



For Immediate Release

Contact: Marilyn Padilla
Aquarium of the Pacific
(562)951-1684
mpadilla@lbaop.org
Digital Images Available Upon Request

AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC INVITES YOU TO EXPERIENCE ITS NEW EXHIBITION
ARCTIC & ANTARCTIC: OUR POLAR REGIONS IN PERIL

**Learn about the impact of climate change on the polar regions
and its effects on human, plant, and animal life**

***Touch sea jellies, and see polar animals up-close as you journey to the Earth's icy extremes
in the Aquarium's newest interactive exhibition***

WHAT: The Aquarium of the Pacific invites you to journey to the Earth's icy extremes as you experience its new interactive exhibition on the Arctic and Antarctic. Featuring polar animals, exhibits will house various species such as Alaska king crabs, feather stars, anchovies, Arctic char, and more. An interactive touch tank will even allow visitors to reach in and touch moon jellies. The charismatic Arctic fox will be featured in an exhibit near Lorikeet Forest and will participate as a program animal in daily shows for the public.

In addition to the animals, the new "Arctic & Antarctic: Our Polar Regions in Peril" gallery will feature numerous illustrations and videos on the many ways climate change is affecting the polar regions and the resulting impacts on local and global scales. Aquarium staff will be available to answer questions in the gallery and is dedicated to educating visitors about the potential causes, consequences, and solutions of this imminent environmental issue. Also featured as part of the new Arctic and Antarctic programs are a new short film in the Great Hall, a feature film in the Honda Theater, and an interactive educational program in the Marine Life Theater.

Global climate change is one of the most pressing issues of our time, and its effects on our environment and weather patterns are becoming clearer. Warmer temperatures in the Arctic and Antarctic are causing environmental changes that affect the regions' plants, animals, and people. The Aquarium invites the public to learn what can be done to help protect these unique ecosystems and their inhabitants that are falling victim to some of the earliest and most severe impacts of climate change.

WHEN: **Public Opening: May 28, 2011 / Press Preview: May 26, 2011 at 10 a.m.**

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

INFO: **562-590-3100 or www.aquariumofpacific.org**

PRESS RSVP: RSVP to Marilyn Padilla, Aquarium of the Pacific, 562-951-1684, mpadilla@lbaop.org

AQUARIUM: The Aquarium of the Pacific, a nonprofit institution, is dedicated to instilling a sense of wonder, respect, and stewardship for the Pacific Ocean, its inhabitants, and ecosystems. The Aquarium is open daily from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. (closed Dec. 25 and three days in April for the Grand Prix).

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