

SCIENCE

Join us for a night under the stars at Kennedy Space Center. Hubbs will be honoring Women in Science throughout Central Florida, who have dedicated their life's work to finding solutions for a promising future.

Date: Thursday April 16th, 2020

Time: **6:00pm to 8:30pm**Location: **Ken**nedy **Space Center**

Tickets, sponsorship/underwriting opportunities and more can be found at

discoverfloridasoceans.com/seathestars

Program Schedule:

6:00 PM Registration and reception in the rocket garden.

7:00 PM Welcome address

7:05 PM Ocean Champion award

7:10 PM Young Women in Science &

Conservation awards

7:15 PM Keynote

7:35 PM Silent auction winner's announcement

8:00 PM Closing

About Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute (HSWRI)

Sea the Stars Benefit will encompass a night under the stars at Kennedy Space Center. Hubbs will be honoring Women in Science throughout Central Florida, who have dedicated their life's work to finding solutions for a promising

future. We will have live music, great food, a silent auction with one of a kind items, reports on marine science findings and will be presenting our prestigious Ocean Champion award to a member of our Brevard marine science community.

Located in Melbourne Beach, HSWRI provides 24-hr stranding response for whales and dolphins in distress along the Indian River Lagoon. We investigate why strandings occur and monitor the success of rehabilitated animals returned to sea. When a stranding occurs in Brevard or Volusia counties, HSWRI scientists are the first responders to provide assistance to live animals and to examine and collect samples from dead animals. HSWRI conducts vital research on samples taken from these animals in order to investigate life-threatening diseases that affect both marine life and humans. This research informs Indian River Lagoon managers of potential actions to conserve bottlenose dolphins and other marine life. Understanding and preventing diminished marine animal health and widespread mortality events among marine mammals, seabirds, fish and sharks are some of our top priorities.

HSWRI is responsible for stranding response in one of the most active areas for cetacean strandings in the Southeastern United States (SEUS) covering ~124 miles of the Indian River Lagoon and surrounding estuarine waters, the largest stranding area in the state of Florida. Our team works diligently to assess dolphin health and to better understand population ecology

Please visit http://discoverfloridasoceans.com/ for more information about our work in Central Florida.

Our five core program areas:

- 1. Ocean Health
- 2. Wildlife Populations
- 3. Animal Behavior
- 4. Sustainable Seafood
- 5. Education & Outreach

We operate from three (3)

laboratory / hatcheries:

- Indian River Lagoon in Melbourne Beach, FL
- Mission Bay in San Diego, CA (Headquarters)
- Aqua Hedonia Lagoon in Carlsbad CA

Our purpose for hosting this event:

- 1. Strengthen relationships and support in Brevard County.
- 2. Provide donor and sponsor recognition.
- 3. Spotlight our mission, programs and research focused on the Indian River Lagoon and surrounding water bodies.
- 4. Extol mission partners, advocates and champions.
- 5. Raise brand awareness.