**Attention: Assignment Editors**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute Commemorates 50th Anniversary**

*Fins, Flukes & Feathers Celebration Event, September 7, 2013*

Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute (HSWRI), a non-profit organization, will commemorate a monumental benchmark in the Institute’s history, 50 years of *Sea Life Solutions*, at a celebratory event *Fins, Flukes & Feathers*, from6 to 10:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 7, 2013 at SeaWorld San Diego. Since 1963, the Institute has applied innovative discoveries from hundreds of studies that have advanced human understanding and promoted conservation of marine life and ecosystems.

Chevron and SeaWorld are event Co-Chairs and Milt and Peggie Shedd & Family will be recognized as Honorary Chair at this fun and interactive event. Bill Shedd, son of Milt Shedd and current HSWRI Board Chair, stated “Our family is beyond proud to have founded the Institute with the Hubbs in 1963. We are ecstatic at reaching this milestone in the Institute’s history.”

This unique event will begin with a sunset skyride from the HSWRI parking lot into SeaWorld and will include a cocktail reception; light program; live and silent auction; “Meet the Scientists” presentations with live animal ambassadors; sustainable seafood and other delectable fare; entertainment; and animal encounters throughout the evening. The evening will end with a fireworks finale. Historical milestones, supporters will be celebrated and recognized. Single tickets are $125 each. Sponsorships start at $1,000.

Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute and SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment share a unique partnership. The Institute’s founders had a vision for scientific research and a corresponding zoological collection to highlight the beauty and fascination of our oceans. In 1963, the Institute was born and one year later the park that is now SeaWorld opened. In exchange for the immeasurable scientific contributions of the HSWRI research team, 10 percent of the Institute’s annual budget is funded by park revenues but it is the ongoing support of the community -- generous individuals, corporate and foundation partners that has carried the Institution through changing times, budget cuts and sequestration. Despite many challenges, HSWRI has remained true to its mission: *“to return to the sea some measure of the benefits derived from it”.*

For more information about the event, call (619) 226-3870, visit hswri.org

or email ***jdiuguid@hswri.org***

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