

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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Kick Off 2017 with the Virginia Aquarium

SPECIAL DISCOUNTS:

Locals' Only Special, January 1 through 31

We love our locals! Receive \$10 off each adult Aquarium-only admission ticket Monday through Friday when you show proof of residency. Proof may be a valid Hampton Roads license or valid photo ID with matching current utility bill for a Hampton Roads residence. Some restrictions apply, please see the [Aquarium's website](#) for details.

VIRGINIA AQUARIUM SEA ADVENTURES:

Whales & Wildlife, Season runs through March 5

See the ocean's most magnificent creatures as they visit our coastal waters while our on-board educators help bring the ocean to life with items to see and touch. This 2-2.5 hour trip in search of whales, dolphins, seals, and seabirds brings you as close as possible to these charismatic animals. Tickets are \$26 for Aquarium members and \$28 for non-members. Tickets are available on the [Aquarium's website](#) or by calling (757) 385-3474 for reservations.

Seal Spotting Sea Adventure, January 22, 2 p.m.

Seals are frequent visitors to this area when the water temperatures drop, although their favorite haul out spots can make them difficult to see. Join Aquarium educators aboard the *Atlantic Explorer* as they depart the Virginia Aquarium's on-site dock in search of these charismatic visitors on a 2-2.5 hour trip. Tickets are \$28 and are available on the [Aquarium's website](#) or by calling (757) 385-3474 for reservations.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Blood Drive, December 29, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Aquarium admission is not required to donate blood, and donors will receive a complimentary admission pass to the Aquarium, a complimentary ticket for the Adventure Park, and an American Red Cross long sleeve t-shirt, while supplies last. Make an appointment on the Red Cross website at www.RedCrossBlood.org and use sponsor code: VAMS

Countdown to 2017, December 31, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Children and adults, get ready for the New Year! Join us for contests, games, activities, and treats in the Marsh Pavilion. Included with Aquarium admission.

Dragon Day, January 14 & 15, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Whether your favorite dragon is a Komodo or Puff the Magic Dragon, we will be celebrating them all on Dragon Day! Meet our Komodo dragon keepers and try your hand at some famous dragon trivia. Included with Aquarium admission.

Volunteer Open House, January 19, 4-5:30 p.m.

Are you interested in volunteering with the Virginia Aquarium? Join representatives from Aquarium departments to learn about all of the exciting opportunities, ranging from divers to

docents and animal care to Aquarium store assistants. This is a great chance to learn about the wide variety of volunteers that help keep the Aquarium running.

Homeschool Day, January 27, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

This special day provides homeschool families with the school admission rate, special pre-planned activities, and live animal programs throughout the day. Admission prices are \$10 for students age 2-18 and \$16 for adults, and there will be discounts on movies at the National Geographic 3D Theater and the Adventure Park at Virginia Aquarium. For the full schedule of events, please see the [Aquarium's website](#).

E-Cycling, January 28, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

This semi-annual event give you the opportunity to recycle your old electronics. A complete list of the accepted items will be on the Aquarium's website soon.

Bold Man Oyster Stout Release Party at O'Connor Brewing Co., January 28, 2-5 p.m.

Join O'Connor Brewing Co. and the Virginia Aquarium as we celebrate the special, limited release of Bold Man Oyster Stout. The Bold Man Oyster Stout release party is a partnership between O'Connor Brewing Co., the Virginia Aquarium, the Virginia Oyster Trail, and Taste Tidewater Tours. A portion of the ticket sales benefits the Virginia Oyster Trail. Tickets are available at <http://oconnorbrewing.com/product/bold-man-release-party/>

CHANGING EXHIBIT:

Ocean Bound January 22 through May 14

Embark on a journey through watersheds to see how everyone's actions on land affect our ocean. What can you do in your watershed to protect our ocean? Find out in this fun new changing exhibit! Included with Aquarium admission.

Images of the Aquarium can be downloaded here:

<https://virginiaaquarium.imagerelay.com/sb/705e1f59-d083-45cf-80ed-1f45718e4bf0>

The Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center is an accredited member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, and the Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums whose mission is conservation through education. The Aquarium is located at 717 General Booth Boulevard, just south of Rudee Inlet in Virginia Beach. For more information on exhibits, movies, boat rides and special events, call (757) 385-FISH (3474), (TDD 385-4305) or visit www.VirginiaAquarium.com.

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