



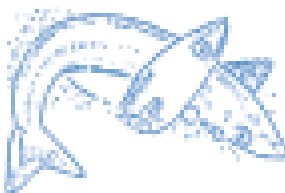
Grunions on the beach.

Grand Grunion Gala

■ Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium to host annual gala.

REC AND PARKS — Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium (FCMA) plans to host the annual Grand Gala on Sat., May 13 at Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, 3720 Stephen M. White Dr., San Pedro. An expected 450 guests will attend the black-tie affair, including business and community leaders, scientists, civic officials, and educators. The event is FCMA's largest fundraiser, benefiting the Aquarium's educational programs, exhibits and displays. The gala raised more than \$250,000 in 2005.

This year's recipient of the John M. Olguin Marine Environment Award is Dr. Jeremy Jackson, professor of Oceanography at Scripps Institute of Oceanography and Senior Scientist at the Smithsonian Tropical Institute



in the Republic of Panama. The award will be given in recognition of Dr. Jackson's leadership and extensive research in coral reef ecologies, and the decline of coastal ecosystems due to historical overfishing. Dr. Jeremy Jackson was a Professor of Ecology at the Johns Hopkins University from 1971 to 1985. He has authored five books and more than 100 scientific publications. Most recently, Dr. Jackson was a founding member of Shifting Baselines, a nonprofit organization that creates partnerships between influential Hollywood figures and ocean conservation to help bring awareness to the serious issue of ocean decline.

The United States Coast Guard (USCG), Sector Los Angeles- Long Beach will be presented with the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium Leadership Award for its initiatives in marine conservation. The USCG is the first line of defense to any environmental disaster at the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, overseeing the clean-up and mitigation of oil discharges and hazardous material releases, processing violation cases for those responsible for such discharge, and working with environmental education to develop community awareness of maritime pollution issues. The USCG has also established a national mandatory ballast water management program for all vessels that enter or operate within U.S. waters to reduce the introduction and spread of non-native aquatic species.

The Gala features both a silent and live auction. This year's live auction includes a 10- night Galapagos Islands voyage, courtesy of Lindblad Expeditions. Other supporters include Great Bear Nature Tours, Holland America, Mike Ball Dive Expeditions, Body Glove, Southwest Airlines and Princess Cruises. The Crowne Plaza Los Angeles Harbor Hotel is the gala's official hotel sponsor, offering guests a discounted room rate. The 2006 Gala Event Chair is Paula Moore.

The Grand Grunion Gala is open to the public by reservation only. Tickets are \$175 per person. For more information about ads, auction donations, event tickets and volunteer information call (310) 548-8396.

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