

2014



LOVELAND LIVING PLANET
AQUARIUM™



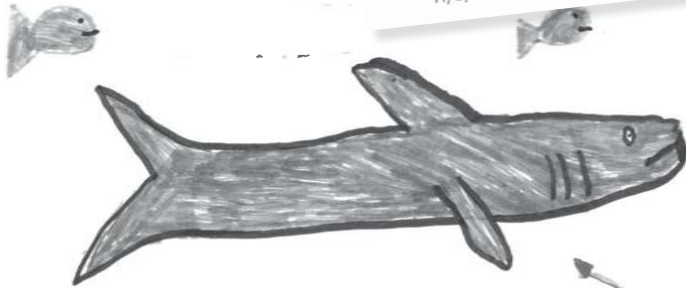
ANNUAL
REPORT

Grey Reef Shark
Carcharhinus amblyrhynchos

TANK YOU

Very clean! The habitats are gorgeous. The staff is so friendly and kind to my children. I absolutely love this place and look forward to many more years of attending!

11/5/2024 08:39 AM



Sharck



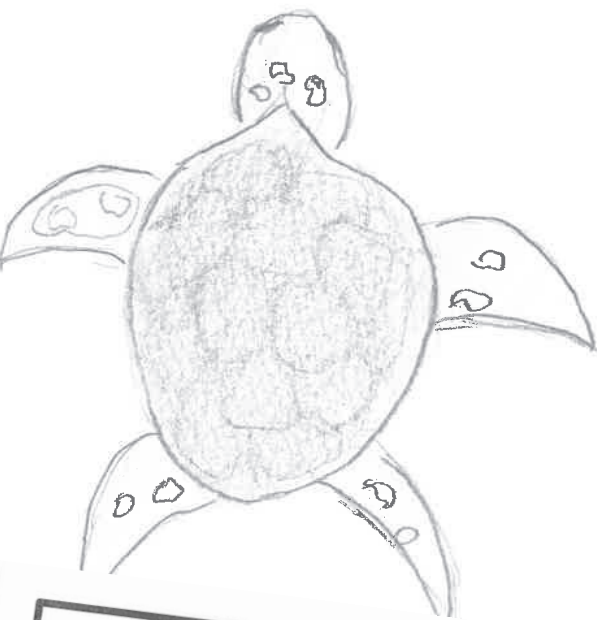
[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#)

Living planet Aquarium

Thank you for letting us come to see all your fish

and Living Planet Aquarium

Thank you so much for taking the time to come down here to us to teach us about seaturtles and the ocean! We had lots of fun and I personally loved all the games we played. I loved that we were able to learn about the amazing ecosystem of the sea. Thank you!

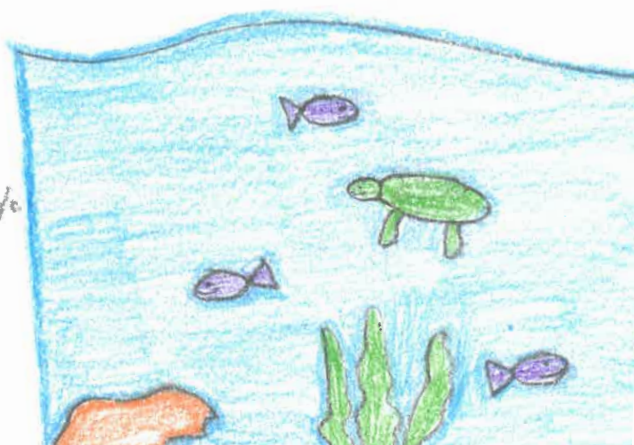


Thank YOU

Dear LLPA,

Thank you for letting me touch the animals.

Thank you for coming to my school. I loved playing games with you. It was very fun and it made me smile. I hope that other 6th graders get to enjoy learning about ecology. Thank you truly so much for coming!



Dear LLPA

March 192

Thank you for visiting Eureka Elementary! It was really fun. I learned that adaptations are cool and how to tell how the animal lives. The body features we saw and the favorite part was Cleo calling everybody. I was really happy to see and fun to learn about.

Thank You



Ford!

Multitude of animals within walking distance yet all animals seem very well cared for. I especially love the warmth & humidity of South America area, the Utah area, the animal touch area, the fish & shark tunnel, the seating to relax and watch, the unique architecture, and how much information is available to learn about the animals.

10/10/2024 06:49 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#)

Living Planet Aquarium
Thank you for letting us come to see all your fish & animals.
My favorite was the evertling

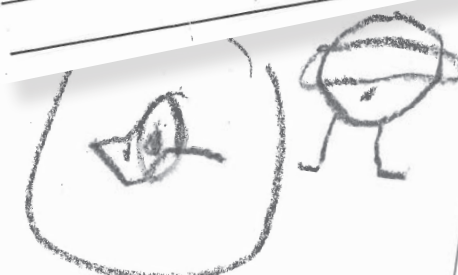
Dear LLPA,

Thank you for letting us learn about the natural habitat. It was awesome. I learned that cutbacks hiss went there there. My favorite part was petting the kind snake. Your friend Keldon.

Thank You



Living planet aquarium
Thank you for letting us come to see all your favorite animals.
Jesse fish.
from Jake



Living planet Aquarium
Thank you for letting us come to see all your favorite animals.
from Jake



Green Sea Turtle
Chelonia mydas

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SALT LAKE COUNTY

MUSEUMS for ALL[®]
an initiative of the
Institute of Museum and Library Services

THANK YOU



Clouded Leopard
Neofelis nebulosa



FOUNDER'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

As we reflect on another incredible year at the Aquarium, I am filled with gratitude for the unwavering support of our community. Together, we are making remarkable strides in our mission to inspire people to Explore, Discover, and Learn about our Living Planet.

I am excited to share the progress on the continued construction of the Sam and Aline Skaggs Science Learning Center, a state-of-the-art facility that will soon serve as a hub for education, research, and innovation. The building's framework is complete, and significant progress is being made on the interior spaces, including advanced laboratories, immersive animal habitats, and collaborative research areas. This transformative project will provide unparalleled opportunities for learners of all ages to deepen their understanding of science and the natural world.

We also celebrate our growing partnership with Utah State University. This collaboration marks the beginning of exciting opportunities for students and researchers, as we work together to advance conservation science and foster a deeper understanding of the intricate connections between Earth's ecosystems.

These milestones reflect what we can achieve when we come together with a shared vision. On behalf of the Aquarium, I extend my heartfelt thanks to each of you for your dedication and generosity. Your belief in our mission empowers us to continue building a brighter future for our planet and the generations to come.

With gratitude,

Brent Andersen
Founder & CEO

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Past Chair

BRENT ANDERSEN

CEO & Founder

IT BEGINS WITH YOU!

From our volunteers and members to our donors and partners, we thank YOU for helping us provide world-class care for animals, create life-changing moments for students, and inspire future generations to care for this Living Planet. We are honored to recognize the following supporters for their gifts received in 2024.



THANK YOU DONORS & MEMBERS

SAM & ALINE SKAGGS
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WHITE FAMILY
TRUST

Giant Pacific Octopus
Enteroctopus dofleini

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Scarlet Macaw
Ara macao

CORE VALUES

Integrity

Thirst for Learning

Commitment to Excellence

Stewardship & Conservation

Leadership & Growth

Fun!

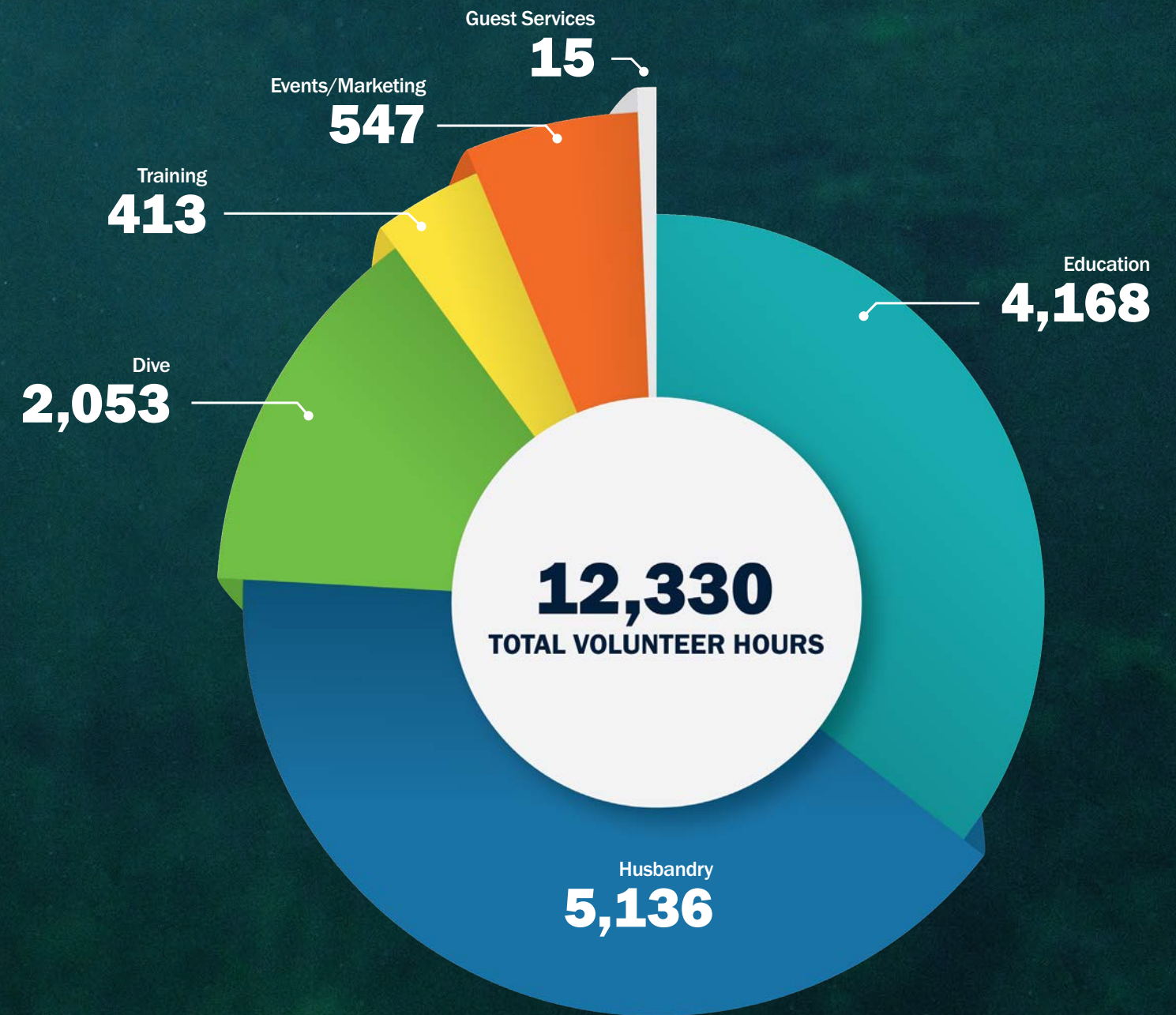
MISSION STATEMENT

We inspire people to Explore, Discover, and Learn about Earth's diverse ecosystems.

VISION

We strive to foster stewardship for the environment and life on Earth.

VOLUNTEERS

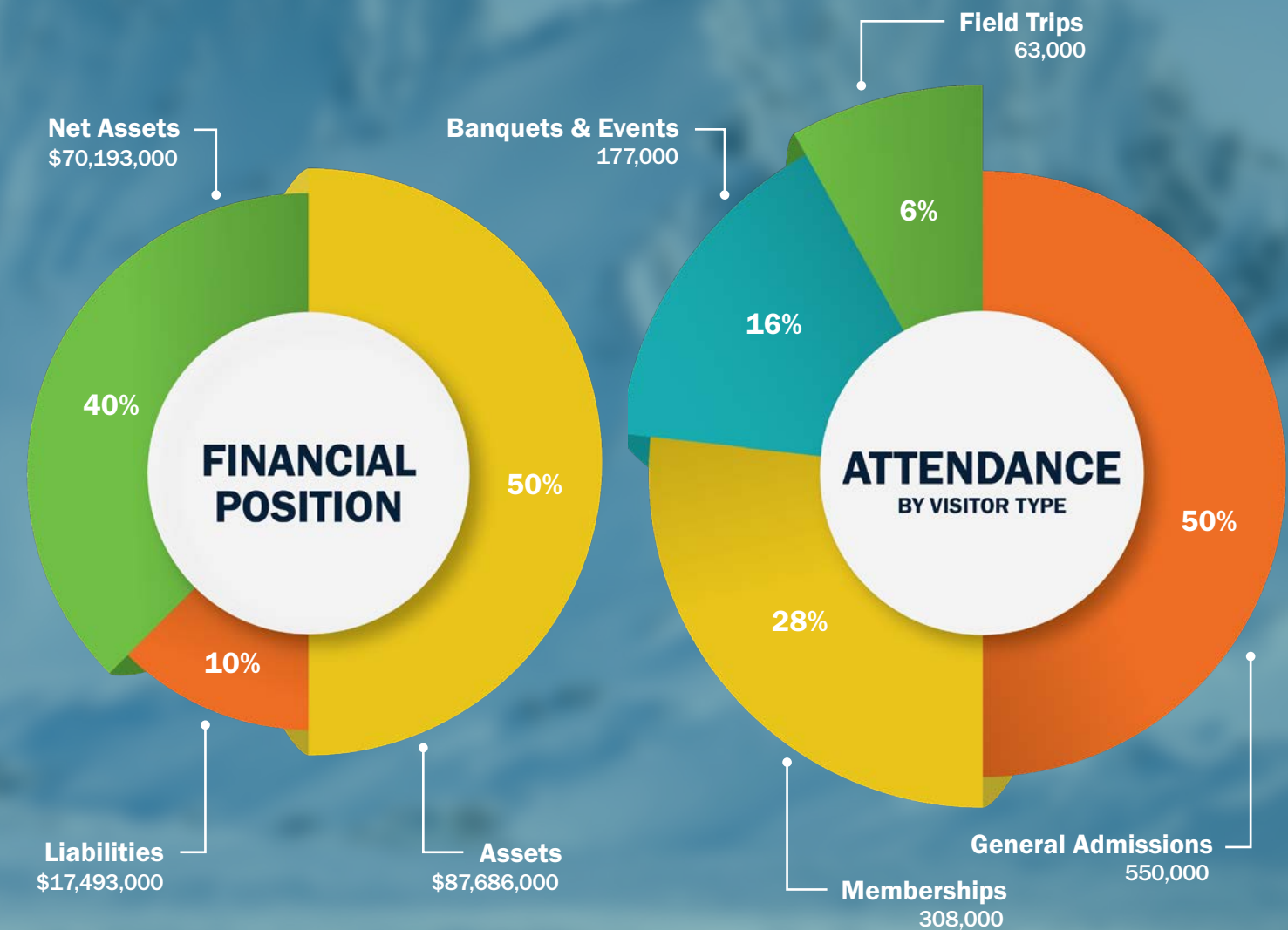
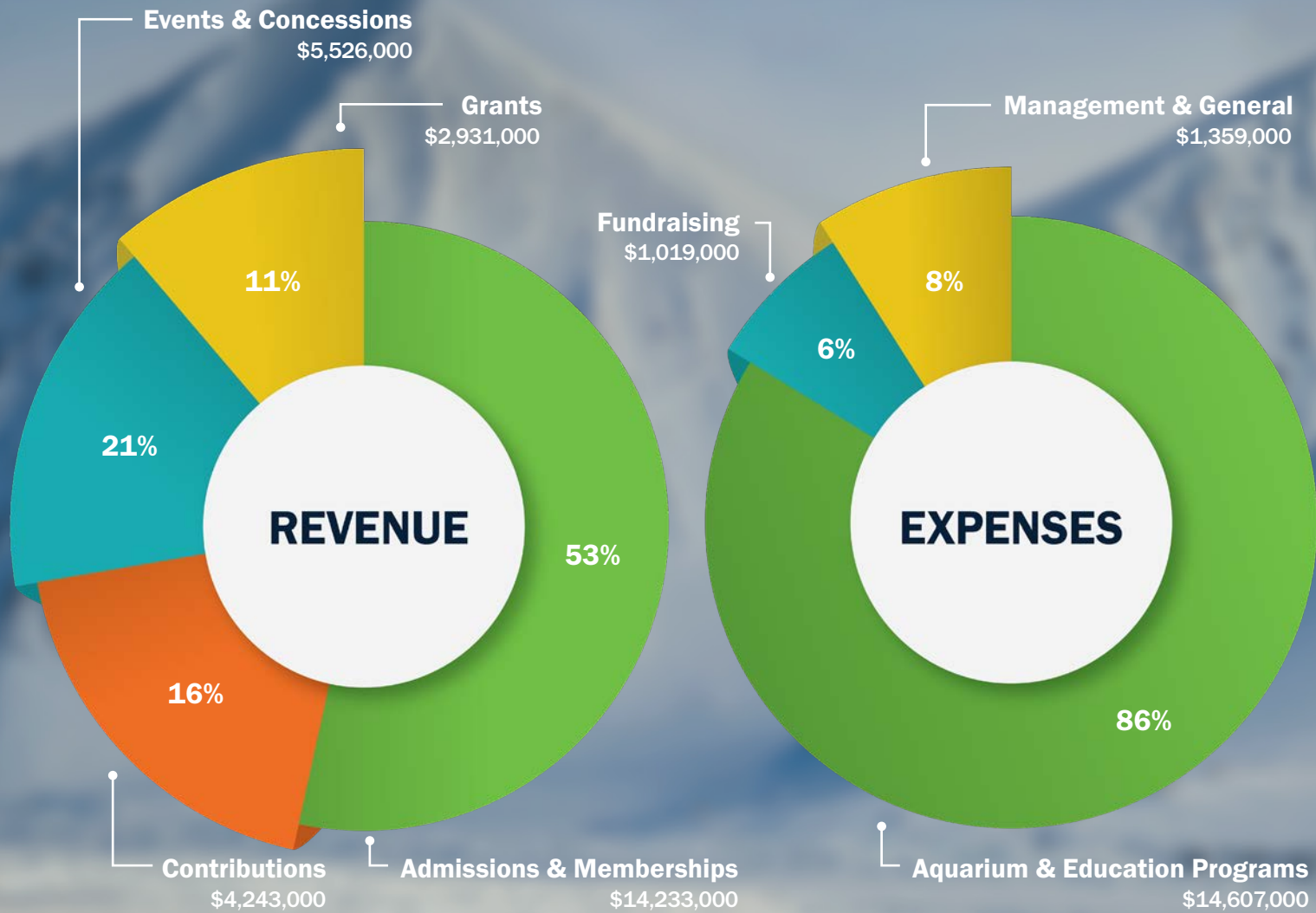


Active Volunteers
207

Arapaima
Arapaima gigas

TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE: \$26,933,000

TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 1,098,000



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

YEAR ENDED: DECEMBER 31, 2024 (UNAUDITED)

EDUCATION ACCESS AT HOME



UtahState
University

&



LOVELAND LIVING PLANET
AQUARIUM™

Utah students will no longer need to leave the state to pursue a degree in marine biology. Through this partnership, they'll have access to the 4,500+ animals at the Aquarium just 100 miles from USU's Logan campus.

Marine Science Minor & Freshwater and Marine Ecology Major (FAME): USU will launch the FAME program in Fall 2026, offering students Utah's first bachelor's degree in this field.



UtahState
University

TRISHA ATWOOD
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AT USU

"We're bringing the ocean to Utah in a unique way that will shape a new generation of marine biologists — those born in the mountains and deserts."



ADVANCING RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

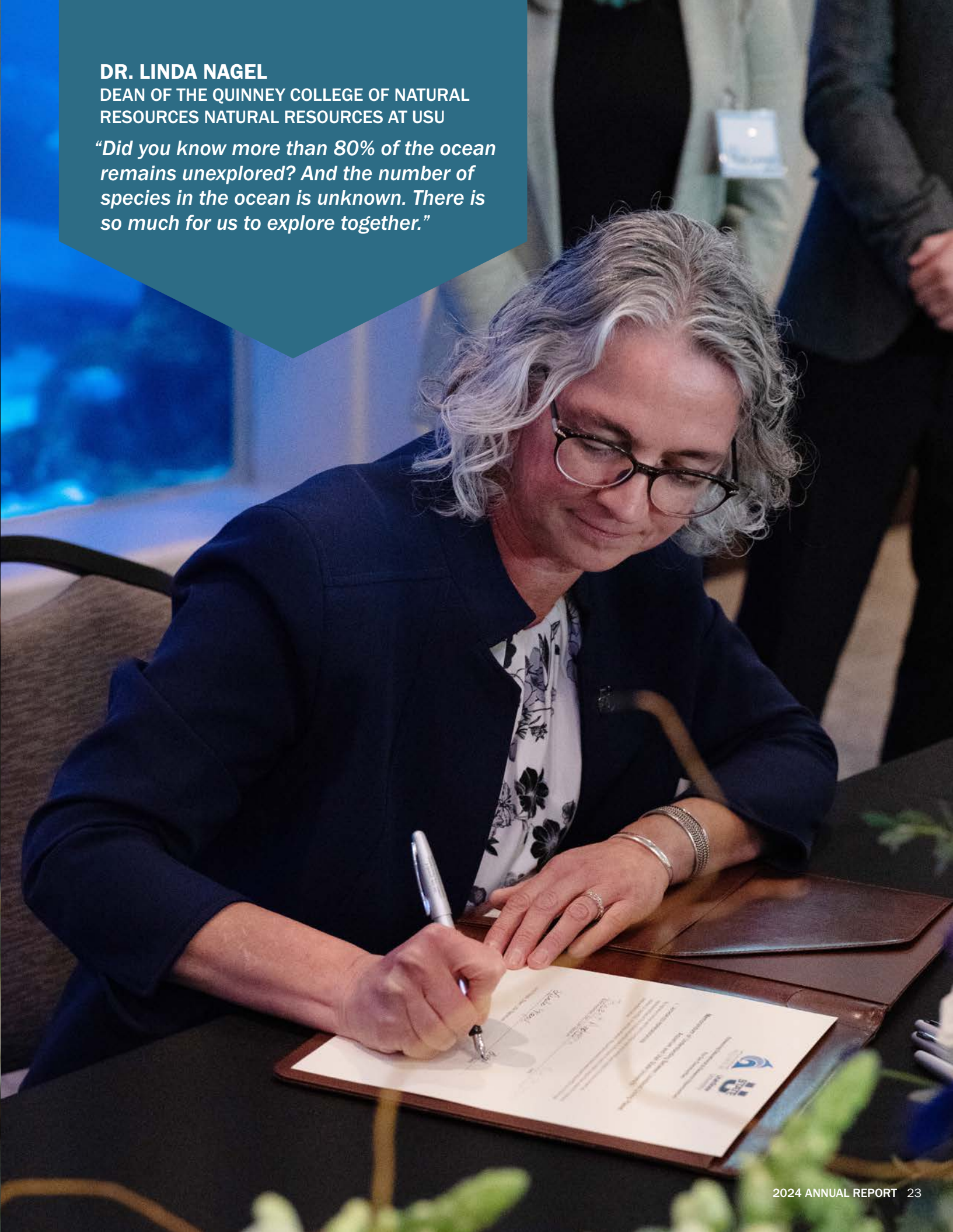
The partnership is not just about education — it's also about advancing critical research. Together, USU and LLPA will collaborate on studies to better understand the sustainability and conservation of the world's largest ecosystem.

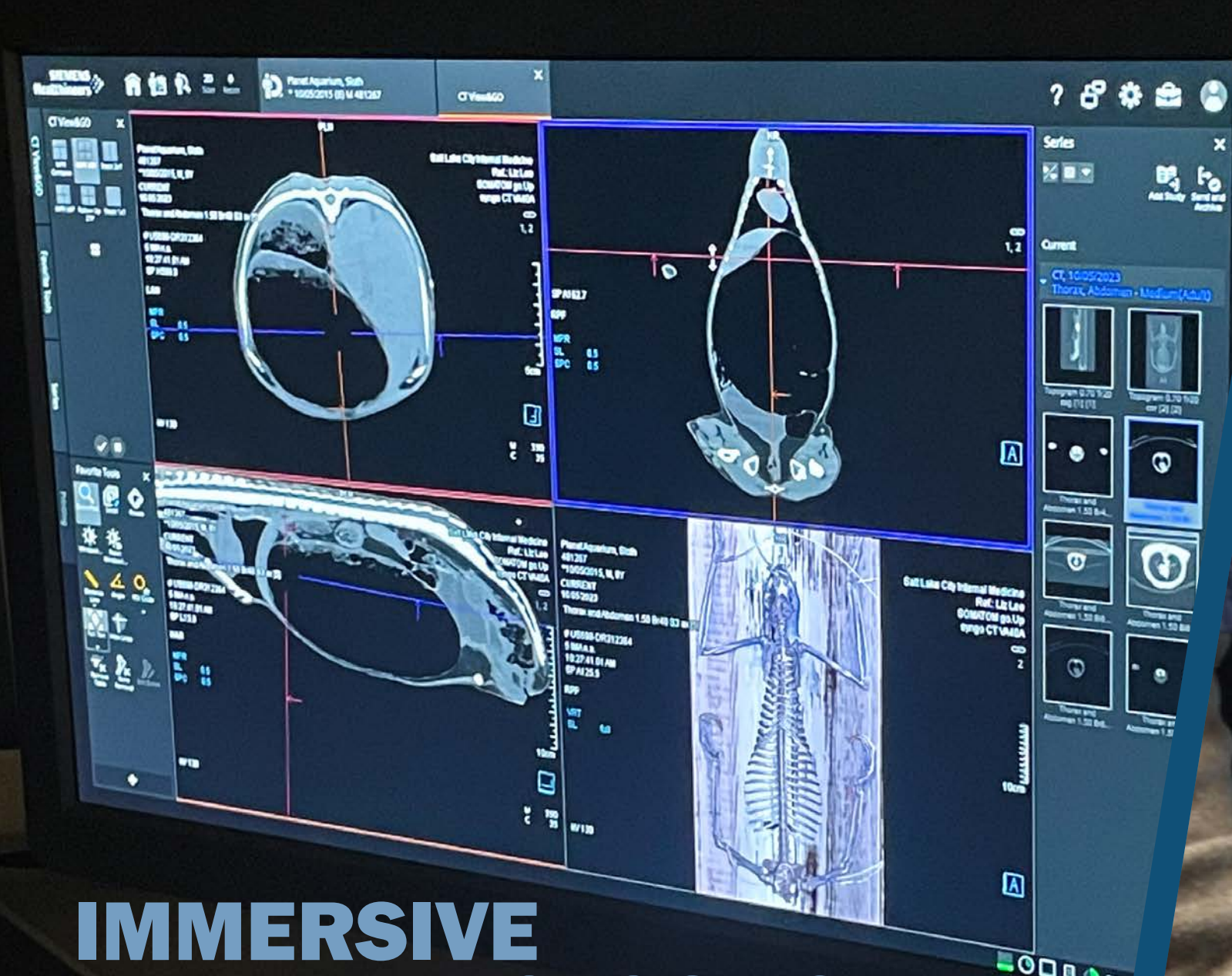
BRENT ANDERSEN
FOUNDER & CEO OF LOVELAND LIVING PLANET AQUARIUM

“At Loveland Living Planet Aquarium, our mission extends beyond showcasing life on earth — we seek to inspire and educate future generations. This partnership with USU is a testament to our commitment to fostering a deeper understanding of the intricate connections between our world’s ecosystems. By partnering with USU to provide students hands-on learning opportunities, we’re not only enriching their education but also empowering them to become the next leaders in marine science and conservation — right here in Utah. We are thrilled to share resources and expertise that inspire a deeper understanding of our Living Planet.”

DR. LINDA NAGEL
DEAN OF THE QUINNEY COLLEGE OF NATURAL RESOURCES
NATURAL RESOURCES AT USU

“Did you know more than 80% of the ocean remains unexplored? And the number of species in the ocean is unknown. There is so much for us to explore together.”





IMMERSIVE MARINE BIOLOGY & VETERINARY STUDIES

Hands-on Learning: Marine biology classes will primarily take place on USU's Logan campus, but students will frequently visit the Aquarium for immersive experiences.

Veterinary Clinical Rotations: Students in Utah's only veterinary degree program will have opportunities to work with the Aquarium's diverse species.

Research Opportunities: A summer research program will enable students and faculty to study marine and terrestrial animals and collaborate on global conservation efforts.





EXPLORE

DISCOVER UTAH HABITAT

COLORADO PIKEMINNOW

The olive-green, white-bellied Colorado pikeminnow, an endangered species, native to the Southwestern United States, has become a focal point of conservation efforts led by the Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) and Wahweap Fish Hatchery. Once widespread in the Colorado River system, the species has suffered dramatic declines due to habitat loss, invasive species, and water management challenges. Through collaboration with conservation partners, Wahweap Fish Hatchery has successfully bred Colorado pikeminnows under managed care, ensuring genetic diversity and population stability as critical steps toward recovery. AZA-accredited institutions, including the Downtown Aquarium in Denver, Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, and Loveland Living Planet Aquarium, joined this initiative by providing safe environments for pikeminnows and by raising awareness among millions of guests about the importance of freshwater ecosystem conservation.

BOTTOM OF THE WORLD HABITAT

ATLANTIC LUMPFISH

In an exciting milestone for our organization, we successfully raised an Atlantic lumpfish from egg to adult. This achievement highlights our dedication to fostering sustainable aquaculture and advancing marine species husbandry (animal care). With more Atlantic lumpfish eggs currently pending hatching, we look forward to further expanding our efforts and celebrating continued successes in the year ahead.

Colorado Pikeminnow
Ptychocheilus lucius

Atlantic Lumpfish
Cyclopterus lumpus



AQUARIUM LANTERN FESTIVAL

In November of 2024, we launched our inaugural Aquarium Lantern Festival, inviting guests to explore the wonders of nature through a mesmerizing fusion of light and art. As guests wandered through glowing pathways of intricately designed lanterns depicting marine and terrestrial wildlife, they uncovered the beauty and diversity of our planet's ecosystems. The overwhelming community response resulted in record-breaking attendance, with proceeds directly supporting the Aquarium's mission in education, conservation, and animal care. This new tradition has set the stage for an even more immersive experience in 2025.

GREEN INITIATIVES BIODEGRADABLE GLOVES

The Aquarium uses a large number of gloves every day for food preparation, animal habitat maintenance, and cleaning. To further reduce our environmental impact, the Aquarium now uses biodegradable gloves. After use, instead of being collected for recycling, these gloves break down over time, returning to the environment without leaving harmful residues. This shift supports a more sustainable approach to waste management.





Wilson's Phalarope
Phalaropus tricolor
Photo Credit: Paul Reeves Photography

PROTECTING WILD PLACES

MOTUS

WILDLIFE TRACKING



TRACK
OUR BIRDS

In 2024, our newly installed MOTUS tower marked an exciting milestone in our conservation efforts, detecting five migratory birds since January. The first detection occurred on July 29 with a Wilson's phalarope, a small shorebird traveling from Canada to the Great Salt Lake. During the Fall migration season, we tracked four cinnamon teals, a colorful duck species, as they stopped in Utah before continuing their journey to San Diego, California, for the winter. These detections highlight the critical role Utah plays in migratory pathways, and we are proud to contribute to global conservation efforts by using technology to better understand and protect these remarkable birds and their habitats.



Cinnamon Teal
Anas cyanoptera
Photo Credit: Brad Lewis

DISCOVER



The Animal Ambassadors team welcomed a new species of tortoise this year: Hermann's tortoise! We are thrilled to have seven of these incredible reptiles, including three adults and four babies. These tortoises are members of our education programming, participating in onsite encounters to educate guests about their unique characteristics and conservation importance. They have recently begun traveling for outreach programs, bringing engaging, hands-on learning experiences to schools and community events.

Tucson, a Harris's Hawk, recently joined the Animal Ambassadors team from the San Diego Zoo Safari Park. As a skilled and dynamic species known for their unique cooperative hunting behavior, Tucson is now learning to fly between gloves as part of his training. Keep an eye out for Tucson on the Rio Tinto Kennecott Plaza, where he can often be seen honing his skills and preparing to inspire students and guests with his agility and grace.



Hermann's Tortoise
Testudo hermanni



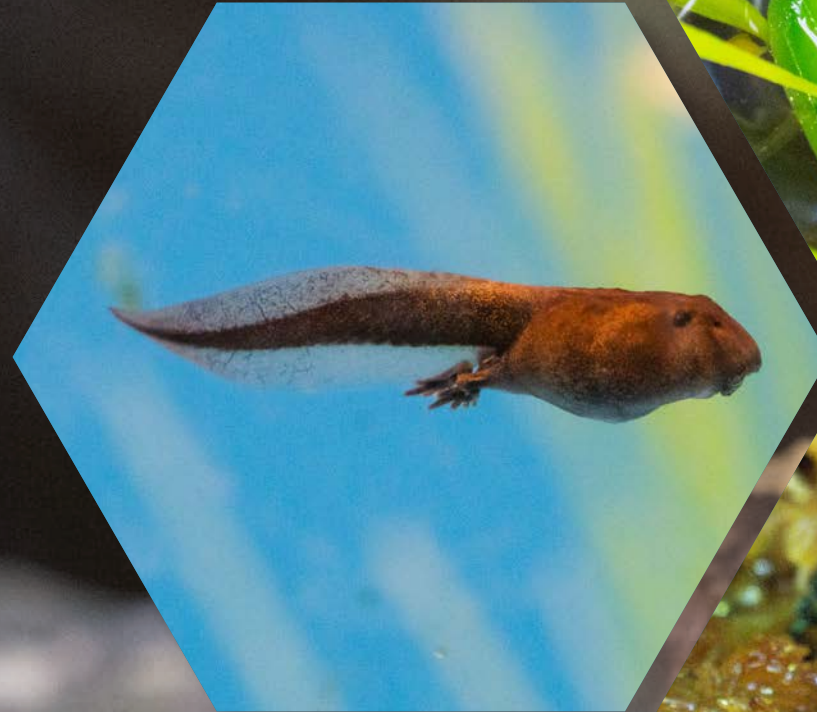
Harris's Hawk
Parabuteo unicinctus

ANIMAL AMBASSADORS PROGRAM

SAVING IMPERILED SPECIES

NATIVE UTAH TOAD REINTRODUCTION

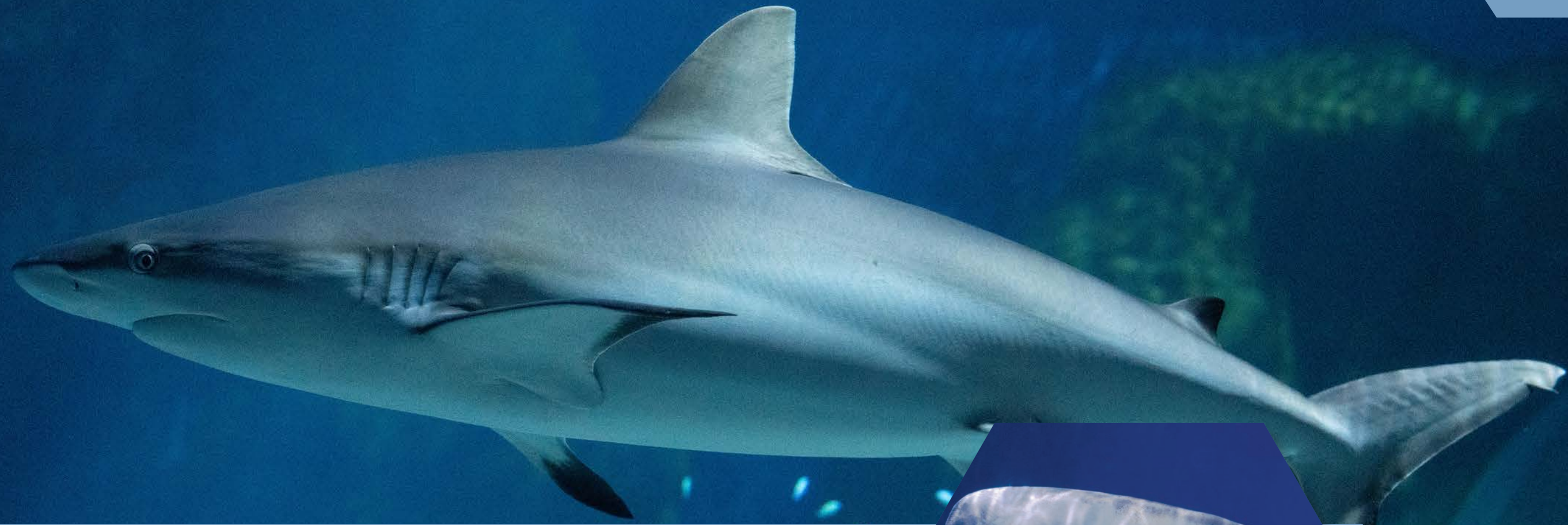
Western toad populations have been declining in recent years due to habitat loss and the spread of chytrid fungus, a deadly pathogen affecting amphibians worldwide. To combat this decline, LLPA partnered with the Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) to breed western toads under managed care. In 2024, LLPA successfully raised 20 western toads, marking a significant milestone in the conservation of this species. These toads will either be released into their native habitats in Utah in 2025 or transferred to other Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) institutions to support breeding programs coordinated by the DWR, further strengthening efforts to restore their populations.



SAVING IMPERILED SPECIES

SAFE

SHARK AND RAY PROGRAM



Loveland Living Planet Aquarium proudly joined the AZA's Saving Animals From Extinction (SAFE) Shark and Ray Program, a collaborative initiative that brings together expertise and audiences to protect vulnerable elasmobranch species. As part of our commitment, we are contributing to critical conservation efforts such as the Chondro Census, Elasmobranch Blood Project, and Sustainable Feed Project, while integrating shark conservation messaging into our education programs. By fostering collaboration within AZA's network and inspiring our guests, we are excited to play a vital role in advancing meaningful conservation for sharks and rays.



Grey Reef Shark
Carcharhinus amblyrhynchos

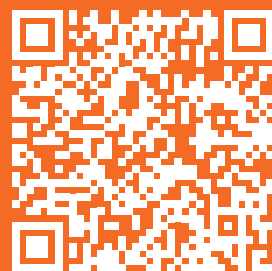
Southern Stingray
Hypanus americanus

SAVING IMPERILED SPECIES

NORTH AMERICAN RIVER OTTER SURVEYS



We proudly partnered with the River Otter Ecology Project (ROEP) to expand efforts to conserve waterways and engage communities in Utah. Together, we're using the North American river otter as a powerful ambassador for healthy aquatic ecosystems, inspiring people to take part in protecting these vital habitats through programs like "Otter Spotter."



"OTTER SPOTTER"
SUBMISSION FORM



Through this partnership, we're combining education and community science to support the return of river otters to areas like Utah, where they once thrived. Alongside ROEP, DWR, Weber State University, and local high school science students, we're researching otter populations and empowering individuals to take action for clean, thriving waterways. When otters thrive, so do our communities.

MOON JELLIES PROPAGATION SYSTEMS

We made significant advancements in our behind-the-scenes infrastructure to enhance the care and sustainability of our aquatic habitats. A new support system was built and commissioned to meet the specific needs of our stingray touch pool animals, ensuring optimal water quality and habitat conditions. Additionally, we developed and implemented a new propagation system for moon jellies, enabling us to propagate these animals in-house. These improvements support the health and well-being of our marine animals and demonstrate our commitment to innovation and self-sufficiency in marine husbandry (animal care) practices.



Moon Jellyfish
Aurelia aurita

LEARN



African Grey Parrot
Psittacus erithacus



SPECIES SURVIVAL PLANS

LLPA collaborates with zoos and aquariums around the country to ensure the survival of threatened and endangered animals as part of several Species Survival Plan® (SSP) Programs as administered by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA). SSPs are cooperative conservation breeding programs that help maintain genetic diversity and stabilize the populations of specific species. The Aquarium is home to several SSP programs for various animals from around the globe.



NORTH & SOUTH AMERICA

- Eastern indigo snake
- North American river otter
- Blue-billed curassow
- Blue-grey tanager
- Gentoo penguin
- Green aracari
- Keel-billed toucan
- Linnaeus's two-toed sloth
- Socorro dove
- Three-banded armadillo
- Venezuelan troupial
- White-blotched river stingray

ASIA

- Asian small-clawed otter
- Black-breasted leaf turtle
- Burmese black tortoise
- Clouded leopard
- Crested wood partridge
- Grey-capped emerald dove
- Komodo dragon
- Luzon bleeding-heart dove
- Nicobar pigeon
- Zebra shark

AFRICA & AUSTRALIA

- Lesser Madagascar tenrec
- Pot-bellied seahorse
- Lined seahorse



- ASIAN SMALL-CLAWED OTTER
- GENTOO PENGUIN



SPECIES SURVIVAL PLANS
ASIAN SMALL-CLAWED OTTER

Kai, a 4-year-old male Asian small-clawed otter, came to LLPA from an AZA facility in Hong Kong as part of a long-term SSP to enhance genetic diversity in the US population. Kai has been a fantastic addition to the Aquarium, often seen swimming or playing with rocks and sticks. He was recently joined by a 4-year-old playful female from an AZA facility in Florida; her long whiskers easily distinguish her. You can find them both in the Ford Expedition Asia Gallery.

Asian Small-Clawed Otter
Aonyx cinereus



SPECIES SURVIVAL PLANS
GENTOO PENGUIN

Two gentoo penguins hatched in 2024, one male and one female, our first successful hatching and raising of chicks at LLPA since 2018.



Gentoo Penguin
Pygoscelis papua

SPECIES SURVIVAL PLANS
TROUPIAL

We received our first Venezuelan troupial, a female easily recognizable by her vibrant orange coloring. You can often spot her in the Journey to South America free-flight aviary, where she is frequently heard chatting to the other birds.



Venezuelan Troupial
Icterus icterus



- VENEZUELAN TROUPIAL
- CUBAN BASSLET
- SOCORRO DOVE

“GOLDEN”
CUBAN BASSLET

We received the Cuban or “Golden” Basslet, a rare species both in the wild and in aquariums, as they are native to Cuba’s deep waters and bred under human care from a small, regulated population since their discovery in 2010. These vibrant fish, measuring less than 3 inches, are known for their bright yellow coloring with purple-tinged fins and their reclusive nature, often hiding along rocky overhangs or coral, as seen in our Ocean Explorer Gallery.



Cuban Basslet
Gramma dejongi

SPECIES SURVIVAL PLANS
SOCORRO DOVE

We received a male Socorro dove from Fresno Zoo, a species extinct in the wild due to predation by invasive species introduced to Socorro Island, Mexico, when it was a military base. With fewer than 200 individuals in human care, efforts are underway in the US and Europe to grow the population for reintroduction, and you can find him in our Journey to South America Gallery.



Socorro Dove
Zenaida graysoni



EDUCATION IMPACT

At Loveland Living Planet Aquarium, we strive to make science and environmental education accessible to all. Our education programs have significantly impacted thousands of students, especially those from underserved communities. Here's how we made a difference this year:

Field Trip Admission:

We welcomed 78,604 students to the Aquarium, including 18,729 Title I students, providing them with the opportunity to explore ecosystems firsthand—an experience many might not otherwise have access to.

Outreach Education in Schools:

Our team delivered engaging, curriculum-aligned science lessons directly to 79,731 second-, fourth-, and sixth-grade students in their classrooms. We traveled to all corners of Utah, ensuring that even the most remote schools could access high-quality, interactive learning experiences—all at no cost to the schools.

Camp Registrations:

Nearly 3,000 students participated in our summer and school-break camps, and we awarded 115 scholarships to support students in need.



SCHOOL OUTREACH STUDENT EXPERIENCES

79,731

FIELD TRIP ADMISSION

78,604



This impact would not have been possible without the generous support of our community partners. Thank you for making these opportunities a reality for so many students. Together, we inspire students to explore, discover, and learn about Earth's diverse ecosystems.



DAVID KELBY JOHNSON
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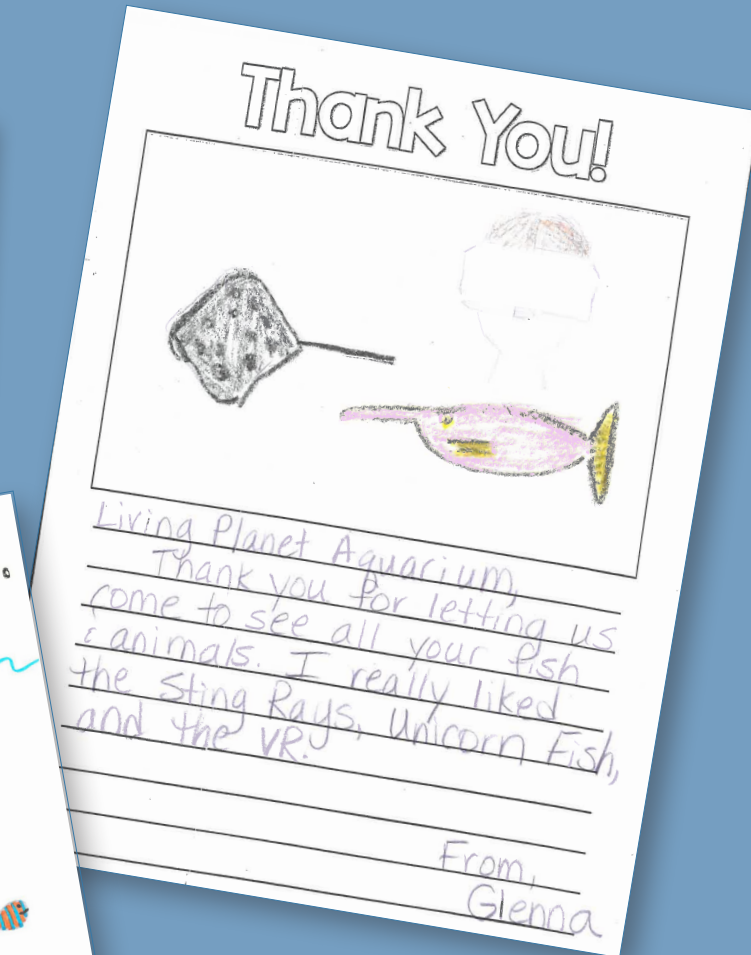
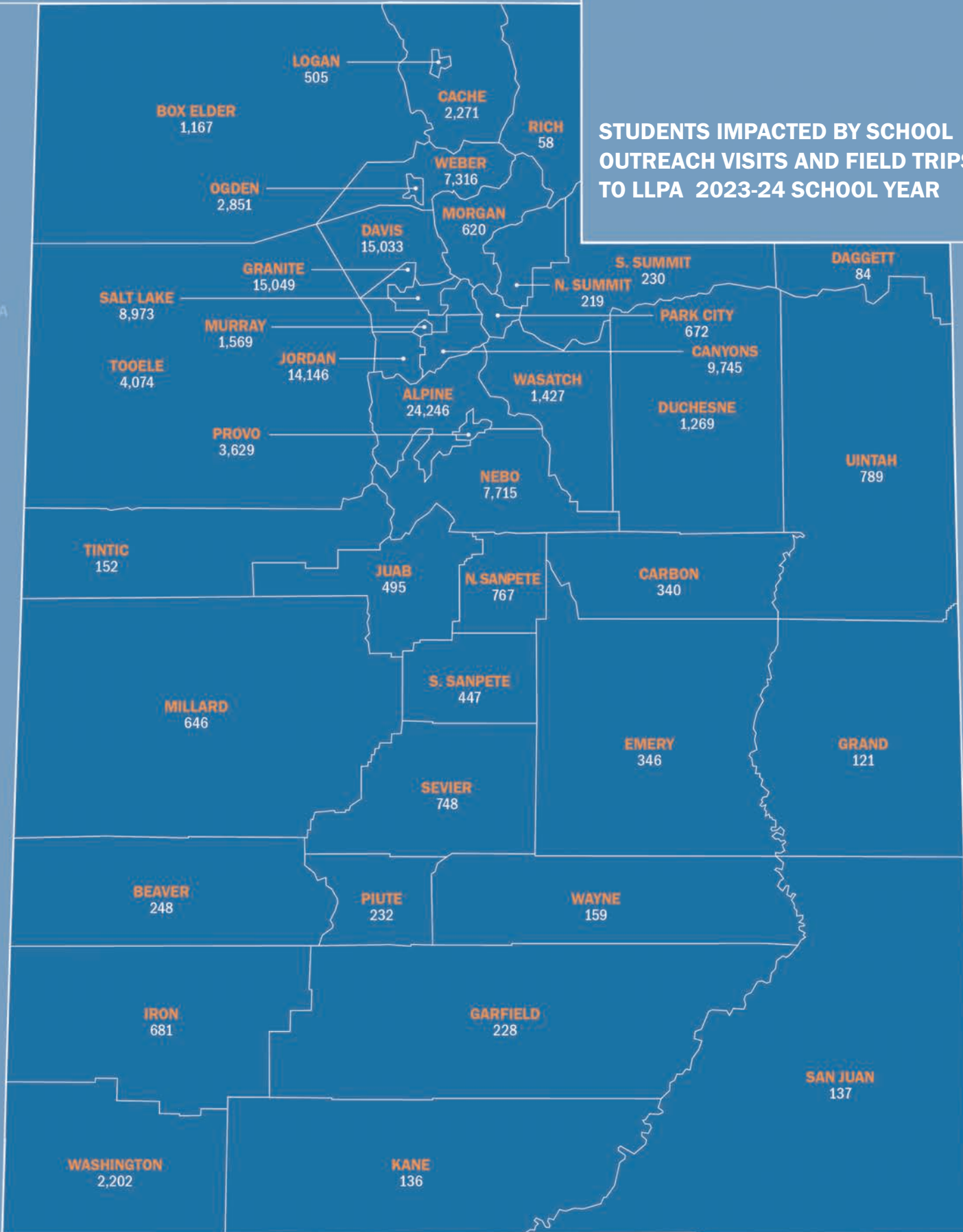


TIMKEN

TOMILEE TILLEY
FAMILY FUND



STUDENTS IMPACTED BY SCHOOL OUTREACH VISITS AND FIELD TRIPS TO LLPA 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR



TOTAL OF STUDENTS IMPACTED BY LLPA'S OUTREACH AND FIELD TRIP PROGRAMS-2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR:

NON-CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS STUDENTS:

131,948

UTAH SCHOOLS FOR DEAF & BLIND STUDENTS:

86

PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS:

124,005

CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS STUDENTS:

21,384

HOMESCHOOL STUDENTS:

4,917

TOTAL

148,070

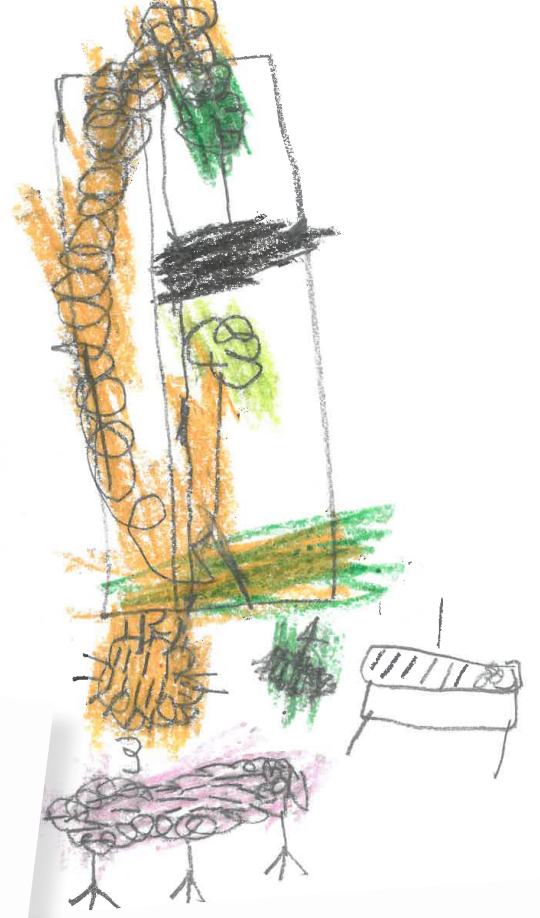
BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

CURRENT AQUARIUM


SAM & ALINE SKAGGS
SCIENCE LEARNING CENTER

EECO VOYAGER
PRESENTED BY:
FLAMM FAMILY
FOUNDATION

Clint on
THANK YOU
for showing
[LOVE] ANIMALS
[LOVE]



Thank You!



Living Planet Aquarium,
Thank you for letting
us come to see all your fish
& animals. My favorite
as the VR



Living Planet Aquarium,
Thank you for letting us
to see all your & animals.
favorite was the sting ray and
VR.

Ellie and Karen:
Thank-you for coming
to our school! We learned a
lot about the rainforest and
animals. I learned that snake
smell throo thar tung. My favori
part was taking af the frog.
thank-you for letting us pet
the snake!

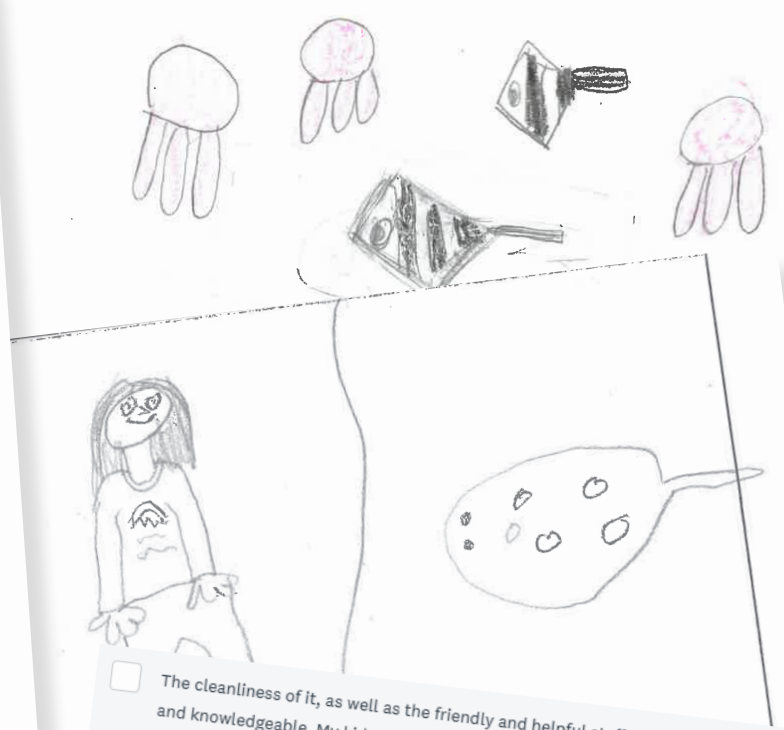
Thank you for showing
animals LOVE you



I have noticed this last week a lot of small and big improvements throughout the facility. And this made me so happy and encouraged me to renew my membership. By seeing the clean, improved areas I noticed from previous visits

thank
you,

thex

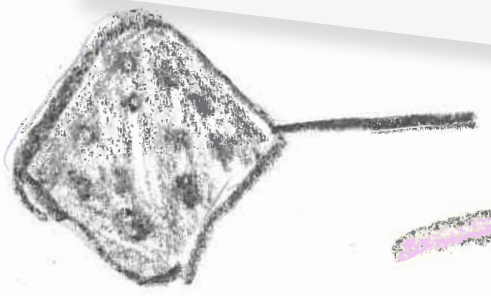


The cleanliness of it, as well as the friendly and helpful staff members. We went to multiple stations and each worker was kind and knowledgeable. My kids and I left having learned so much. The animals always seem content and their habitats are clean. I've been to zoos or other aquariums in various states and was surprised to see how common it is for animals to look sick, diseased, and living in poor quality, dirty environments. Not here!

12/10/2024 08:25 AM

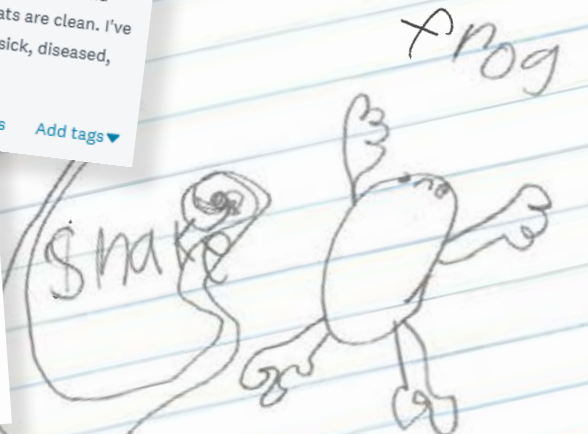
[View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags](#)

Thank you for coming and
educating us on ecosystems.
a cool fact I didnt know was
that the turtles shell is a bone in
a turtles body



Thank You

Dear LLPA _____,
thank you for
letting me
touch the
unemex I will
like that ps
have fun.





12033 South Lone Peak Parkway
Draper, UT 84020

