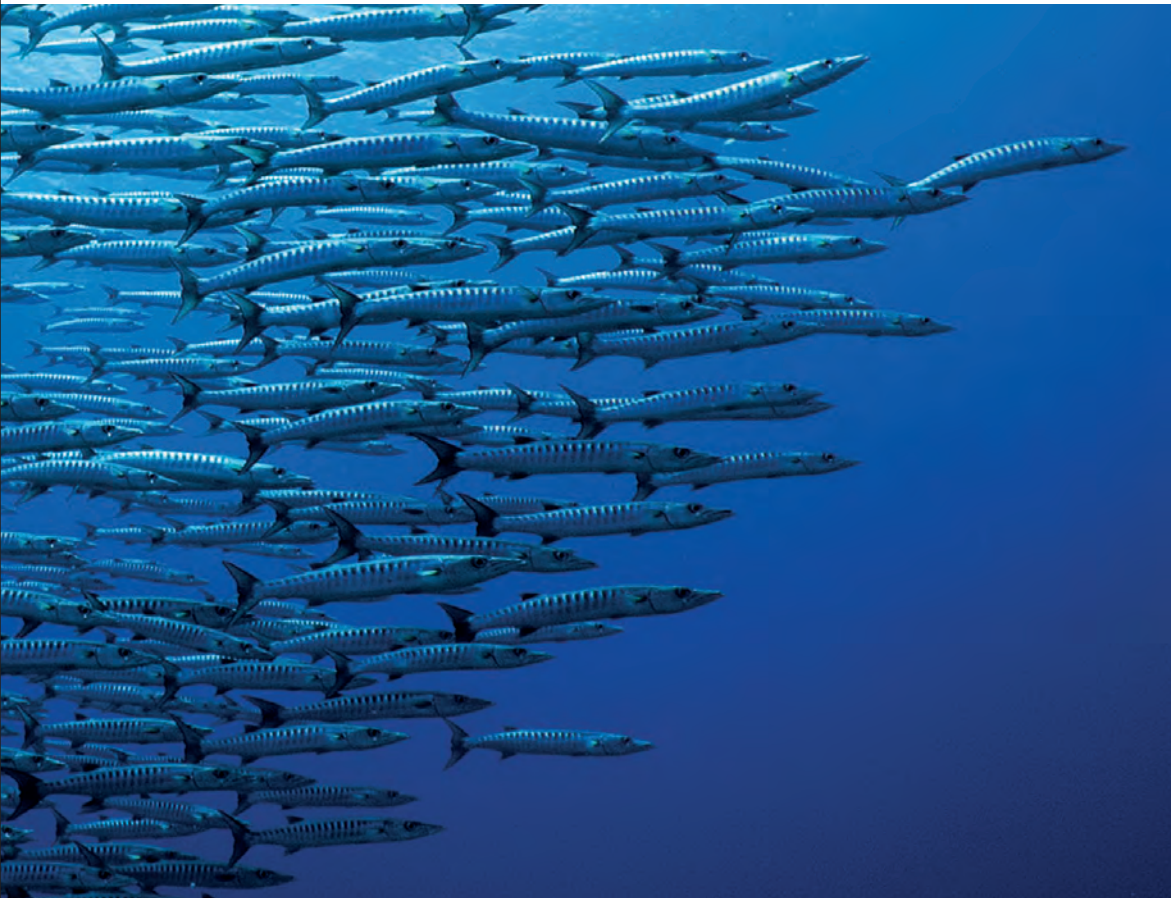




# OUR WORLD-UNDERWATER SCHOLARSHIP SOCIETY®

44<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Program  
April 21, 2018 – New York Yacht Club – New York



# Welcome



It is my honor to welcome you to New York City and to the 44<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the Our World-Underwater Scholarship Society®. It is a great pleasure for me as president of the Society to bring the “family” together each year to renew friendships, celebrate all of our interns and Rolex Scholars, and acknowledge the efforts of our volunteers. Once again, we celebrate a long history of extraordinary scholarship, volunteer service, organizational partnership, and corporate sponsorship, especially an amazing, uninterrupted partnership with Rolex, our founding corporate sponsor.

This year is special. We bring three new Rolex Scholars and five new interns into our family resulting in an accumulative total of 100 Rolex Scholars and 102 interns since the inception of the Society, and all of this has been accomplished by our all-volunteer organization. Forty-four years of volunteers have been selfless in their efforts serving as directors, officers, committee members, coordinators, and technical advisors all motivated to support the Society’s mission “to promote educational activities associated with the underwater world.”

None of this would have been possible without the incredible support by the Society’s many organizational partners and corporate sponsors throughout the years. The one constant in the Society’s “life and history” has been the Rolex family which has been our “partner in education” during every one of our 44 years of educational outreach and scholarship.

I take this opportunity on behalf of the directors and officers of the Our World-Underwater Scholarship Society® to thank 44 years’ worth of volunteers, hosts, organizational partners, and corporate sponsors for supporting us and sharing in our dream of a better planet.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Barnett".

Steve Barnett, 1990 Rolex Scholar  
President  
Our World-Underwater Scholarship Society®

“A WHALE LIFTED HER  
HUGE, BEAUTIFUL HEAD  
INTO MY WAITING ARMS AS  
I LEANT OVER THE SIDE  
OF A BOAT IN BAJA.  
IT INSPIRED A PASSION  
TO CONSERVE AND PROTECT  
CETACEANS FOR THE  
REST OF MY LIFE.”

MELINDA BROWN

MELINDA BROWN SIZING UP  
WITH THE ENORMOUS HUMPBACK WHALE  
©SCOTT PORTELLI



# OUR WORLD-UNDERWATER SCHOLARSHIP SOCIETY®

44<sup>TH</sup> Annual Awards Program

## WELCOME

Elvin W. D. Leech, MBE, Chairman

## 2017 ROLEX SCHOLARS YEAR IN REVIEW & FLAG RETURN

### *Water Worldwide*

**Leah M. Potts**

2017 North American Rolex Scholar

### *A Conversation with the Sea*

**Mae KL Dorricott**

2017 European Rolex Scholar

### *Chasing Ocean Giants*

**Melinda Brown**

2017 Australasian Rolex Scholar

## DINNER

**Jarrold Jablonski**

2018 DAN Rolex Diver of the Year

## INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

## PRESENTATION OF THE 2018 ROLEX SCHOLARSHIPS

**Yann Herrera Fuchs** 2018 North American Rolex Scholar

**Èric Jordà Molina** 2018 European Rolex Scholar

**Olivia J. Johnson** 2018 Australasian Rolex Scholar



MAE FLYING THE SCHOLARSHIP FLAG OVER "MAE'S DAY"  
ON ANT ATOLL, POHNPEI, A NEW DIVE SITE NAMED AFTER HER.  
©FELIX BUTSCHEK

# History

From its roots in the Midwestern United States 44 years ago, the Our World-Underwater Scholarship Society® has grown into a global organization. 100 Rolex Scholars — in North America, Europe, and Australasia — along with 102 interns in North America and Europe have created a significant legacy for our organization. Many of our Rolex Scholars and interns have gone on to distinguished careers in the underwater sciences, marine research, and photography.

It all began in 1969, when Joyce Markstahler and Jim Mackie-Smith formulated the idea of a Middle Coast dive show. They approached Harry Shanks, President-YMCA Metro Council of Chicago, for assistance in developing the Our World-Underwater (OWU) Dive and Travel Exposition. Harry supplemented the initial cadre of volunteers with the officers of the Metro Council and premiered that first OWU show at Chicago's Playboy Hotel in 1971.

The initial idea was that the profits from the show would be donated to the YMCA scuba program in Chicago. Joyce named the new dive show "Our World-Underwater," and LeRoy Winbush designed the logo, which is still in use today. The upper half of the logo features the Great Lakes of the United States, reflecting the primary diving environment of the Society's founders and supporters. The logo is a permanent reminder of the Society's roots.

In 1972, Harry Shanks and Joyce Markstahler traveled to San Francisco to attend the "Man in the Sea" dive show. During a cruise on San Francisco Bay, Joyce spoke with Dr. Joe

MacInnis, a Canadian physician and well-known explorer. They discussed a proposal from the OWU Board of Directors to use \$1,500 of the OWU dive show profits to finance research. Dr. MacInnis in turn proposed an alternative idea. He suggested using the money to invest in an individual with an experience-based scholarship that would cultivate the individual in the industry and the underwater world. Then and there, on September 3, 1972, the Our World-Underwater Scholarship was born.

During the next year and a half, Joyce Markstahler and Joe MacInnis worked to develop a list of hosts and experiences that would provide a credible scholarship experience to a young person, so they could be developed as a future steward of the waters of the world. The inaugural Our World-Underwater Scholarship was awarded to Mark Bensen in 1974.

100 ROLEX SCHOLARS, 102 INTERNS,  
AND SO MANY VOLUNTEERS  
AROUND THE WORLD HAVE  
ALL CREATED A SIGNIFICANT  
LEGACY FOR OUR ORGANIZATION  
AND OUR FUTURE.

The first few scholarships were managed by the Scholarship Committee of Our World-Underwater, which was initially chaired by Dr. MacInnis.

In 1978, the Scholarship Committee of Our World-Underwater was incorporated as a separate entity in the State of Illinois as the Our World-Underwater Scholarship Society® (OWUSS). For many years, the annual meetings for the Scholarship Society were held in Chicago during the OWU show.

In 2000, the directors of OWU sold the rights of the dive show. Since that time, the Scholarship Society is no longer associated with OWU, and, in 2005, the Scholarship Society moved its annual meeting to New York City. The Scholarship Society has thrived through the invaluable assistance of its many dedicated volunteers and sponsors, who have worked hard to promote educational activities associated with the underwater world. Rolex Watch USA has been the Society's "partner in education" since 1974. As the Society's Founding Partner, Rolex has worked with the board of directors in the form of advice and counsel since our inception. Additional support comes from throughout

the diving industry in the form of diving and underwater photographic equipment, advanced and specialized dive training, hosting experiences and subsidized travel, and an engraved diver's watch donated by Rolex to each of the scholars.

In 2001, Rolex SA, Geneva, saw the positive impact of the award and agreed to sponsor a European Rolex Scholar, giving the Our World-Underwater Scholarship Society® international reach and exposure. In 2001, the scholarship of the Our World-Underwater Scholarship Society® was renamed the Rolex Scholarship and all scholars dating back to 1974 became Rolex Scholars.

In 2007, Rolex Australia further expanded the Society's international outreach with the addition of the Australasian Rolex Scholarship. In addition to the Rolex Scholarships, the OWUSS currently offers internships in North America. The North American summer internships are offered for a one- to three-month period and are primarily directed at college undergraduates. Internship recipients receive a grant to help fund travel, room and board, and a stipend to cover living expenses.



# 2017

NORTH AMERICAN  
ROLEX SCHOLAR

LEAH M. POTTS

## EXPERIENCES

- > Closed circuit rebreather training
- > Cold water diving expeditions
- > Chamber diving
- > Dive operations
- > Microplastics research
- > Submersible suit R&D
- > Film/photo shoots
- > Water resources professional development program in the Netherlands
- > Artificial structure colonization research
- > Photogrammetry training
- > Diver physiology research
- > Underwater archaeology
- > Presented at four diving conferences/shows
- > Astronaut training at Neutral Buoyancy Lab
- > Irrigation and fishing research
- > Human Factors in Diving course

## YEAR IN REVIEW

- > Over 100 dives
- > 75 hours on a closed circuit rebreather
- > 4 continents
- > More than 20 experiences
- > Travelled across the globe to: Denmark, Norway (Svalbard), Malta, Netherlands, Kenya, China, Mexico, Canada (British Columbia), United States (Florida, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, New York, Massachusetts, California, Washington State, Texas)



LEAH CAPTURED THIS PHOTO WHILE DIVING THE WRECKS OF MALTA TO PRACTICE 3D PHOTOGRAMMETRY.  
©LEAH POTTS

## NOTABLE HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- > Certified on four types of closed circuit rebreather units
- > Dived 75 hours and in all types of environments on the SubGravity Defender CCR
- > Practiced photogrammetry on Malta's shipwrecks
- > Joined a team for the exploration and documentation of a rare mine site
- > Created 3D models of mine artifacts
- > Mine is undergoing application to the National Register of Historic Places
- > Worked with professionals in the Netherlands on water management strategies
- > Assisted with research in Shanghai examining diver physiology
- > Surveyed drought-impacted Kenyan farmers on their irrigation practices
- > Worked with the African Billfish Foundation on bycatch mitigation research
- > Dived in unexplored Arctic sites



NASA  
NEUTRAL BUOYANCY LAB IN HOUSTON  
©LEAH POTTS



BROWNING PASS, VANCOUVER ISLAND,  
ALL THE LIFE THERE IS OVERSIZED, SUCH AS THESE  
DINNER PLATE ANEMONES AND EERIE KELP.  
©LEAH POTTS





# 2017

## EUROPEAN ROLEX SCHOLAR

### MAE KL DORRICOTT

#### YEAR IN REVIEW

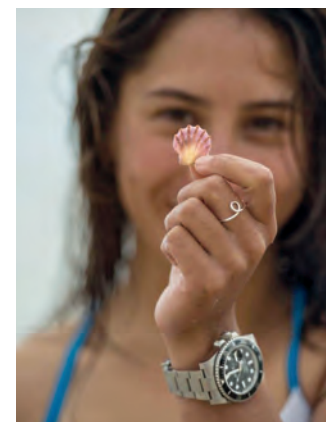
- > More than 140 dives
- > Over 160 hours underwater
- > 76 hours on a closed circuit rebreather
- > 17 countries including England, Scotland, Wales, Germany, Grand Cayman, Mexico, Pohnpei (Federated States of Micronesia), Fiji, Singapore, Australia, New Zealand, Egypt, Denmark, Indonesia, USA (California, New York and Florida), Bahamas
- > 38 Flights
- > 5 continents
- > Over 70,000 miles travelled
- > Planted 40 mangrove propagules to carbon offset one set of flights.
- > 64 hours spent sleeping in airports

#### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- > Introduction and development in technical diving including a technical pass in GUE Fundamentals
- > TDI Closed Circuit Rebreather Helitrox and Decompression procedures
- > PADI Instructor development course
- > Developed underwater photography and videography skills with award winning photographers
- > Joined science expedition to Pohnpei (Federated States of Micronesia), collecting novel data on rebreathers
- > Assisted with research on shark repellents conducted on Great White Sharks in South Australia
- > Gained experience with NGOs; Tread Lighter, Algalita, NEKTON: Mission, Project Aborad
- > Gained experience of science communication with MOTE Lab and Irvine Science Communications
- > Provided sting-ray wound first aid care to a former Miss England



MAE SNAPPING  
THE BULL SHARKS  
©JAYNE JENKINS



MAE SHELL HUNTING ©DAISY FERNIE



©MAE DORRICOTT

#### NOTABLE HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- > 12 magazine/blog publications for 4 organizations
- > Became an ambassador for 2 separate UK charities
- > Gained experience in technical diving; twin sets to CCR
- > Explored remote Micronesian reefs with a dive site named after me
- > Contributed as an author to a chapter for a scientific publication in Springer
- > Cycled in New Zealand with Tread Lighter to spread awareness of cutting out single use plastic
- > Experienced black water diving in the Lembeh Strait, photographing plankton and marine larvae
- > Sailed with Captain Charles Moore on board Algalita
- > Interacted with countless new marine animals including great white sharks, humpback whales, blue-ringed octopus, mantis shrimp and sea lions



# 2017

## AUSTRALASIAN ROLEX SCHOLAR

MELINDA BROWN



MY FIRST MAGICAL ENCOUNTER WITH A MANTA RAY  
IN THE BEAUTIFUL BLUE WATERS OF TAHITI  
©MELINDA BROWN

### YEAR IN REVIEW

- > Over 130 dives
- > More than 160 hours underwater
- > Over 22 experiences
- > 18 countries/territories including Palau, Bali, Tahiti, Thailand, Tonga, Scotland, England, Wales, Fiji, Honduras, Mexico, Sri Lanka
- > 5 continents
- > Over 60 flights
- > Kissed a gray whale on the head

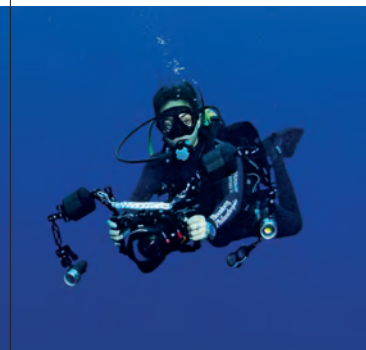


CRUISING NEXT TO THE SVII CAMERA ON THE  
OCEAN AGENCY'S 50 REEFS PROJECT IN PALAU  
©RICHARD VEVERS

### EXPERIENCES

- > Training in nitrox, first aid, freediving and scientific diving
- > Completed an ecological niche modelling course using statistical analysis program "R"
- > Assisted Ocean Agency on their maiden 50 Reefs voyage in Palau
- > Worked with white sharks in South Australia
- > Assisted novel study in regards to sacoglossans gastropod predation by monostomatous mushroom coral
- > Assisted research on multiple species of cetacean in Scotland, England and Wales
- > Expeditions to Tahiti and Baja Mexico
- > Completed the World Cetacean Alliance's 'Responsible Whale Guide' course
- > Assisted research on the biggest animal to have ever existed on earth; the Blue Whale

THE MOMENT ONE  
OF MY LIFELONG  
DREAMS CAME TRUE;  
PATting THE FAMOUS  
GRAY WHALES  
©JAMES BISCARDI



### NOTABLE HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- > Spent a month swimming with humpback whales in Tonga to assist data collection for the Tongan Fluke Collective with Scott Portelli
- > Free dived 33m on a single breath
- > Was the only team member allowed to get in the water with some of the largest bottlenose dolphins in the world to get ID shots
- > Came 2nd in the Rodney Fox Shark Expeditions Nikon Shootout
- > Completed a GUE fundamentals course
- > Competed in the Celebrate the Sea Shootout in Manado
- > Assisted whale shark research and conservation in Utila
- > Dived in multiple cenotes in Mexico (first time in any sort of cave system for me!)
- > Met the gray whales of Magdalena Bay with Lindblad expeditions



UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL WITH THE AUSTRALIAN  
SEA LIONS ©MELINDA BROWN



TAKEN IMMEDIATELY  
AFTER PASSING MY TDI  
SUBGRAVITY DEFENDER  
AIR DILUENT COURSE  
WITH JON AND  
LAUREN KIEREN  
©LEAH POTTS



CELEBRATING THE COMPLETION OF  
MY GUE FUNDAMENTALS COURSE  
WITH MY WONDERFUL NEW GUE FAMILY  
©MELINDA BROWN



GROUP PHOTO  
OF THE UNDERWATER  
PHOTOGRAPHERS  
OF AARHUS  
©RENE BRUNO NIELSEN



MAE ZOOMING AROUND THE  
CAVERN WITH A SCOOTER  
©ROB MAINE

“BLACK WATER DIVING REINFORCED HOW AT HOME I FEEL IN THE SEA. EVEN IN THE PITCH BLACK WITH NO POINT OF REFERENCE, I DIDN'T FEEL THE SLIGHTEST BIT SCARED. IT WAS LIBERATING TO FLOAT IN THE DARK ALONGSIDE THE WONDERFUL AND BIZARRE CREATURES OF THE NIGHT.”

MAE KL DORRICOTT





# 2018

DAN ROLEX  
DIVER OF THE YEAR  
JARROD JABLONSKI

Pioneering cave and technical diver Jarrod Jablonski has made a significant impact on technical diver training and safety in the last 25 years. One of the principal architects of the “Doing It Right” (DIR) system of diving, Jablonski is responsible for many important innovations in curricula and equipment design.

First certified as a recreational diver in 1984, he began cave diving in college and became a certified cave diver in 1989. He also became an open water instructor that year; he has been or is currently an instructor for GUE, NAUI, PADI, CMAS, YMCA, PDIC and DAN and has been an instructor trainer for GUE, IANTD, NSS-CDS and the NACD.

Jablonski began his career as a cave diving instructor in 1990 in Ginnie Springs, Florida, where he taught until 1996. From 1993 to 1996 Jablonski was also a scientific diver at the University of Florida, supporting research on groundwater in the Santa Fe River Basin. In the late 1990s he served on the boards of directors of the National Association of Cave Diving, Florida Speleological Researchers, Inc. and the National Speleological Society - Cave

Diving Section and was also a member of the advisory board for the International Association of Nitrox and Technical Divers.

While serving as training director for the Woodville Karst Plain Project Jablonski identified a need and an opportunity to expand his role to benefit a larger population of divers and in 1998 founded Global Underwater Explorers (GUE), a nonprofit training and educational organization for recreational, technical and cave divers. He is currently GUE’s president and training director.

Jablonski is also president and CEO of Halcyon Manufacturing, which he founded in 2000. Since 2007 he has been a member of the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society diving committee, offering guidance in safe diving practices and medical fitness to dive. He became a fellow of The Explorers Club in 2008 and in 2014 assumed dive safety, training and operational responsibilities for the Deep Diving Facility at the Nad Al Sheba Sports Complex in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Jablonski holds the world record for the longest cave penetration at depth: 19,000 feet at 300 feet deep.

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The world’s most recognized and respected dive safety organization, Divers Alert Network (DAN) has remained committed to the health and well-being of divers for 38 years. The organization’s research, medical services and global-response programs support an extensive network capable of reaching divers with vital injury-prevention initiatives, educational programs and lifesaving evacuations. Every day, hundreds of thousands of divers around the world look to DAN as their dive safety organization.

# 2018

NORTH AMERICAN  
ROLEX SCHOLAR  
YANN HERRERA FUCHS



Yann Herrera Fuchs, 24, was born in Cuernavaca, the city of “eternal spring”, not far from the Mexican coast. He spent his childhood in swimming pools and the tropical shores of the Mexican Pacific, attempting to swim like a dolphin or hold his breath underwater for long periods of time. At the age of eight, his family moved to Seattle, but not even the cold weather and frequent rain stopped Yann from enjoying the ocean. He soon found a hobby in jumping around tide pools searching for jellyfish, sea urchins and starfish. Yann eventually moved back to Mexico City, but the longing for closer contact with the ocean brought him to Vancouver, Canada, a few years later to seek a degree in Environmental Science from the University of British Columbia (UBC). At UBC Yann focused on economic, social, and environmental sustainability. He spent time in Costa Rica working with a volunteer organization on a turtle conservation project, patrolling beaches at night and relocating turtle eggs safely to keep them away from poachers. This field experience triggered his passion for marine conservation. He completed his open water diver’s course in Mexico, diving for the first time in the harbor of Veracruz. Yann was stunned by the abundance of coral and marine life that was present despite being situated near a major industrial port. Acknowledging the resilience that aquatic life can have with good conservation measures made him feel empowered

to make a difference in Mexico’s efforts to preserve nature. Despite the logistical and financial barriers of diving, Yann attempted to explore different underwater settings. In Quintana Roo, he submerged himself in cenotes, cavern-like orifices that connect the subterranean waterways of the Mayan coasts. He also got certified for dry suit diving in Canada. During his final years at UBC, Yann served as a research assistant working on an indigenous fisheries project and was awarded a grant to take a sustainability field course in Iceland. After graduating, Yann made the leap back to Mexico and began working for World Wildlife Fund, where he got closer to Baja California’s fishing sector, government, and coastal communities. His lead project focused on developing alternative fishing gear in the Upper Gulf of California in an effort to protect the endemic vaquita porpoise, considered the world’s most endangered marine mammal. He also participated as a diver in shark monitoring programs, reef clean-ups and ecosystem health assessments. Yann insists that community efforts and underwater education are key to preventing further disconnection between people and our natural water resources. The 2018 OWUSS Rolex Scholarship is the perfect opportunity to explore this idea and ignite a sense of environmental stewardship in those who have lost a connection to our world underwater.



## 2018

EUROPEAN  
ROLEX SCHOLAR  
ÈRIC JORDÀ MOLINA

Èric, 24, is an enthusiastic diver from Barcelona. A PADI Rescue diver currently living in Norway, he has become enthralled with the Norwegian sub-arctic fjords.

His passion for the oceans started early when his parents bought him the collection of Jacques-Yves Cousteau's *The Undersea World*. As a child, he spent long hours snorkelling in the small coves of the Costa Brava, feeling the gentle stroke of the posidonia on his belly, playing with octopus and discovering marine life encrusted in the coastal rocks. His fascination with the underwater world led him to complete his bachelor's degree in Marine Science at the University of Alicante, in the south of Spain. During his course work, Èric enrolled in an ERASMUS exchange at Nord University, located in Bodø in the Norwegian arctic. He studied epibenthic communities in the area of Vesterålen and learned a wide range of marine benthic taxa. His love of northern Norway inspired him to go further north to the high Arctic, enrolling at The University Center in Svalbard to take courses in Arctic Marine Biology and Arctic Environmental Management. Èric started his Master of Science in Biology and Aquaculture at Nord University and returned to Svalbard periodically in 2017. He took some external courses in Underwater Robotics and in Arctic Benthic Ecology, with intense fieldwork on board of the R/V Helmer Hanssen and at the polar research town of Ny-Ålesund. In November

2017, he participated in a 12 day-long scientific cruise in the waters of Svalbard as a benthic research assistant.

Most recently, Èric has been working on his master's thesis, researching soft-bottom benthic communities of Tysfjord, the deepest fjord of Northern Norway. Èric has also worked as a lab assistant for the Benthic Ecology Research Unit, assisted in fieldwork and Marine Biology teaching-related activities at UiN, and performed MOM-B analysis for environmental monitoring of the seafloor in Norwegian aquaculture facilities as a field biologist.

Èric's interests also include photography, videography and illustration. By using artistic approaches, he aspires to convey that marine science is amazing and adventurous and continually offers something new to learn and discover. He has a special fascination for deep sea exploration and for the polar ecosystems, as he is certain they are still hiding innumerable secrets yet to be unveiled.

Èric hopes to gain more knowledge about diving during the Scholarship, becoming an even more proficient and solid scientific diver by the end of the experience. He sees the opportunity of becoming the next OWUSS European Rolex Scholar 2018 as a once in a lifetime chance to experience the challenges marine environments around the world are facing and to investigate how we, as a collective, can contribute to change.



## 2018

AUSTRALASIAN  
ROLEX SCHOLAR  
OLIVIA J. JOHNSON

Born in Hobart, Tasmania, 23 year-old Olivia's fascination for the ocean began at a young age: her father was a commercial diver and she has always loved swimming, snorkelling and fossicking through rock pools. It was in Year 9 at Tarooma High School where Olivia discovered her true passion for all things marine in a course called "Exploring the Ocean." Progressing to the advanced course, Olivia gained her PADI Open Water, Advanced Open Water and Rescue Diver certifications. In high school and college, Olivia also developed a passion for underwater hockey and has been a representative at the state and national levels on multiple occasions.

At 19, Olivia began her degree in Marine and Antarctic Science at the University of Tasmania (UTAS), graduating in 2016 with majors in Marine and Antarctic studies, Ecology and Zoology. During this time, she undertook a commercial course in Scientific Diving, receiving ADAS and AAUS certifications. After her undergraduate degree, Olivia received a six-month internship as a Marine Biologist at the One&Only Reethi Rah resort in the Maldives. Here she received training in manta ray and turtle identification and cataloguing, coral bleaching, coral restoration, olive ridley turtle rescue, and ghost net removal. She assisted in turtle DNA sampling and green sea turtle nesting and hatching events, all the while creating positive guest experiences through education and guided snorkelling tours.

Returning to Australia in May 2017, Olivia worked as a field technician at the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS) UTAS, where she gained an immense amount of experience in diving research on multiple projects. She also completed her SSI Dive Master training. Currently completing her honours year with IMAS UTAS, Olivia's project involves using local divers' ecological knowledge to model and map the distribution and abundance of a range-extending sea urchin (*Centrostephanus rodgersii*) along Tasmania's East Coast. In her research, she utilises closed-circuit rebreathers to collect data from depths greater than 20 metres, a novel contribution to diving research in Tasmania. Olivia's project aims to address temporal and spatial data gaps and bridge the gaps between industry, science, government and the wider public.

Receiving the Rolex Scholarship is a great privilege, providing Olivia with an incredible opportunity to learn about the global marine environment, develop a career path in the underwater world, and make global connections in the fields of ocean conservation and preservation. Her key interests include ecology, climate change, bridging the communication gap between the latest science and the public's knowledge, and studying the impact of human interactions on the marine environment. This scholarship will provide a platform for Olivia to be an ambassador for the protection of our oceans as well as for women in marine research and diving.



# 2017 Internship

**DR. ARTHUR J. BACHRACH**  
**BONNIER DIVE**  
**GROUP PUBLISHING**  
**INTERNSHIP**



Chase A. Brunton,  
University of Maine

Chase Brunton, 26, currently lives in Old Town, Maine. Chase graduated from the University of Maine with a degree in English in 2016. In addition to his English studies at UMaine, he acted on his childhood interest in the ocean, taking several marine science courses such as marine ecology, marine policy, and algal biology, and earned his basic Open Water SCUBA certification. Chase was an active member of his school's SCUBA club, and worked for a year as a writer for Maine Sea Grant, a branch of the NOAA-funded program that funds marine research, education and outreach.

During his internship with the team at Bonnier Dive Group, Chase was able to learn the ins and outs of working for a major magazine while sharing his interest in the oceans and SCUBA with the world. In addition to collaborating with a team of editors and writers, he was grateful to learn tips for writing in the digital age, and to experience working daily in an office. Diving the warm, clear Florida waters for the first time was also a life-changing experience, and he can't wait for his next tropical dive.

Chase is hoping to use his experience at Bonnier to continue in the areas of outreach and communication in the marine sciences. He's currently working on his personal blog, and hopes to enter the field of marine outreach and education.

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Based in Winter Park, Florida, the recipient of this internship gained valuable real world experience in magazine publishing. Bonnier Corporation is one of the largest consumer-publishing groups in America, with nearly 50 special-interest magazines and related multimedia projects and events. The Bonnier Dive Group includes Sport Diver, Scuba Diving, and Undersea Journal. The intern had the opportunity to contribute to these and other Bonnier Corporation publications.

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# 2018 Internship

**AMERICAN ACADEMY OF**  
**UNDERWATER SCIENCES**  
**(AAUS) MITCHELL**  
**SCIENTIFIC DIVING**  
**RESEARCH INTERNSHIP**



Lena B. Block,  
University of  
Hawaii - Manoa

Lena Block, 21, is currently a sophomore studying Marine Biology at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Originally from Santa Cruz, California, Lena has grown up connected to the ocean and chose to study biology in order to combine her love of conservation and diving. In high school, Lena volunteered with The Marine Mammal Center, rescuing stranded marine mammals along the California coast.

Lena became PADI Open Water certified in 2014 during her senior year of high school. After high school, Lena embarked on a gap year, traveling to Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Fiji, and Madagascar. In Thailand, Lena volunteered at Elephant Nature Park where she had the unique experience of assisting with the rescue of an injured and abused elephant. In Cambodia, she taught English to second grade Cambodian children. In both Fiji and Madagascar, Lena had her first experiences with scientific diving, doing fish and invertebrate surveys as a volunteer with a non-profit group. Living simply on small islands and diving almost daily, Lena found her passion: bringing together diving and scientific study. While in Fiji she gained her PADI Advanced Open Water, Rescue Diver, and Dive Master certifications. Subsequently, Lena worked as a dive master at Taveuni Ocean Sports in Fiji, deepening her love for the underwater world. Determined to continue excelling as a diver, Lena earned her AAUS Scientific Diver certification in the spring of 2017. Lena is excited for the opportunity to acquire new scientific diving skills, working as a member of a team of researchers.

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The Mitchell Scientific Diving Research Internship provides undergraduates with experiences to build upon their scientific diving education and to further help prepare them for a future in science, research diving, or scientific diving-related fields. The internship is designed for current undergraduates who are active American Academy of Underwater Sciences (AAUS) scientific divers interested in assisting with the day-to-day operations of an AAUS Organizational Member. Opportunities include planning scientific dives, preparing dive equipment, assisting in scientific diver training, participating on research projects, spending time on research boats, diving, interacting with divers, and logging dives. The internship may also include advanced training in program management, offering insights into operational standards, proper dive planning, documentation, and operation and maintenance of equipment and facilities.

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# 2018 Internships

**DR. LEE H. SOMERS  
AMERICAN ACADEMY OF  
UNDERWATER SCIENCES  
(AAUS) SCIENTIFIC  
DIVING INTERNSHIP**



Shane P. Farrell,  
Lawrence University

Shane Farrell, 20, from Minneapolis, MN, is currently a junior at Lawrence University in Appleton, WI, where he is pursuing a double major in government and biology.

Shane began diving recreationally with his mom when he was in middle school. After obtaining his Open Water Certification in 2010, his passion for diving and the world underwater was ignited. Since then, Shane has received certifications in a variety of dive specialties including ice diving, deep diving, dry suit diving, search and recovery, and emergency oxygen provider. While taking classes and working as a research assistant at Lawrence, Shane is completing his Dive Master certification and helping with classes at a dive shop in Wisconsin.

Shane has pursued his passion for science while at Lawrence, where he has primarily focused on microbiology and molecular cloning. He began working as a research assistant in the biology department as a freshman, and has co-authored a paper based on cloning and characterizing ciliated genes in the nematode *Caenorhabditis elegans*.

Shane has begun to merge his passion for underwater discovery and research while in college. In his spring term, he will travel to the Caymans to conduct dive research. Shane is looking forward to exploring a new area of science while combining his passion for research and underwater discovery this summer as the 2018 Our World-Underwater Scholarship Society Dr. Lee H. Somers Scientific Diving Intern with AAUS.

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This internship provides experience for a young person interested in a future in science, diving for research, or scientific diving-related fields. Intern applicants can be students from colleges and universities with an interest in science and diving. The program runs from mid-May through August and will include training at one of several AAUS organizational member sites. This training will give the intern the necessary dive qualifications to allow participation on research projects requiring scientific diving and introduce the intern to careers that utilize scientific diving as a tool. Once trained as an AAUS-recognized diver-in-training, interns will participate in underwater fieldwork at one or more locations and research facilities associated with AAUS.

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**DIVERS ALERT  
NETWORK (DAN)  
DIVER'S SAFETY  
EDUCATION INTERNSHIP**



Emily A. Hellmann,  
Old Dominion University

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Offered at Divers Alert Network (DAN) headquarters in Durham, North Carolina, the Diver's Safety Education Internship focuses on the need for ongoing education among divers. While not directly involving diving, the internship provides exposure to a non-traditional application of education as a recreational activity. The intern participates in the development, monitoring, and evaluation of programs dedicated to the safety education of the diving public from a non-profit setting. Internship activities are based on current programs or projects in development at DAN, and may be tailored to accommodate individual intern interests. Projects may include reviewing and revising existing programs, vetting evaluation materials, scripting video content, and assisting in the development of new programs.

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Emily Hellmann, 22, from Manassas, Virginia, is a senior at Old Dominion University. She is majoring in Earth Science Education, and will be staying an extra year to get her teaching license. Emily picked Earth Science Education as a major so she could continue to learn more about the ocean while being able to share her passion with younger students. During her time at ODU, she has been given many opportunities to explore her love of the ocean with different lab classes as well as field trips to the Outer Banks in North Carolina.

Emily has had a passion for diving from a young age, as her father is an active SCUBA instructor. After she was certified at age 11, Emily made it her personal goal to be as involved with the ocean as possible. In 2015 Emily expanded her diving knowledge and became a rescue diver, and she plans on becoming a dive master one day. Through scuba diving, Emily has been given opportunities to travel the world, and she cannot wait to share her experiences with her future students.



# 2018 Internships

**NATIONAL PARK  
SERVICE RESEARCH  
INTERNSHIP**



Shannon D. Brown,  
University of Oregon

Shannon Brown, 22, is from Lake Forest, IL. She graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Oregon with a Bachelor of Science degree in Honors Marine Biology. Shannon plans to attend graduate school in the fall of 2018.

During her undergraduate degree, Shannon spent several months immersed in the marine ecosystems of the Oregon coast. She honed her research and writing skills by completing an honors thesis on the appendage regeneration of marine feather duster worms. In early 2017, Shannon traveled to Bonaire, Dutch Caribbean, to study the community structure and time budgeting of the fairy basslet. While in Bonaire, Shannon also earned her AAUS scientific diver certification. She returned to Bonaire, after graduation, to work as an intern. While interning, Shannon received her SDI Divemaster certification and worked on numerous research projects, namely a long-term project on the island’s benthos and a project focusing on the life cycle of a trematode parasite found in reef fish.

Shannon is excited and honored to participate in the Our World-Underwater Scholarship Society’s Internship Program. She has always had a passion for the outdoors and has enjoyed exploring the National Parks throughout her lifetime. She looks forward to combining her passion for nature and the marine world. The opportunity to work with the National Park Service Submerged Resources Center will allow her to expand her marine conservation and research skills, while also learning more about scientific outreach.

The National Park Service Research Internship provides a unique opportunity to work with leading archaeologists, underwater photographers, and scientists in the National Park Service and other agencies in the American state and federal government. Specific work projects will be determined based upon the interests of the intern as well as the needs of associated projects. The internship is based in Denver, Colorado, but it is expected that the intern will travel to projects within the continental United States and potentially overseas as part of this internship. Experiences could involve a specific project in a single park or a larger project in multiple parks.

**DR. JAMIE L. KING  
REEF ENVIRONMENTAL  
EDUCATION  
FOUNDATION (REEF)  
MARINE  
CONSERVATION  
INTERNSHIP**



Ronnie A. Noonan,  
Dalhousie University

Ronnie’s first-hand experience of the underwater world came when she achieved her open water diving licence at age 14. Fueled by the desire to make the ocean relatable, even to her peers in Michigan, she set out to achieve a degree in marine biology. Studying at Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia, Canada, Ronnie found her true passion in communicating ocean sciences. This ability was first exercised when she was volunteering as a touch tank interpreter for a local non-profit. It was then that Ronnie fell in love with the “aha” moment; the moment when you know you have truly connected with your audience on something you are passionate about.

Seeing that her knowledge could spur change, Ronnie set out to experience other aspects of ocean sciences. Wanting to use her scuba diving skills to help illustrate the conversation about ocean conservation, Ronnie embarked on an internship at a research lab in Zavora, Mozambique. The extreme diving conditions and unique location helped Ronnie comprehend the resilience and discipline it takes to dedicate oneself to ocean conservation. She took this appreciation into her most recent position as an environmental educator.

Being able to inspire youth with her own passion taught her the importance of training the next generation to be future stewards of our planet. Now, with one year left in her degree, Ronnie is thrilled to learn from OWUSS and REEF to help her fulfill her goal of becoming a science communicator.

Offered in Key Largo, Florida, the Marine Conservation Internship provides an opportunity to experience the working at a nonprofit environmental organization. REEF is a grassroots, non-profit organization of recreational divers dedicated to protecting and preserving the underwater environment. Outside duties include environmental presentations to local and visiting schools, university, dive, and public groups; working with other local marine conservation entities; and opportunities for conducting marine life surveys during local dives. Office duties include handling memberships, incoming marine life survey data, answering e-mail, and dealing with the public.

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Richard Henry Salas	(NA 1977)	Beth Kneeland Pickett	(NA 1988)
Stephen C. Earley	(NA 1978)	Gregory G. Shellenbarger	(NA 1989)
Susan B. Schoen	(NA 1979)	Jamie L. King	(NA 1989)
John McClelland	(NA 1979)	Heather L. Dine	(NA 1990)
Charles R. Seaborn	(NA 1979)	Steven M. Barnett	(NA 1990)
Stacey A. Tighe	(NA 1980)	Carol Enumi Lee	(NA 1991)
Valerie J. Paul	(NA 1980)	Jessica F. Wheeler	(NA 1991)
Theodore P. Janulis	(NA 1981)	R. James Sibthorp	(NA 1992)
Julie Johnson Prusak	(NA 1982)	Kenneth H. Broad	(NA 1992)
Benjamin L. Sheldon	(NA 1982)	Katharine P. Laing	(NA 1993)
Douglas E. Kesling	(NA 1983)	Giovanni Catalano	(NA 1994)
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Jay C. Moreland	(NA 1984)	Sara Shoemaker Lind	(NA 1997)
Sally Craig Nigg	(NA 1984)	Kirsten A. Bassion	(NA 1998)

Julie S. Barber	(NA 1999)	William Arlidge	(AU 2010)
Alison L. LaBonte	(NA 2000)	Christian Clark	(NA 2011)
Jennifer Jeffers	(NA 2001)	Erin McFadden	(EU 2011)
Joe R. Stevens	(EU 2001)	Anthea Ibell Madill	(AU 2011)
Stefanie Wells Misner	(NA 2002)	Megan Cook	(NA 2012)
Richard E. Somerset	(EU 2002)	Oscar Svensson	(EU 2012)
Kerry J. Nickols	(NA 2003)	Yoland Bosiger	(AU 2012)
Jade Berman	(EU 2003)	Jeffrey B. Hester	(NA 2013)
Joseph C. Hoyt	(NA 2004)	Chloé Maréchal	(EU 2013)
Phoebe Rudomino	(EU 2004)	Stefan M. Andrews	(AU 2013)
Anna Watson Hanson	(NA 2005)	Ana Sofía Guerra	(NA 2014)
Vibe Schourup-Kristensen	(EU 2005)	Elena Salim Haubold	(EU 2014)
Michelle Fetzner	(NA 2006)	Courtney Anne Rayes	(AU 2014)
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Myfanwy Rowlands Johnston	(NA 2009)	Mae KL Dorricott	(EU 2017)
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Matthew J. Carter	(AU 2009)	Yann Herrera Fuchs	(NA 2018)
Joshua Stewart	(NA 2010)	Èric Jordà Molina	(EU 2018)
Ingrid Rushfeldt Krüger-Stokke	(EU 2010)	Olivia J. Johnson	(AU 2018)

# The Interns

**BAIZAROVA, Martina**  
European Young Underwater  
Photographer Award  
2005 & 2006

**BARCHUS, Sarah**  
Bonnier Dive Group Media  
2013

**BASSION, Kirsten**  
REEF 1997

**BEECHAM, Dan**  
European Young Underwater  
Photographer Award 2004

**BENNETT, Andrew**  
Blackbeard's Cruises 2008

**BENSON, Bridget**  
U.S. Navy 2006

**BILLUPS, Brianne**  
National Park Service 2010

**BLINICK, Naomi S.**  
National Park Service 2011

**BLOCK, Lena B.**  
AAUS 2018

**BODENSTEIN, Dan**  
U.S. Navy 2007

**BONE, David**  
Aquarena 2008

**BOWIE, Jacqueline**  
REEF 2005

**BROGAN, Kate**  
Blackbeard's Cruises 2009

**BROWN, Shannon D.**  
National Park Service 2018

**BRUNTON, Chase A.**  
Bonnier Dive Group Media  
2017

**BURKHEAD-WEINER, Davita**  
REEF 2003

**BURFEIND, Dana**  
Divers Alert Network 2001

**CALVER, Tim**  
National Geographic Society  
Ford Fellow 2002

**CALINI, Danielle**  
REEF 2009

**COFFEY, Charles**  
Divers Alert Network 2000

**CODALBU, Andrew**  
Sport Diver Magazine 2004

**COTTON, James**  
Divers Alert Network 2010

**COX, Schyler**  
Bonnier Dive Group Media 2014

**FARRELL, Shane P.**  
AAUS 2018

**FOOTE, Elizabeth**  
NURC 1998

**FUNDAKOWSKI, Garrett J.**  
National Park Service 2016

**GHANI, Aiyesha**  
REEF 2006

**GIBEILY, Christopher**  
U. S. Navy 2008

**GRAY, Jeff**  
NURC 1996

**HACK, Nicole**  
COARE 2014

**HAJDUCZEK, Barbara**  
REEF 2002

**HALL, Kara B.**  
REEF 2015

**HARDY, Steve**  
Divers Alert Network 2004

**HARMAN, Leah**  
Darling Marine Center 2000

**HELLMANN, Emily A.**  
Divers Alert Network 2018

**HENDRICKS, Lisa**  
Mitigation Water Project  
Dubuque IA 1995

**HOWELL, Ruth**  
Darling Marine Center 2001

**HOBAN, Mykle L.**  
AAUS 2010

**JAFFEE, Adam**  
NURC 2001

**JOSEPH, Mariclaire**  
Divers Alert Network 2012

**KITTREL, Casey**  
Man-In-The-Sea 1997

**KOCHERGINA, Anna**  
European Young Underwater  
Photographer Award 2008

**KRZYSTAN, Andrea**  
Divers Alert Network 2006

**LANE, Claire E. Kitchin**  
REEF 2011

**LEVINE, Ari**  
Darling Marine Center 1998

**LEVY, Jessica**  
REEF 2012

**LYONS, Jennie Noll**  
U.S. Navy 2004

**MASON, Julia**  
National Park Service 2013

**MAXWELL, Henry**  
Divers Alert Network 2005

**MAZILLE, Guillaume**  
European Young Underwater  
Photographer Award 2003

**McNALLY, Lucy**  
Sport Diver Magazine 2006

**MICHALIK, Courtney**  
Bonnier Dive Group 2011

**MITCHELL, Catherine R.**  
AAUS 2015

**MOBLEY, Kenyon**  
NURC 1997

**MOORE, Rebekah**  
REEF 1996

**MULLANEY, Claire B.**  
REEF 2017

**MULLENS, Abigail Smigel**  
Rodale Magazine 2001

**MYERS, Robert A.**  
Bonnier Dive Group 2015

**MYHR, Molly**  
REEF 2001

**NESS, Jeremiah**  
Aquarena 2007

**NEWCOMER, Katherine A.**  
AAUS 2014

**NIELSON, Alec B.**  
Bonnier Dive Group Media  
2012

**NOONAN, Ronnie A.**  
REEF 2018

**NUTTAL, Marissa**  
REEF 2007

**OLENYCH, Noah**  
Mitigation Water Project 1995

**ORR, Andrew**  
Aquarena 2004

**PATRYLAK, Ryan**  
Divers Alert Network 2009

**PAYNE, Katy**  
Sport Diver Magazine 2005

**PECK, Patrick M.**  
REEF 2016

**PIERCY, Robert**  
HydroOptix 2005

**PRUTZMAN, Steve**  
REEF 2004

**PUGSLEY, Andrew**  
European Young Underwater  
Photographer Award 2002

**ROACH, Stephanie F.**  
REEF 2008

**SAWICKI, Erika L.**  
AAUS 2017

**SCHEM, Jessica**  
REEF 2014

**SCHRAMM, Aurora**  
Aquarena 2010

**SHAGREN, Chad**  
Sport Diver Magazine 2010

**SHILLING, Eric**  
Lake Michigan  
Biological Station 2000

**SHOELSON, Adam**  
Divers Alert Network 2008

**SIFRIT, Allie D.**  
AAUS 2016

**SKERRY, Brian**  
National Geographic Society  
Ford Fellow 2001

**SLAUGHTER, Sally**  
Darling Marine Center 2003

**SMALLEY-NORMAN, Yasmeen**  
National Park Service 2014

**SMITH, Melissa J.**  
Bonnier Dive Group 2016

**SNOW, Ryan**  
NURC 2000

**SPECTOR, Michael H. "Pike"**  
National Park Service 2015

**SPILLMAN, Shannon**  
Sport Diver Magazine 2008

**SPLAIN, Ellen L.**  
REEF 2013

**STRAW, Jessica**  
Darling Marine Center 2005

**TEPPER, Joseph**  
European Young Photographer  
Award 2011

**THOMPSON, Scott**  
Divers Alert Network 2002

**THOMSON, Annie**  
AAUS 2012

**TYMON, Teresa**  
AAUS 2013

**VATLAND, Sarah**  
Darling Marine Center 2002

**WALKER, Jenna M.**  
AAUS 2011

**WATT, Alison**  
Monterey Bay Aquarium 2012

**WHITE, Allison**  
NURC 1999

**WHITE, Timothy D.**  
National Park Service 2012

**WILLIAMS, Kristine**  
Divers Alert Network 2003

**WOLFE, Ronald**  
Lake Michigan  
Biological Station 1995

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National Park Service 2017

**ZEIGLER, Erin**  
Divers Alert Network 2007

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CAPTAIN ROBERTS' MINE WITH  
THE WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
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“THE OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE MY VARIOUS UNDERWATER SKILLS AND COMBINE THEM TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE DOCUMENTATION OF CAPTAIN ROBERTS' MINE WAS LIFE CHANGING.”

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