

NEWS RELEASE

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Enjoy the Changing Season with the Virginia Aquarium!

(VIRGINIA BEACH, VA) Fall means a return to cooler weather and spooky happenings all across the Virginia Aquarium, but it also means that it's time for the biggest Aquarium fundraiser of the year: **Commotion in the Ocean** presented by Capital Group!

Commotion in the Ocean makes its return to the Aquarium this year on October 7 from 8 to 11 p.m. The event features a live band, dancing, plentiful beverages, and delicious food. Jump into the action with impressive live and silent auctions featuring a wide variety of experiences and items! You won't want to miss out on the fun! Tickets for this year's event are \$125 per person and available on the [Aquarium's website](#).

Check out all of the other exciting happenings, from our boat trips to our changing exhibit and all of our special events, below:

VIRGINIA AQUARIUM SEA ADVENTURES

Dolphin Discoveries

Through October

Join Aquarium experts for a 90-minute wildlife excursion to view Virginia's most charismatic marine mammal: bottlenose dolphins. Each boat trip provides discussions about incredible natural dolphin behaviors and conserving and protecting the species and its habitat. Tickets are \$20 for Aquarium members and \$22 for non-members. Tickets are available on the [Aquarium's website](#) or by calling (757) 385-3474 for reservations.

Ocean Collections

September 23, October 14, 9 a.m.

This 75 minute cruise, led by Aquarium educators, allows participants to collect and observe a variety of local fish and invertebrates up close. Watch as educators work the trawl net and talk about what they find in our waters! Tickets are \$20 for Aquarium members and \$22 for non-members, and are available on the [Aquarium's website](#) or at (757) 385-3474.

Craft Brews Cruise presented by Lager Heads

September 8, 7 p.m.

Come aboard the *Atlantic Explorer* for the final trip of the 2017 Craft Brews Cruise series presented by Lager Heads. During each two-hour trip, you will be treated to special beer selections from our Sensible Seafood program partners! Tickets are \$33 for Aquarium members and \$35 for non-members, and are available on the [Aquarium's website](#) or at (757) 385-3474.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Mentoring Young Scientists Information Night, September 15, 5:30 p.m.

Calling all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students interested in science! Join Aquarium educators to learn about this year's Mentoring Young Scientists program. This information night is free to attend

and will provide you with the background to complete the MYS application. You can find more information on the [Aquarium's website](#).

Creek Cleanup for International Coastal Cleanup, September 16, 9 a.m.

Join Virginia Aquarium volunteers as we participate in the International Coastal Cleanup: the world's largest volunteer effort to clean our ocean and waterways. To register, contact the Aquarium's volunteer office by noon on Monday, September 11 at aquavols@virginiaaquarium.com

Fall E-cycling, September 30, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The Virginia Aquarium, in partnership with Goodwill Industries, the City of Virginia Beach Public Works, and TFC Recycling, will offer its semi-annual E-cycling event once again. Drop off your personal electronics or household hazardous waste at the Virginia Aquarium East Parking Lot and be sure that it is recycled properly! There is no fee to drop off items, but donations are always appreciated. You can find a full list of accepted items on the [Aquarium's website](#).

What is Fear?, September 30, October 1, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

After you check out our newest changing exhibit, *Goosebumps: the Science of Fear*, join Aquarium educators in the classroom to learn more about the science of fear and why we are afraid of the unknown! This event is included in Aquarium admission.

Monster Madness & Creepy Creek, October 27, 6 to 9 p.m.

Dress in your Halloween best and join us for an evening of family friendly activities! Plus, for those who dare, take a trip around the Creepy Creek for an immersive, in-your-face Halloween experience! New this year, guests will be treated to a screening of *Room on the Broom*, included in your event admission. Tickets for this event are \$10 for Aquarium members and \$12 for not-yet members.

Climate and Weather Weekend, November 11 & 12, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Aquarium guests are invited to learn about the role that the ocean plays in our planet's changing climate and weather systems. This event is included in Aquarium admission.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 3D THEATER

Amazon Adventure 3D, daily

Learn the epic, true story of explorer Henry Bates' fascinating 11 year journey through the visually stunning and bio-diverse Amazon rainforest. Bates is a young man who risks his life for science in the 1850's. Tickets are \$7.95 per person, and are available on the [Aquarium's website](#).

Galapagos 3D, daily

In the vastness of the Pacific Ocean, there is a paradise unlike any other: the Galapagos. This story of discovery, of survival against the odds, and of nature's ingenuity will bring you up close with some of the most colorful and charismatic residents of these incredible islands. Tickets are \$7.95 per person, and are available on the [Aquarium's website](#).

Meerkats 3D, daily

Follow an extraordinary and adorable family that stands just 12 inches tall. Discover how these tiny, incredible meerkats survive in the harsh desert, all while led by the family's tenacious matriarch. Tickets are \$7.95 per person, and are available on the [Aquarium's website](#).

Room on the Broom, October 28 & 29, showtimes vary

This adorable short film follows a ginger-braided witch and her faithful pet cat who fly over the mountains, rivers, and forests without a care in the world – until the witch loses her hat! Tickets are \$7.95 per person, and will be available on the [Aquarium's website](#) beginning on October 1.

EXPERIENCE OUR NEWEST CHANGING EXHIBIT

Goosebumps: the Science of Fear! Opens for Members Sneak Peek on September 30, 8 to 9:30 a.m., Opens to the general public at 9:30 a.m.

Fear is one of the most powerful and natural responses in the living world, and it can make you react physically, emotionally, and socially! Learn all about fear and face some of your biggest fears in *Goosebumps: the Science of Fear!* Included with Aquarium admission.

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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