



CLEARWATER MARINE AQUARIUM

PRESS RELEASE

Clearwater Marine Aquarium to host families of soldiers lost in battle

Clearwater, FL (February 5, 2016) – Clearwater Marine Aquarium (CMA), a marine life rescue center, will host the local chapter of American Goldstar Mothers Inc. (Gold Star Moms) on Saturday, February 6, for a special visit. Media are invited to cover this occasion, beginning at 11am.

American Goldstar Mothers Inc. is an organization committed to women who have lost a son or daughter in the military services. The association of mothers honor their children's sacrifice in providing services for veterans and participating in patriotic events.

CMA first began collaborating with Gold Star Mom's in 2012 regarding the family of Staff Sgt. Matthew Sitton. Matthew had planned to bring his wife and newborn son to see Winter the dolphin upon his scheduled return. He died before this wish could be realized. After this devastating loss, CMA reached out to the family, brought them in to meet Winter, and raised money for his son's education. This Saturday, Matthew's parents will return to the aquarium to connect with other parents who have lost children in combat.

American Goldstar Mothers Inc. will be conducting their meeting at 11am, followed by lunch and a special presentation on Winter's overcoming story by CMA CEO, David Yates.

Details:

Where: Clearwater Marine Aquarium, 249 Windward Passage, Clearwater

When: 11am

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About Clearwater Marine Aquarium:

Clearwater Marine Aquarium (CMA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit working marine rescue center dedicated to preserving our marine life and environment while inspiring the human spirit through leadership in education, research, rescue, rehabilitation and release. CMA is home to rescued dolphins, sea turtles, river otters, stingrays, nurse sharks and more. Winter the dolphin's story of survival, after injury that caused her to lose her tail, has impacted millions of people around the world. A major motion picture, *Dolphin Tale*, highlighted her life story in 2011. The sequel, *Dolphin Tale 2*, was released in September 2014 and features the incredible story of Hope, a young resident dolphin of CMA. The mission and potential to change people's lives differentiates Clearwater Marine Aquarium from every other aquarium in the world.

WE BELIEVE in preserving our marine life and environment while inspiring the human spirit through leadership in education, research, rescue, rehabilitation, and release.

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A Florida non-profit 501(c)(3) organization