



CLEARWATER MARINE
AQUARIUM™
PRESS RELEASE

Clearwater Marine Aquarium to hold Groundbreaking Ceremony

CMA will remain open during construction period

Clearwater, FL (September 8, 2016) – Clearwater Marine Aquarium (CMA) will host a private groundbreaking ceremony for its planned expansion on Monday, September 12th at 9:30am. Media is invited to cover the event.

The expansion will feature a 400 space parking garage, two four-story buildings for education and guest space, a large 1.5 million gallon rescued dolphin habitat and a pelican habitat. The aquarium is also looking into privatizing part of the adjacent waterway for a natural habitat for CMA's rescued marine life.

The expansion includes substantially more space for CMA's rescued animals and approximately 100,000 square feet of new guest space. CMA will remain fully open during all phases of the expansion, with no close dates and all guest activities open at all times.

The groundbreaking ceremony will include a brief presentation from aquarium CEO, David Yates, regarding the expansion benefits for guests and CMA's resident animals.

Essential Details for Attending Media:

Date: Monday, September 12th

Time: 9:30am-10:00am

Location: Bright House Networks Theater, Clearwater Marine Aquarium, 249 Windward Passage, Clearwater

Parking is available at St. Brendan Catholic Church, CMA staff will direct and assist.

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About Clearwater Marine Aquarium:

Clearwater Marine Aquarium (CMA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit working marine rescue center dedicated to 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 the 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 any other aquarium in the world.

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

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