



Education and Exhibits Update: November 14, 2018

1. This month, Director of Education Dr. Zack Jud submitted **two additional grant proposals** to support Florida Oceanographic Society's educational initiatives. One proposal, submitted to the Sea Turtle Conservancy in the amount of **\$23,462**, will allow us to initiate a sea turtle-themed outreach program at local hotels and condominiums. The other proposal, submitted to the Lawrence Foundation in the amount of **\$5,940**, will increase our capacity to provide no-cost field trips to socioeconomically disadvantaged students as part of the Deserving Kids to the Coast program. So far this fall, we have written and submitted **5 grant proposals totaling \$69,402** (plus \$1,000 in fishing equipment).
2. The **Deserving Kids to the Coast program** kicked off for the 2018-19 school year with a no-cost field trip for 40 students and teachers from Weatherbee Elementary, a Title I school in Ft. Pierce. This grant-supported program provides free educational field trips to the Coastal Center for socioeconomically disadvantaged students. Two additional Deserving Kids to the Coast field trips are scheduled for November. This round of free field trips was supported by a grant from the **Andrew and Robin Hunt Philanthropic Fund**.
3. We debuted completely **redesigned curricula for 1st and 3rd grade educational field trips**. Education Specialist Nicole Harper has worked all fall to rewrite these curricula, creating more interactive field trips that touch on a greater number of state educational standards. By strengthening our alignment with state educational standards, we hope to increase field trip participation.
4. The FOS **Virtual Field Trip Program** led a lesson for an **undergraduate oceanography class at Bentley University in Waltham, Mass.** This fee-based Virtual Field Trip generated \$125 for FOS. While we use grant support to provide no-cost Virtual Field Trips whenever possible, we do offer a fee-based option when grant funding is not available.
5. For the fourth year in a row, the Education Department partnered with the Development Department to run a shark and ray-themed educational outreach display at the **Indian River Lagoon Science Festival** in Fort Pierce. This year, Nicole and Community Outreach Coordinator Michelle Byriel represented FOS at the event. Several hundred guests stopped by our highly interactive and educational booth during the course of the day, with an incredible average retention time of 5 to 6 minutes per family! This is the largest community outreach event that FOS participates in each year.
6. Nicole led a **sea turtle-themed outreach presentation at Hutchinson Shores Resort and Spa**. This fee-based program generated \$125 for FOS. Following Nicole's presentation, approximately 20 attendees headed straight to the Coastal Center.
7. Dates have been set for this winter's **Coastal Lecture Series** at the Blake Library. The theme of this year's lecture series is "Our Water - Our Land - Our Future." We are currently working to solicit prominent and relevant speakers to fill eight available dates. The series kicks off on January 7th.
8. **Stuart Magazine** published a feature-length interview with Zack, focused on Florida's algae crisis. The article is available here: <https://www.stuartmagazine.com/up-front/noteworthy/dr-zack-jud-florida->

[oceanographic-society-discusses-states-toxic-algae-crisis](https://www.oceanographic-society-discusses-states-toxic-algae-crisis). Zack was also featured in an [article about red tide](https://earth.gizmodo.com/red-tide-has-spread-up-floridas-atlantic-coast-with-no-1829934493) in Gizmodo, available here: <https://earth.gizmodo.com/red-tide-has-spread-up-floridas-atlantic-coast-with-no-1829934493> and a WPBF TV [story about Lake Okeechobee](https://www.wpbf.com/article/could-lake-okeechobee-become-a-dying-lake-like-lake-apopka/25027070), available here: <https://www.wpbf.com/article/could-lake-okeechobee-become-a-dying-lake-like-lake-apopka/25027070>

9. [Captains for Clean Water](#) invited Zack to serve as a scientific [panelist in a water quality discussion](#) held for more than 100 fishing industry professionals. Originally scheduled to last one hour, the panel stretched to two hours in response to extensive audience input.
10. Since August, Zack has co-authored and [published three peer-reviewed scientific papers](#) with collaborators from around the country. Scientific publication strengthens FOS's position as a science-focused organization.