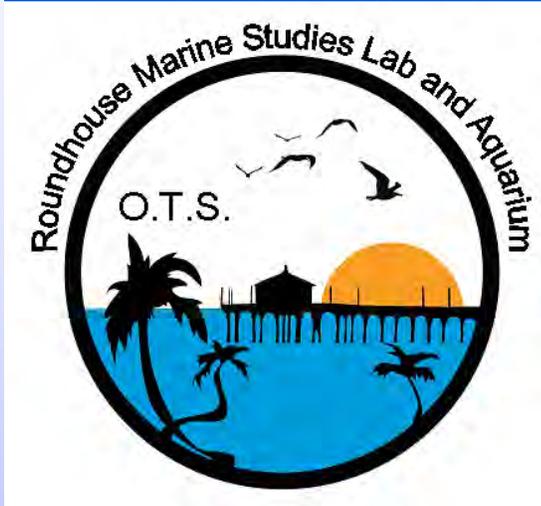


Oceanographic Teaching Stations Roundhouse Aquarium

Annual Report 2011-2012



Roundhouse Aquarium
PO Box 1
Manhattan Beach, CA 90267
310-379-8117
Roundhouse.aquarium@gmail.com
Roundhouseaquarium.org
Located at the end of the
Manhattan Beach Pier.

Mission:

The specific and primary purposes are to foster and promote the public study of, and interest in, the oceans, tidelands and beaches of Southern California, the marine life therein, and the impact of human populations on that environment.



Thanks to all our supporters last year! With your help, we were able to continue and improve our three primary programs: Student Education Program, Volunteer Program, and Public Education Program.

We were able to spread oceanic and environmental awareness to over 125,000 people of all ages.

Please look inside to learn more about our accomplishments for the 2011-2012 year, and goals for next year.

STUDENT EDUCATION PROGRAMS

On-site education program:

Students from pre-k through high school travel to the Roundhouse for a hands-on educational experience focused on marine science and environmental education.



- 14,794 students participated in our student education programs last year.
- Over 80% of our on-site field trip classes were free to the schools, funded through foundation grants the Roundhouse received.
- Of the 3,422 students surveyed who attended grant funded field trips, 25% had never been to the beach before their field trip.
- Before their field trip, 63% of students surveyed reported having thrown trash on the ground. After the field trip 77% of students surveyed reported picking up trash.

We also have many partnerships that help our programs shine. Through a collaborative partnership called Key to the Sea, we work with other local aquariums and Heal the Bay to provide free curriculum and training to teachers to ensure that ocean and environmental education does not end with their field trip. Students are able to use their trip to make connections throughout the year.



During the summer months the education continues with our summer camp programs. Kids enjoy the fun of camp while learning about the ocean.



STUDENT EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Outreach Education Program:

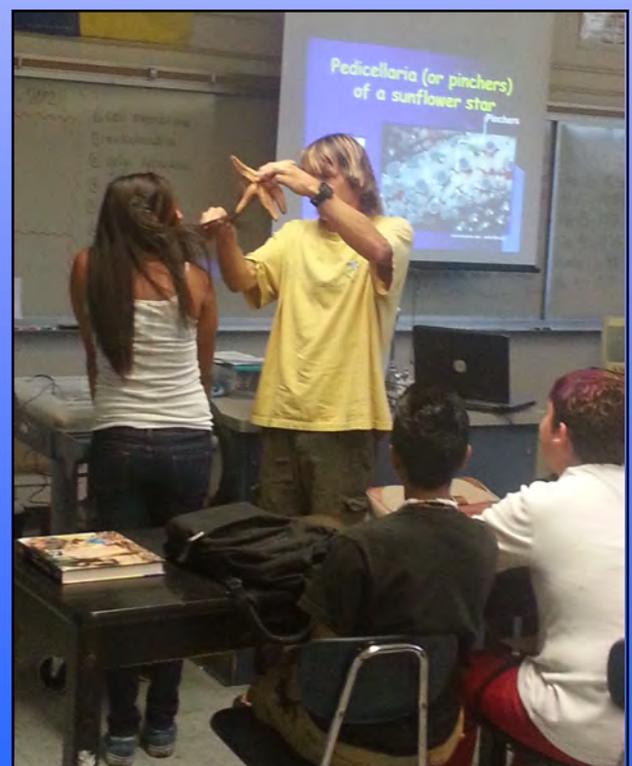
Some schools aren't able to attend field trips to the Roundhouse, so we bring the Roundhouse to them! Through our outreach program we travel with hands-on activities, live animals, and our instructors to bring marine science and environmental education into their classrooms.

- We taught 57 outreach programs during the 2011-2012 school year.
- We were able to participate in community events and share our animals and education with the public (pictured right).
- We visited schools near and far, including schools in Burbank, Whittier, Los Angeles, and Sherman Oaks.
- We hired a new part-time educator, Brittney Olaes, to assist with our growing outreach program.



Thanks to the generous donation from the Manhattan Beach Property Owners Association we have been able to travel to most schools at no charge.

Through a partnership with the Central Basin Water District, we brought our program to high school students in their district at no charge to the schools. Students learn about marine mammals, water, and pollution. They also do dissections and touch live animals in our touch tank. Last year we taught 32 programs at 7 different high schools.



PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Roundhouse is open to the public 7 days a week at no charge. Each year, over 125,000 visitors from around the world come to the Roundhouse to interact with the animals, displays, staff, and volunteers to learn about the ocean and environment.



- We created new displays and signs for our new animals.
- We improved our Sea Story Time crafts, giving kids a chance to learn more and take home a great memory from the aquarium.
- We were featured in the local paper after two great white shark sightings off our pier. We used the photos (left) and publicity to educate the public about these animals.

ANIMAL & TANK UPDATES

The beautiful animals and fantastic displays are what draw people to the aquarium. Most of our animals are native to the area that surrounds the Roundhouse, however, this year we branched out and added a few new animals to enhance our visitors educational experiences.



- We designed and constructed a new tank display to feature sea jellies and other delicate marine life.
- We introduced an Amazon aquarium with fresh water fish.
- We created a coral display with some warm water coral aquariums.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Our small staff relies heavily on volunteers to assist with tank maintenance, facility care, animal care, and public education.



Volunteers are not only a huge asset to the Roundhouse, but also gain a lot from the experience, including:

- Public speaking skills
- Animal husbandry skills
- Marine biology knowledge
- Environmental knowledge
- Leadership experience
- Time management skills
- Communication skills
- Working in a team
- Social skills
- Building good work ethics
- Life skills

From the volunteers:

"I am currently a junior at Mira Costa High School and the Roundhouse Aquarium has completely and forever changed my life. Marine organisms have always fascinated me but before volunteering at the Roundhouse I had no tangible experiences with them. At first I was really hesitant to join the Roundhouse team, but almost immediately I felt completely welcome and challenged to learn more about the field of study I love so much. I think educating the public can be one of the most important things to do while at the roundhouse. People from all walks of life, education and background step into the aquarium and if I can just tell them one thing they didn't know or get them to say "oh that's cool" or "thank you" my day is made." - Stephanie, high school volunteer.

The Roundhouse has helped foster my love of marine life, and, of course, the ocean!! I really enjoy learning about all of the animals, as well as how to care for and protect them. One of my favorite activities at the Roundhouse is sharing my love for all of these wonderful creatures with the public! It's super fun to see people's faces light up when they learn how a sea star eats or why fish have lateral lines! Volunteering at the Roundhouse is fun, educational, and rewarding! - Lauren, high school volunteer

- We hired a new Volunteer Coordinator, Laura Gill. She came to us from UCSC (B.S. Marine Biology).
- Volunteers donated over 6,863 hours last year.
- During Coastal Cleanup Day 2012 over 200 pounds of trash were removed from Manhattan Beach beaches by over 350 volunteers.



FUTURE GOALS

We've already started working on improving the Roundhouse during the 2012-2013 year. Our goals for this year include:

- Replace all our downstairs lights with more energy efficient LED lights.
- Partner with more local organizations to increase our educational reach.
- Increase the number of students who participate in our Student Education Program.
- Update our Student Education and Public Education programs to include new videos and photos taken by our co-director.
- Obtain funding to provide transportation funding to schools with limited resources so they can participate in field trips to the Roundhouse.

ROUNDHOUSE STAFF

Eric Martin - Facilities Director and Educational Co-Director

Valerie Hill - Administrative Director and Educational Co-Director

Laura Gill - **Volunteer Coordinator, Educator, and Directors' Assistant**

Dawn Martin - Administrator

Brittney Olaes - Operations Assistant, Educator, and Aquarist Assistant

Stacy Hammond - Operations Assistant

O.T.S. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Matt Friedman - President

Dick Fruin - Secretary

Chuck Milam - Treasurer

Lynne Gross

Hal Cohn

Gene Souva

Richard Joel

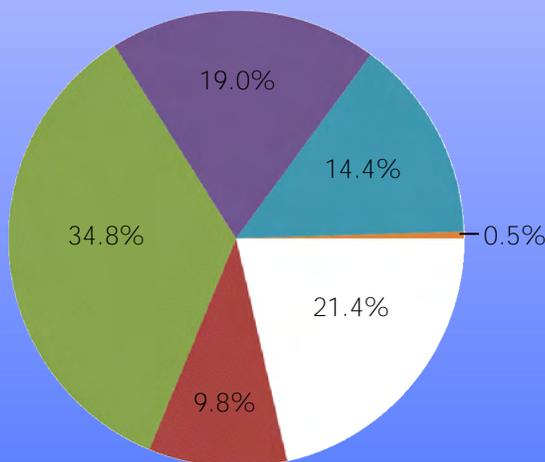
David Lloyd

John Corrales

Janet Soliman-Suard

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY: SEPTEMBER 1, 2011 - AUGUST 30, 2012

Revenue - \$271,977



Expenses - \$262,736

