



Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:
Seattle Aquarium

Address:
1483 Alaskan Way, Pier 59
Seattle, WA 98101

Contact:
(206) 386-4300
<https://www.seattleaquarium.org>

Organization's General Goals:

As the region's premier resource for hands-on marine experiences and conservation education, the Seattle Aquarium offers fun, exciting ways to discover more about the amazing Puget Sound and our world's one big ocean.

Date of Award:	Level:
2021 Q2	\$2,501 to \$5,000

For more information, please read the attached report from Seattle Aquarium.

8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271
TulipCares.org

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September 14, 2022

Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions
c/o Marilyn Sheldon
8802 27th Avenue NE
Tulalip, WA 98271



Dear Marilyn,

Thank you, Marilyn, and to Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions for last year's grant of \$[REDACTED] for general operating support. We are so grateful for the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions' exceptionally generous grant! Your partnership helps to create a knowledgeable, empathetic community of champions for marine life, leaving a lasting impact on the Aquarium, our visitors, and our one world ocean.

We are pleased to share some exciting updates about the Aquarium in the report below. Thank you for all you have done in support of our mission, *Inspiring Conservation of Our Marine Environment*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Davidson".

Bob Davidson
President & CEO

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Inspiring Conservation of Our Marine Environment

The Seattle Aquarium cultivates a connection to—and empathy for—marine life in the Salish Sea and beyond through exceptional education initiatives, awe-inspiring programs and critical conservation efforts. Since 1977, we have grown to be the largest marine education platform in the Pacific Northwest, welcoming 27 million visitors and 1.6 million K-12 students since our inception. We are steadily returning to our pre-pandemic capacity. Every year we engage with 800,000+ visitors from around the world in environmental education and conservation programming; our Conservation, Engagement and Learning department and School and Public Programs team serve over 40,000 students, teachers and chaperones annually. Our volunteers tracked over 60,000 conversations with locals along Salish Sea beaches and salmon-spawning rivers last year. We bring visitors of all ages face-to-face with animals they might never otherwise see, deepening empathy for wildlife to drive conservation action. We seek to cultivate an ocean ethic—an ethos of care and action on behalf of marine life—through ocean conservation education and inspiring encounters with marine life.

2021-22 Accomplishments and Updates

Our staff, volunteers and wildlife prove more resilient than ever as we rebuild from pandemic-related closures in 2020 and 2021. Visitors have been appreciative of the safety measures the Aquarium has provided since the height of the pandemic, including but not limited to, providing masks, hand sanitizer, social distancing markers for lines and crowds, plan-ahead pricing and timed ticket entry. As of August 28, 2022, we have had 540,598 visitors, which is over 150,000 more people than this time last year. We have 204 volunteers enrolled for our Beach Naturalist program. We are also currently working with 118 active Youth Ocean Advocates; 70 of whom are brand new to volunteering with the Aquarium.

The Beach Naturalist program continues to publish digital tools for a wider audience to engage with nearshore education and conservation actions, regardless of whether they are able to join beach walks. Resources include, but are not limited to, *Find it and Leave it Bingo* and digital field guides in a variety of languages, including the *Explore Our Puget Sound Beaches* mobile-friendly field guide. Multi-lingual field resources and activities have been added to the Beach Naturalist webpage in languages including English, Spanish, Amharic, Chinese, Somali, Spanish, Tagalog, Traditional Chinese, Simplified Chinese and Vietnamese.

Over the course of the last several years, the Aquarium has studied the role of empathy in driving conservation action. As part of our broader empathy-building initiatives and in partnership with Alison Grevstad, graphic designer, Brenda Peterson, author, and Ed Young, Caldecott Medal-winning artist, we created a book, “Catastrophe by the Sea.” The children’s book features a lost cat, Catastrophe, on the beach, who discovers an intertidal zone; readers follow along on Catastrophe’s journey as he learns about anemones, barnacles, and other intertidal friends and their superpowers. In November 2021, the Aquarium brought the book to life through a puppet show. The show is performed Friday through Monday, running approximately 15 minutes with time for guests afterward to ask questions and meet the characters.

Beginning in December 2021, we welcomed three new mammals to the Aquarium: Chiidax (pronounced CHEE-dak), a northern fur seal, Sekiu (pronounced seek-you), a northern sea otter, and Casey, a harbor seal. Shortly after welcoming these new mammals, we opened a new veterinary clinic in February 2022. Visitors can peer through a large window to see the Life Sciences team in action, connecting with all types of animals—fish, invertebrates, birds and mammals—in ways they might never have before.

In spring 2022, we opened a new virtual reality exhibit in which visitors can swim with humpback whales. Visitors can sit back and enjoy an immersive, virtual underwater experience, featuring an informative narration about the species.

Summer camps are back for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. Excitingly, all camps are full and at pre-pandemic capacity. Campers join the Aquarium for five days a week to explore underwater wonders up close. While playing games and taking part in activities, campers also learn how we can all protect our one world ocean. The camp season runs June 27 to August 26, 2022. Marine Summer Camps are Monday through Friday, 9am – 4pm for all camps. We have four camp themes this summer: *Follow the Food Web*, *Kelp Researchers*, *Science Saving Species*, and *Careers in Conservation*.

Finally, our Conservation Programs and Partnerships team has also made several strides in the *Stegostoma tigrinum* Augmentation and Recovery (StAR) Project—an international collaborative effort to recover Indo-Pacific leopard sharks. After completing a workshop series with the IUCN SSC Conservation Planning Specialist Group, the team landed on a recovery target of 500 adult sharks for the population in Raja Ampat, Indonesia over the next 10 years.

In mid-August, seven Indo-Pacific leopard shark eggs arrived at the Raja Ampat Research and Conservation Center shark nursery in Indonesia—a major milestone for the project. As the project’s husbandry working group co-chair and steering committee chair, the Aquarium’s Tim Carpenter and Dr. Erin Meyer traveled to Indonesia to prepare the nursery and support the eggs’ arrival from SEA LiFE Sydney Aquarium. The Ocean Pavilion will be home to the parents of future eggs sent to Indonesia—advancing our global species recovery and ocean conservation efforts.

One Ocean, One Future

We have also made several strides in our *One Ocean, One Future* campaign. The Seattle Aquarium is undertaking the most ambitious campaign in our history. Through a multiphase, organization-wide transformation of our physical campus and our programming, we will significantly expand our work—engaging more than 1.5 million people every year in robust ocean conservation education and inspiring encounters with marine life. In the first phase of our transformation, we will create the new Ocean Pavilion, an iconic center for ocean advocacy that will invite visitors to explore new corners of our ocean and understand how our actions affect our ocean and planet. We will also expand our conservation initiatives here in Seattle and around the globe, as well as become the world’s first climate-positive, regenerative aquarium campus.

Phase 2 construction—securing the Ocean Pavilion foundation and laying utilities—was completed on time and on budget! In July, construction moved into phase 3 which entails completing underground mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, the water reservoirs, building of the life support system areas, the vertical building structure including concrete supports, formwork, iron work and concrete installation of the 350,000-gallon warm water reef habitat and for the coral archipelago exhibits, and installation of the large acrylic window for The Reef exhibit. We have raised 65% toward our fundraising goal of \$160M.