the might and power of the U.S. Navy, the first thing that comes to mind is not likely to be a tugboat. More likely, you picture a formidable aircraft carrier or a well-armed battleship, operated by hundreds and often thousands of sailors. A tug is an afterthought, if it's a thought at all. So why is the USS Conestoga — a Navy fleet tug – so important? **PROGRAM 16**



TWO MILES DEEP (USA), 27 MIN

James Toomey

Syndicated cartoonist Jim Toomey ("Sherman's Lagoon") dives to the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico. Through live action film and animation, we discover a world full of beauty and complexity. **PROGRAM 6**



WE LIVE UNDERWATER (GERMANY), 7 MIN

Hendrik S. Schmitt

German divers join an Indonesian conservation effort to rebuild in an innovative way a coral reef. To continue diving and exploring ocean beauty, we must give something back. SFIOFF 2016 Innovation Award. **PROGRAM 12**



WHALE AWARE (USA), 8 MIN

Lauren Gilbertson

The waters off the Golden Gate are teeming with great whales. Several institutions have united to keep the whales safer from ship strikes. Apps are available to anyone with a smartphone who from land or sea might sight a whale on the California coast. Download Whale Alert 2.0 or Spotter Pro from the App Store so you can report a whale sighting. The location, movement and aggregation of whales will be reported in nearly real time to advise ships to take evasive action. **PROGRAM 8**



WISDOM ON ICE: AN INUIT ELDER'S FIRST SNORKEL IN ARCTIC WATERS (CANADA) 1 MIN Becky Kagan Schott

Elder Aaju Peters is a cultural advisor for the all-women expedition team, Sedna Epic. Peters also takes her first-ever plunge into icy waters in this inspiring short film. **PROGRAM 14**



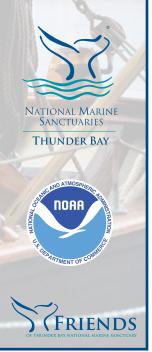
ZOE AND HER ADVENTURES (ITALY), 3 MIN Patricia Marti Puig

Zoe is a fish with a mission: she undertakes a perilous voyage through the Mediterranean, venturing far from the safety of her Eden-like "no-entry" (for humans, that is) Marine Protected Area, into gradually less-protected waters. They're fraught with dangers: nets, propellers, sinister intruders. Far away, in another MPA, her paramour awaits. Discover how her journey unfolds. **PROGRAM 6**

MARITIME FESTIVAL Presented by Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary & the Friends of Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary



FREE ADMISSION Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center 500 West Fletcher Street, Alpena, MI 49707 TUESDAY, JULY 4TH







ALL-ACCESS THUNDER PASS

Are you one of the lucky **THUNDER PASS** holders? The **THUNDER PASS** is an all-access pass to every reception, panel, and screening during the festival. Go VIP and purchase a **THUNDER PASS**!

If you are a THUNDER PASS holder, please be in your seat no less than 10 minutes prior to the start of the program or your seat may be sold.

NOAA Science on a Sphere®

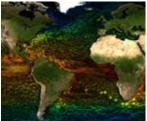
Science On a Sphere® (SOS) is a room sized, global display system that uses computers and video projectors to show planetary data onto a six-foot diameter sphere, similar to a giant animated globe. Researchers at NOAA developed Science On a Sphere® as an educational tool to help illustrate Earth System science to people of all ages. Animated images of atmospheric storms, climate change, and ocean temperature can be shown on the sphere, which is used to explain what are sometimes complex environmental processes, in a way that is both intuitive and captivating.

During the Thunder Bay International Film Festival enjoy a "spherical" movie in the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center's SOS Theater. Films range in length from 3 minutes to 15 minutes and will be playing back-to-back during festival hours. No special ticket needed, just drop in and enjoy the selection of free SOS films.

ADMISSION

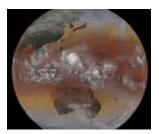
NOAA Science on a Sphere

Special, docent-led SOS programs will also be featured during the festival, see the daily line-up when you arrive at the visitor center to catch a 15-minute "Visualizing Climate Change" presentation between your festival feature films!



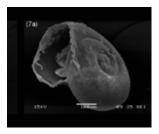
THE CLIMATE-OCEAN CONNECTION

How does the ocean regulate the climate, and how is a changing climate affecting it?



EXTREME WEATHER

What's the connection between burning fossil fuels and more intense and severe storms?



OCEAN ACIDIFICATION How is the chemistry of the ocean changing, and how does this affect us all?



SEA LEVEL RISE

What is causing the level of the sea to rise? What are the potential consequences - and what can we do to reduce it's impact?

PLEASE ENTER ANYTIME, BENCH SEATING ALONG WALLS

Filmmakers



COREY ADKINS EDITOR & PRODUCER

Preserving History: Saving The Lighthouse On Squaw Island

Corey Adkins is a multiple Emmy Award winning Photojournalist and Field producer for 9&10 News, the CBS television affiliate in northern Michigan. He has directed, produced, filmed and edited over a dozen award wining television programs that involved Great Lakes Maritime, Military Veterans, Aviation, Rock Bands, Nature and health subjects. He has also been recognized by the Associated Press, Michigan Association of Broadcasters and the RTNDA Edward R. Murrow awards.



Join these filmmakers for an interactive discussion



ANNE BELANGER

EDITOR & PRODUCER Silence

With over thirty years' experience in video production, she is the owner and producer of Bon Ami filmworks, LLC, a video production company based in northern Michigan. Her signature documentary projects have an emphasis on history, humanities, and the arts. Ms. Belanger produced three-time Emmy® Award-winning feature-length documentary films, November Requiem and A Century in Stone. Her most recent documentary project, The Wizard of Boulder Park, is the story of Earl Young and Boulder Park, "mushroom houses" in Charlevoix, Michigan and is currently airing on PBS stations in Michigan. She has produced a series of promotional videos for northeast Michigan in partnership with NEMCOG which highlight the natural resources and silent sports within the region. Anne enjoys oxygen sports including skiing, mountain biking, paddle sports...and hiking with her dog, Sophie.

Filmmakers



LUKE CLYBURN NOBLE ODYSSEY FOUNDATION The Treacherous Coast

Luke Clyburn, is a USMM Captain, and operates the 81 foot Research /Training vessel, "Pride of Michigan". He is a professional dive instructor, underwater photographer/filmaker and Commanding Officer of the Great Lakes Division of Naval Sea Cadets. Clyburn is also the founder and President of the Noble Odyssey Foundation, created to expand knowledge of the Great Lakes through seagoing education and underwater research projects. Working closely with the NOAA staff at the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary in Alpena, Michigan the diver training and projects extend throughout the Great Lakes. Nine award winning films have been produced which document diving, research projects and training.



GET YOUR FILM FESTIVAL MERCHANDISE TODAY.

THUNDER BAY INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

.

-

The Sanctuary Store

any regularly priced item, when you bring in your Thunder Bay International Film Festival Program

Offer excludes food and/or beverage purchases. Offer expires February 28, 2016. Coupon not reedemable for cash.

January 28th at 3:00 PM

SEE STUDENT FILMS!!! THUNDER BAY INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2ND ANNUAL STUDENT FILM COMPETITION

Northeast Michigan students grades 6-12 have created films that highlight what #BUDIVERSITYIS. See the winners for FREE on Saturday, January 28th at 3:00pm in Theater 1.



bi·o·di·ver·si·ty ,bīōdi′vərsədē noun

> the variety of life in the world or in a particular habitat or ecosystem.



The 2018 competition theme will be announced during this year's student screening!

INTERESTED IN MAKING A FILM?

Go to

www.nemiglsi.org













Thank You Sponsors!

INTERESTED IN SPONSORING?

Please contact 989-884-6210 for more information.



We regret the omission of any sponsors due to our print deadline. The most up-to-date sponsor information will be available on the big screen throughout film screenings.



BE A TRUE BLUE FRIEND

If you love all things Great Lakes, come join the Friends of Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary! Our mission is simple. We are dedicated to sustaining the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Together, we:

- Celebrate our Great Lakes and their rich maritime history.
- Enjoy recreating in their deep, blue fresh waters.
- Foster good stewardship and sustainable tourism through education and community outreach.

Of course, having fun with friends who share a passion for our Great Lakes is a big part of joining the Friends of Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary, too!

WHY YOUR SUPPORT IS IMPORTANT

Friends of Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary plays a critical role in funding the sanctuary's educational programs, community outreach, museum exhibits, and research. Through individual donations, grants, Sanctuary Store sales, and special events like the Thunder Bay International Film Festival, Friends has helped build a world-class research, education, and visitor center that attracts almost 100,000 visitors a year.

JOIN TODAY!

By becoming a Friend today, you will receive several benefits that include a 10% discount on all Sanctuary Store purchases, invitations to Friends events, advance notice of upcoming happenings, and opportunities to meet special guests. The greatest benefit of all though is knowing that you are investing in the conservation, stewardship, and sustainable use of our Great Lakes for generations to come!

To join, complete a membership form available at the Sanctuary Store, online at **thunderbayfriends.org**, or contact **Katie Wolf** by phone, **(989) 884-6210**, or email: **kwolf@thunderbayfriends.org**.

Thunder Bay needs True Blue Friends like you!



FRESH TAKES VIDEO CONTEST

The Fresh Takes Video Contest is presented and sponsored by the Alpena Area Convention & Visitors Bureau. Fresh Takes offers a creative outlet and provides purpose to those passionate videographers who document the best of their Alpena area adventures, culture, and natural landscape. Entrants are encouraged to creatively interpret their meaningful Alpena experiences to showcase the Sanctuary of the Great Lakes from their unique perspective.

The top five judge's picks will be screened in the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary theater and the top three places will be awarded cash prizes. We invite you to embrace Alpena as your Sanctuary of the Great Lakes and join us as we celebrate our contest participants and unveil the prize winning recipients.

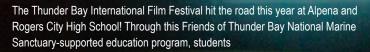


Watch the films Saturday, January 28th at 5:00pm in Theater 1.

ALPENA YOUTH SAILING CLUB



Join us for summer sailing lessons! We have week-long classes for kids 8 and up and adult lessons too. A great way to get introduced to sailing and have some summer fun on the water. Contact **Pete Wilson** at **989-657-6420** or go to **alpenayouthsailingclub.com**.



- Learn more about current Great Lakes- and ocean-issues
- Experience the art of documentary filmmaking

TBIFF EDUCATION PROGRAM

Connect with different Great Lakes- and ocean-based careers

CONTACT US TO HAVE THE 2018 TBIFF SNEAK PEAK FEATURED WITH YOUR SCHOOL NEXT YEAR!

thunder bay international film festival DIVE IN - JANUARY 2017

UNDERWATER ROBOTICS GREAT LAKES REGIONAL MATE ROV COMPETITION



THE MATE Competition at a Glance

The MATE competition challenges K-12, community college, and university students from all over the world to tackle missions based on scenarios from the workplace. The competition's class structure of beginner, intermediate, advanced-intermediate and advanced complements the educational pipeline by providing students with the opportunity to build upon their skills as they engineer increasingly more complex ROVs for increasingly more complex mission tasks. For more info visit









National Marine Sanctuaries National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

THUNDER BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY





The Thunder Bay Film International Festival is produced in partnership with the San Francisco International Ocean Film Festival, North America's premier film event for ocean-related independent films. Now in its 14th year, the SFIOFF showcases inspiring, carefully curated independent films—documentaries, narratives, shorts, animation, full-length—from around the world that spotlight all aspects of our Blue Planet.

Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary is proud to be one of only five host sites around the world!



Free Shipwreck Museum

TINTO

- Glass Bottom Boat
- Diving
- Paddling
- Snorkeling

Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary 500 West Fletcher Street, Alpena, MI 49707 Open All Year ■ 7 Days a Week





ALPENASHIPWRECKTOURS.COM | THUNDERBAY.NOAA.GOV | 989.356.8805

THUNDER BAY

The Friends of Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary brings ocean and Great Lakes films from around the world to Northeast Michigan. The five-day festival screens nearly fifty films, ranging from two minutes to feature-length. Film screenings are complemented by social events, educational activities, and opportunities to meet filmmakers.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20 - \$5 6:00pm-9:00pm TBIFF on the Road Alcona County Library, Harrisville

TUESDAY, JANUARY 24 - FREE 6:00pm-9:00pm **Sanctuary Sneak Peek** Thunder Bay Winery, Alpena

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25 - \$5

6:00pm-9:00pm TBIFF on the Road Rogers City Theater, Rogers City

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26 - \$30

6:00pm-9:00pm Ice Breaker Reception & Films Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center, Alpena

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27 - \$30

6:00pm-9:00pm Reception & Films Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center, Alpena

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

\$6 PER PROGRAM 10:00am-5:00pm **Films screened all day** Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center, Alpena

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28 - FREE

1:00pm-5:00pm Filmmakers' Panel & Student Films Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center, Alpena

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28 - \$30

6:00pm-9:00pm Reception & Films Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center, Alpena

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

\$6 PER PROGRAM 10:00am-5:00pm **Films screened all day** Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center, Alpena



Introducing the SANCTUARY BURGER

The Sanctuary Burger is vegetarian; a pineapple/beet burger with feta and honey mustard

> GOOD FOR THE BODY, GOOD FOR THE GREAT LAKES

BEER, WINE & COCKTAILS DINE IN OR TAKE OUT CALL 989-340-1288 628 West Chisholm Street, Alpena, MI 49707