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Digital Images Available Upon Request

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC OFFERS A FISH-EYE VIEW WITH ITS NEW PAY-TO-DIVE PROGRAM

***For the first time, Aquariums guests are invited to dive into its largest exhibit
with over 2,000 animals***

WHAT: Want to dive Palau with perfect visibility and conditions and a guarantee of seeing thousands of animals but without the major travel expenses? You can do this and more without having to leave the states. For the first-time ever, general certified divers are now invited to dive into the Aquarium of the Pacific's largest exhibit. Guests will have the opportunity to journey into the warm, 350,000-gallon Tropical Reef Habitat to meet more than 2,000 tropical animals, including an olive Ridley sea turtle, bonnethead and zebra sharks, cownose rays, a Queensland grouper, and much more.

In this two and a half hour experience, divers will also get a personal behind-the-scenes tour of the Aquarium's dive program, including an inside look of what it takes to manage one of the largest aquariums in the United States. As part of their dive inside the Tropical Reef Habitat they will have full use of an underwater camera and will receive a certificate of completion, souvenir towel, and a memory card of their photos to take home. Before participating in the program, participants will be able to explore the Aquarium and meet over 11,000 animals, including sharks they can touch and colorful Australian birds they can feed. All equipment is provided.

WHO: For ages 15 years or older. Ages 15 to 17 require accompanying supervising adult. Current and valid diver certification and I.D. or driver's license required. Limit four participants per session.

WHEN: **Diving starts June 1, 2010 from 3:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m., daily.**

WHERE: Aquarium of the Pacific, 100 Aquarium Way, Long Beach, CA 90802

COST: \$299 per person and \$279 for Aquarium members (includes Aquarium admission)

INFO: 562-590-3100 or visit www.aquariumofpacific.org or http://www.aquariumofpacific.org/education/programdetails/dive_immersion/

SPONSORS: Sherwood Scuba and Olympus

AQUARIUM: The Aquarium of the Pacific is the fourth largest aquarium in the nation. It displays over 11,000 animals in more than 50 exhibits that represent the diversity of the Pacific Ocean. The Aquarium of the Pacific was the first among museums, zoos, and aquariums in the nation to register its greenhouse gases and is a leader in green practices with a commitment to grow without increasing its carbon footprint. In 2009 the Aquarium was awarded the Super Nova Star Award for being the nation's most energy-efficient business with revenues under \$50 million. It was proud to partner with the Pacific Life Foundation to launch Seafood for the Future in 2009. The Aquarium is open daily from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. (except Dec. 25 and during the Grand Prix April 16-18, 2010).

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