



The Marine
Mammal Center

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Marine Mammal Center Announces its 12th Annual Gala, “A Celebration of Interdependence”

(Sausalito, Calif. – October 07, 2007) The Marine Mammal Center’s 12th Annual Gala will take place on **Tuesday, October 14** at San Francisco’s impressive **Ritz Carlton Hotel**. This year’s theme, *A Celebration of Interdependence*, will treat guests to a glimpse into the Center’s brand new Sausalito facility opening to the public in June 2009, and celebrate the collaboration and interdependence of both human and animal species that led to this momentous achievement.

“We are delighted to have the opportunity to celebrate The Marine Mammal Center’s new state-of-the-art facility with the people who support us at this year’s gala. It is through their generosity and collaboration that this dream has become a reality, and we are able to care for and learn from hundreds of marine mammal patients each year,” said **Jeff Boehm, Executive Director of The Marine Mammal Center**. “As we look forward to opening the doors to our new Center in June, we are grateful for this chance to acknowledge our interdependence, encompassing our patients’ dependence on us for survival, our dependence on our patients to learn, the public’s dependence on us for information, and most of all, our dependence on the public for its incredible support all of these years.”

The evening will commence with a red-carpet arrival and a cocktail reception at 6:00 P.M., followed by an elegant four-course meal paired with wines from **Heitz Cellars** and **Spring Winery**. Guests will be entertained by solo guitarist **Freddy Clarke**, and will be treated to a sneak-peek video highlighting the new facility.

Following dinner, the Center will host a live auction, led by auctioneer David Reynolds, for some exciting prizes including a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to travel to Rwanda for a private tour to view critically endangered **Mountain Gorillas**, led by the Center’s **Dr. Felicia Nutter**, former Regional Field Veterinarian for the **Mountain Gorilla Veterinary Project**. Other fabulous auction items include a luxurious Las Vegas package for two with a behind-the-scenes tour of **Mandalay Bay’s Shark Reef**

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Aquarium and dinner at **Rick Moonen's RM Seafood Restaurant**, and a limousine tour of **Napa Valley's** finest boutique wineries.

Individual tickets for 12th Annual Gala can be purchased for \$250 by calling Alexandra Sangmeister at 415-289-7354 or emailing sangmeistera@tmmc.org. Proceeds will benefit The Marine Mammal Center.

About The Marine Mammal Center:

Headquartered in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in Sausalito, California, The Marine Mammal Center is a nonprofit veterinary hospital, research and educational center dedicated to the rescue and rehabilitation of ill and injured marine mammals - primarily elephant seals, harbor seals and California sea lions - and to the study of their health. Patients that become healthy again are released back to the ocean. Since 1975, the Center has rescued and treated more than 13,000 marine mammals and has accumulated a body of knowledge about marine mammal and ocean health from its patients. By educating the public about marine mammals, the Center hopes to foster ocean stewardship and conservation. For more information, visit www.marinemammalcenter.org

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