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GREATER CLEVELAND AQUARIUM TO CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DIVE DAY



CLEVELAND, OH – The community is invited to join the Greater Cleveland Aquarium (FirstEnergy Powerhouse – Flats West Bank, 2000 Sycamore Street, Cleveland, OH 44113; 216.862.8803; greaterclevelandaquarium.com) in celebrating **International Women's Dive Day** on **Saturday, July 20 from 10am – 5pm***. The annual Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI) commemoration was created to celebrate female divers and to cultivate a more diverse, active and engaged dive community.

Diving is something we think about, talk about and do every single day at the Aquarium," says Dive Safety Coordinator Halle Minshall. Of the Aquarium's 20 SCUBA-certified divers, more than half are female. Collectively the Aquarium's team made 2,828 education and exhibit maintenance dives in 2018, spending the equivalent of 2,061 hours (almost 86 days) underwater. Minshall hopes International Women's Dive Day and her daily interactions at the Aquarium encourage more children to consider becoming involved in a sport she feels has been helpful in many aspects of her life. "Learning to dive builds confidence both in the water and out," says Minshall, who earned her certification at 12. "You also get a peek at 70% of the planet that most people never see and you're immersed in the STEM field at an early age."

Children visiting on July 20th can "dive" into **SCUBA-themed make-and-take crafts, games and activities**. The Aquarium's PADI International Women's Dive Day celebration includes **dive trivia challenges** and **dive-themed temporary tattoos**. The day-long spotlight also features multiple opportunities to **meet Aquarium dive team members during underwater talks at 11am, 1:30pm and 3:45pm** and at an Aquarium information table.

"This is a great opportunity to ask questions about the experience and to find out more about the steps to certification," says Minshall. "Some people mistakenly assume that there are no opportunities to dive in the Midwest but you can train for certification at a quarry, check out Lake Erie shipwrecks or wave at friends from inside a 230,000-gallon shark exhibit here at the Greater Cleveland Aquarium."

Certified divers who visit on PADI International Women's Dive Day are eligible for \$5 off same-day general admission for them and one (1) guest with presentation of proper ID.* **Certified divers visiting July 20, 2019 will also be entered to win a free future Shark Dive CLE experience.****

"Our dive team inspires me every day with their passion for aquatic life and SCUBA," says GM Tami Brown. "I'm pretty sure there are thousands of photos of adults and children high-fiving our divers through the acrylic. Our dive team make a lasting impression on our guests and I'm so grateful for what they do each and every day."

For more information visit greaterclevelandaquarium.com.



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**Dive Day discounts can only be applied to in-person admission purchased on July 20, 2019 before 4pm at the Aquarium front ticket counter. Admission must be used that day and cannot be combined with another offer.*

*** Shark Dive CLE includes admission into the Aquarium for the diver and one (1) viewing guest, a tour of the Aquarium dive platform, an exhibit walk-through and fish identification session, one (1) shark exhibit dive, use of all dive equipment needed AND as many souvenir shark teeth as the guest diver can find.*

NOTE: Dive team interviews or diver's view footage from inside the 230,000-gallon shark exhibit available upon request.



Greater Cleveland Aquarium

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