



The Marine
Mammal Center

News Release

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THE MARINE MAMMAL CENTER HOSTS “HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS” OPEN HOUSE ON DECEMBER 10, 2011

Activities include a family-fun event featuring ocean-centric games and drawing class!

(SAUSALITO, Calif. – December 5, 2011) – The public is invited to The Marine Mammal Center’s “Home for the Holidays” open house at its headquarters in Sausalito to learn more about the Center and its work as volunteers and staff help to get patients healthy so they can return “Home for the Holidays.” The event will be held on Saturday, December 10, 2011, from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Visitors will be treated to a wide range of activities of interest for all ages. The event is free.

“We’re thrilled to bring back our holiday open house this year and hope visitors will seize the opportunity to enjoy the natural beauty of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and the wonderfully educational experience The Marine Mammal Center has to offer in inspiring ocean conservation and interest in marine mammals,” said Jeff Boehm, executive director, The Marine Mammal Center. “With all of the fun activities planned for the open house on Dec. 10, as well as throughout the month of December, we think marine mammals will gain some new human friends and advocates!”

Schedule of Day’s Events:

- **Expanded Docent-led tours between weekends, and every day between Dec. 17 – Dec. 31, at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.** - (*fee applies –reservations recommended)
- **Book-reading, signing & Illustration Class - 10:15 a.m. and 2:15 p.m.** Join writer and illustrator Eva Chrysanthe whose work has been published in The New Yorker Magazine, for a reading from her illustrated comic strip, "The Revenge of the Sea Otter" written just for The Marine Mammal Center! Open house visitors will get a FREE autographed copy and a chance to learn how to illustrate some of our patients with a short lesson from Eva!
- **Meet n' Greet Reception - 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.** - If you're a member or interested in becoming a member this is a special chance to meet some of our veterinary team! Talk to our vets, volunteers and staff over drinks and nibbles in the Classroom!
- **Photo Opportunities with Frannie the Fur Seal! ALL DAY!** - Bring your camera and create your own unique holiday cards.
- **Educational Activities, Games & More! ALL DAY!** - Enjoy educational games and activities such as a Scavenger Hunt, Marine Mammal Rescue Demos, and more! In addition, watch films that will inspire ocean stewardship!

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- **FREE** ice cream, chocolates and other holiday delights
- **FREE** Chico tote bag & Basic membership to The Marine Mammal Center with a \$30 Adopt-a-Seal purchase in our gift shop (while supplies last!)

We thank our Home for the Holidays corporate sponsors **TCHO Chocolate**, **Three Twins ice cream**, **Saint Benoit yogurt**, and **Rustic Bakery pastries** for providing the yummy treats for this year's open house!

About The Marine Mammal Center:

The Marine Mammal Center is the world's largest 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. Since 1975, the Center has been headquartered in the Marin Headlands, within the Golden Gate National Parks and has rescued and treated more than 17,000 marine mammals. The Center's newly rebuilt headquarters in Sausalito gives visitors the unique opportunity to learn about marine mammals through viewing areas and educational exhibits. For more information and to sign up for the Center's eNewsletter, go to: www.marinemammalcenter.org

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