



PRESS RELEASE

MEDIA RELEASE

AQUARIUM OF THE BAY ACHIEVES ASSOCIATION OF ZOOS AND AQUARIUMS REACCREDITATION

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – March 15, 2017 - Aquarium of the Bay is proud to announce its reaccreditation by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). As an AZA-accredited institution, Aquarium of the Bay meets the highest standards in animal care, welfare and management, veterinary care, conservation, education, research, safety, guest services, and more.

To achieve this accreditation, Aquarium of the Bay underwent a thorough review to ensure it has and will continue to meet the ever-rising standards put in place by AZA. This rigorous reaccreditation process must be successfully completed every five years in order to remain members of the Association. Aquarium of the Bay has been accredited by AZA since 2004.

The accreditation process included a detailed application and a meticulous on-site inspection by a team of trained zoo and aquarium professionals that observed all aspects of the institution's operations. Following the on-site inspection, top Aquarium officials were interviewed at a formal hearing of AZA's independent Accreditation Commission before being granted accreditation.

Aquarium of the Bay staff is passionate about all the animals in the Aquarium and in the wild, and the animals' well-being is the Aquarium's top priority. The animals at Aquarium of the Bay receive state-of-the-art animal care, are fed a variety of human quality sustainable seafood, and are closely monitored by a veterinarian and staff for any health issues. The Aquarium also works to provide appropriately complex behavioral enrichments including toys, new scents, diverse food items, interactions with biologists, and more.

With a mission to protect San Francisco Bay and its watershed, Aquarium of the Bay is very active in conservation, with programs such as wetland restoration, sustainable seafood, beach cleanups, and more. Each time guests visit Aquarium of the Bay, 88% of their entry fees are used to support conservation projects.

Learn more about Aquarium of the Bay by visiting www.aquariumofthebay.org

About Aquarium of the Bay

Aquarium of the Bay is part of bay.org/ **Bay Ecotarium**, a not-for-profit nature center with a mission to protect, restore, and inspire conservation of San Francisco Bay and its watershed, from the Sierra to the sea. It is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), and certified as a Green Business by the city of San Francisco. Located next to the beautiful San Francisco Bay on PIER 39 known for the Sea Lions, Aquarium of the Bay is San Francisco's **only** waterfront aquarium. Dedicated

to diverse marine life and ecosystems of the Bay, it is home to more than 20,000 local animal species.
Additional information at bay.org.

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