

AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC

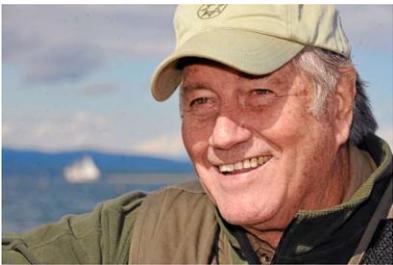
Blue Whale Gala

HONOREE BIOS

In celebration of our environment and the individuals and organizations making important contributions to conserving Earth's resources, the Aquarium of the Pacific will present the prestigious Ocean Conservation Award to Jack Dangermond and Jim Fowler.



Jack Dangermond is the founder and president of GIS (geographic information systems) services and software firm Esri. He is an environmental scientist, entrepreneur, and pioneer in using data to create a better future. He studied environmental science at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, urban planning at the University of Minnesota, and landscape architecture at Harvard. He has served on NASA's Science and Technology Advisory Committee, and the University Consortium for Geographic Information Science (UCGIS) elected Dangermond as one of its 2012 fellows. His honors include the British Cartographic Society Medal received in 2013, the United Nations' Champions of the Earth Award in 2013, *The Economist* magazine's Innovation Award in 2012, and the National Geographic Society's Alexander Graham Bell Medal in 2010. Dangermond also has an interest in education and has worked to make GIS and spatial analysis tools an integral part of elementary education. In 2012 Esri launched the Ocean GIS Initiative to provide effective mapping tools and techniques to better understand the ocean. This will aid in responding to disasters like oil spills and tsunamis and assist in the implementation of the U.S. National Ocean Policy. The initiative will focus on ocean science and resource management by analyzing five main areas: research and exploration, ecosystems and environment, coastal protection and marine spatial planning, fisheries and aquaculture management, and recreation and adventure.



Jim Fowler has been an educator, advocate, and spokesman for wildlife and conservation all over the world. Best known as the host of the pioneering wildlife television series, *Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom*, Fowler has dedicated his life to educating the public about the importance of wildlife and wilderness. Fowler was the official wildlife correspondent for NBC's *The Today Show* for several decades. He also made more than forty appearances on *The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson*, as he brought various animals on the show. In 1997 Fowler joined Discovery Communication's *Animal Planet* as a wildlife expert and launched the television program *Jim Fowler's Life in the Wild* in 2000. In 1998 the Environmental Media Association presented Fowler with their first-ever Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his strong support and on-going commitment to the environment. In 2003 Fowler was the recipient of the Lindbergh Award for his forty years of dedication to wildlife preservation and education. In numerous public appearances at schools and wildlife organizations around the country, Fowler has used his knowledge and work with animals to illustrate the importance of conservation.