



worldoceanfestival

Organized By:



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In Support Of:



World Ocean Festival Calls Climate Action Heroes to New York on June 4

Supporters of the #ParisAgreement, Climate Activists and Ocean Lovers to March on New York's Waterways and Governors Island for @WorldOceanFest

@WorldOceanFest @Gov_Island dedicated to #SaveOurOcean in support of the UN #SDGs because #ClimateChangeisReal

NEW YORK CITY – June 1, 2017 – On **June 4, 2017**, supporters of united action against Climate Change and in the pursuit of the global Sustainable Development Goals including ocean-focused [Sustainable Development Goal 14](#) will take to the waterways of New York Harbor and to the shores of Governors Island to send a message to world leaders to #saveourocean.

The inaugural [World Ocean Festival](#), organized by **The Global Brain Foundation** and hosted by the [City of New York](#), will feature leading marine biologists, ocean advocates, entrepreneurs, and more speaking at a free, public program. The Festival is an effort to bring together people and organizations who care deeply about the ocean and who will stand together for its protection in advance of “The Ocean Conference” at the United Nations (June 5-9).

"The effects of climate change are no longer a question - it is a reality that we must proactively take action to mitigate and reduce our contributions to," said Michael Samuelian, President and CEO of the Trust for Governors Island. "As a fragile island destination surrounded by New York Harbor, Governors Island is proud to strongly advocate for the health of our waters and support the World Ocean Festival."

"In the midst of dangerously shifting political tides on Climate Change here in the U.S., the need for action to save the ocean is more pressing than ever," said Natalia Vega-Berry. "We must come together and face our future with collaboration and positive action. Now, is the time to raise our voices."

World Ocean Festival Activities Include:

- **Ocean Marches (New York Harbor):** The World Ocean Festival includes the first-of-its-kind march on the waterways of New York to send a message of support for our world's ocean. Boats will gather near Pier 64 on the Hudson River Sunday, June 4 starting at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time. The historic John J. Harvey fireboat will lead the march through the water

beginning at 12:00 p.m. Boats will round the tip of Governors Island at approximately 1:00 p.m. and then head up the East River to finish in front of United Nations Headquarters at approximately 2:30 p.m. For safety, boats must register online to participate at: <http://www.worldoceanfest.org>. **Satellite Ocean Marches** are being organized in **Guadalajara, Mexico, Tenerife, Philippines, Australia, Myanmar, Nepal, Batam, Indonesia** with Bali-based World Ocean Festival supporter and leading ocean activist organization Bye Bye Plastic Bags.

- **Ocean Village (Governors Island):** On Governors Island, there will be a Youth Rally and land march as well as exhibits, awards and activities at Ocean Village on the Island's southern tip: Picnic Point. The *World Ocean Festival Speaker Forum sponsored by National Geographic Encounter: Ocean Odyssey* will feature interactive panel discussions with leading ocean experts, entrepreneurs, scientists and advocates on the topics of Coral Reefs and Climate Change, Plastic Pollution, Fishing and Seafood and Urban Ocean Conservation from 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time. The program is free and open to the public at the Ocean Village exhibition area at Picnic Point at the southern tip of Governors Island. The program will be capped off with a closing ceremony – featuring remarks by world renowned ocean scientist and advocate Dr. Sylvia Earle.

The full program of activities on June 4 can be found online at the World Ocean Festival website with registration information and a detailed [program listing and speaker bios](#). The program schedule is:

EXHIBITS & ACTIVITIES

10:00 am - 5:00 pm:

Exhibitors - National Geographic, The Nature Conservancy, Wildlife Conservation Society, Hello Fresh, Monterey Bay Aquarium; Seafood Watch Program, Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation VR Lounge, Lonely Whale Foundation, Mission Blue, Oceanic, FundingtheOcean.org, NYC Junior Ambassadors, NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY, Peace Boat, Surfriders Foundation, Billion Oysters Project, Harbor School, Riverkeepers, Waterfront Alliance, Clearwater, Second Muse, Peter Lynn Kites, Bye Bye Plastic Bags, Heirs to Our Oceans, Sea Youth Rise Up

Speaker Forum - Morning Session

brought to you by National Geographic Encounter: Ocean Odyssey

11:00 - 12:00 pm: CORAL REEFS & CLIMATE

INAUGURAL CEREMONY & AWARDS

12:00 - 12:30 pm: Presented by H.E. Mr. Peter Thomson, President of the UN General Assembly City of New York, The Nature Conservancy, Toyota, and others

OCEAN MARCH VIEWING

12:30 - 1:00 pm: Fijian Military Band and the Youth Rally

YOUTH RALLY

11:30 am: YOUTH GATHERING STARTING AT CASTLE WILLIAMS ON GOVERNORS ISLAND

1:00 - 1:15 pm: YOUTH RALLY & REMARKS

1:30 - 1:45 pm: YOUTH VOICES FOR THE OCEAN

Speaker Forum - Afternoon Session

brought to you by National Geographic Encounter: Ocean Odyssey

1:30 - 2:40 pm: PLASTIC POLLUTION

2:40 - 3:30 pm: FISHING & SEAFOOD

3:30 - 4:30 pm: URBAN OCEAN CONSERVATION

CLOSING CEREMONY

Dr. Sylvia Earle & World Ocean Festival Founders

4:30 - 5:00 pm

World Ocean Festival Supporters

The City of New York and [The Global Brain](#) are joined by leaders in ocean conservation, advocacy, and sustainable development our Founding Partners [Mission Blue](#), [Ocean Elders](#), [Oceanic](#) and [The Nature Conservancy](#). This event is made possible by support from Founding Sponsor Toyota USA, creator of the Mirai fuel cell vehicle and [National Geographic](#).

Core Supporters of the World Ocean Festival include [Peace Boat](#), [Connect4Climate](#), [Ocean Collectiv](#) and [NGO Committee of Sustainable Development-NY](#). Additional supporters include: [Classic Harbor Line](#), [Conscious Good](#), [Ocean Film Festival](#), [Style & Resilience](#), [TerraCycle](#), [Waterkeeper Alliance](#), [AEFocus](#), [Connect 4 Climate](#), [NGO Committee of Sustainable Development-NY](#), [Metcalf Institute](#), [Sustainable Ocean Alliance](#), [We Are The Oceans](#), [Clean Seas](#), [Bye Bye Plastics](#), [Monterey Bay Aquarium](#), [National Educators Association](#), [Mukaro](#), [RiseUP](#), [Blue Mind](#), [The Foundation Center](#), [Waterfront Alliance](#), [Sailors for the Sea](#), [Earth Day Network](#), [The Lonely Whale Foundation](#), [Sea Youth Rise Up](#), [Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation](#), [Blue Ocean Network](#), [Second Muse](#), [Wildlife Conservation Society](#), [NYC Junior Ambassadors](#), [World Oceans Day](#), [Big Blue and You](#), [Youth Ocean Conservation Summit](#), [The Ocean Project](#), [One Ocean FM](#), [We Journey](#), [Form and Matter](#), and [Global Access Partner](#).

The World Ocean Festival is a public event hosted by the City of New York and organized by [The Global Brain Foundation](#) to raise peoples' voices for the preservation and sustainable use of the Ocean ([Sustainable Development Goal 14](#)) in advance of the [The Ocean Conference](#) at United Nations Headquarters, which aims to be the game changer that will reverse the decline in the health of our ocean for people, planet and prosperity. For more information about the World Ocean Festival and to register for the Ocean March on June 4, 2017, visit: <http://www.worldoceanfest.org/> or follow us on Twitter [@WorldOceanFest](#), on Instagram [@WorldOceanFestival](#), and on Facebook [@WorldOceanFestival](#).

*****NOTE *** Press is invited to board earlier ferries from Manhattan beginning at 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Ferries are also available from Brooklyn starting at 11:00 a.m. Press are encouraged to RSVP for waived fare (ann@globalbrain.is).**

About:

The Trust for Governors Island is the nonprofit corporation created by the City of New York that is responsible for the redevelopment and operation of 150 acres of Governors Island. The Trust's mission is to transform Governors Island into a vibrant resource for New York City, making this island at the center of New York Harbor a destination with extraordinary public open space, as well as educational, not-for-profit and commercial facilities. For more information, visit <http://www.govisland.com/>.

The Global Brain Foundation is a 501 C3 not for profit corporation. Our mission is to create new initiatives and ventures to tackle issues where mass participation and collective action can unlock big change. Our current initiatives are in support of the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals and new climate agreements. To learn more, visit: <http://www.globalbrain.is/>.

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