



Education Department Update: January 25, 2021

1. The **2021 Coastal Lecture Series** is off to a strong start. To date, 716 attendees have tuned in live to watch our first three virtual lectures – an average nightly attendance of nearly 240 guests.

**Director of Education, Dr. Zack Jud, kicked off the series** on Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> with a lecture about Florida's invasive reptiles and amphibians to a live virtual audience of 256 attendees. A recording of this lecture is available at <https://youtu.be/vR4CjOCVTAo>

Dr. Dan McCarthy from Jacksonville University and Dr. Ken Lindeman from Florida Institute of Technology spoke to 245 guests on Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> about Florida's nearshore reefs. A recording of this lecture is available at [https://youtu.be/\\_xWJmgP4vD4](https://youtu.be/_xWJmgP4vD4)

**Director of Scientific Research and Conservation, Dr. Lorae' Simpson, gave a presentation** on Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> to 215 attendees about the impacts of climate change on mangrove population expansion. A recording of this lecture is available at <https://youtu.be/fEdqm0VZBds>

Our next lecture (Tuesday, Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>) will feature Dr. Kenny Broad from the University of Miami – **National Geographic's Explorer of the Year** in 2011. To register for Dr. Broad's presentation about underwater cave exploration, visit <https://www.floridaocean.org/coastal-lecture-series>

2. Education Specialists Shannon Dack and Yasmeen Fadlallah have led **4 guided beach walks** during the month of January. Additional guided beach walks are scheduled for Friday and Sunday mornings through the end of February. Guided beach walks cost \$18.00 per person, and include admission to the Coastal Center.
3. Six early-morning **guided trail walks** were scheduled for the month of January, but unfortunately, all six programs were canceled due to a lack of registration.
4. Yasmeen led **six virtual field trips** this month, including a grant-funded program for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who attend the Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School in the Seminole Brighton Reservation.
5. We are working with the St. Lucie County School District to schedule **50 free virtual field trips for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classes at Title I elementary schools as part of our grant-funded Deserving Kids to the Coast program**. These virtual field trips will be carried out between now and the end of the school year.
6. Zack led two **private single-family tours of the Coastal Center** during January. These tours cost \$400 per family. Both families spent another ~\$70 in the gift shop, and one family gave an additional \$150 gratuity, which was donated back to FOS. These tours are offered when the Coastal Center is closed to the public.
7. Shannon is busy planning Florida Oceanographic's marine science **summer camps** for the summer of 2021. Camp registration opens on February 5<sup>th</sup> for FOS members, and February 12<sup>th</sup> for nonmembers.

8. Zack continues to coordinate with ColorAd, Trivium, and CambridgeSeven to finalize exhibit design for the Ocean EcoCenter.
9. As a part of TCPalm's annual "Twelve Days of Christmas" series, Florida Oceanographic Society requested our community's support to purchase three digital microscopes for the Ocean EcoCenter's new classroom. At this time, we have received sufficient support to purchase one microscope.