

**25<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL WEEKEND**  
***On Marine Environment***  
**“Inspired by the Ocean.”**

**NEWFOUND HARBOR MARINE INSTITUTE AT SEACAMP**

Dear International Students,

Welcome to Newfound Harbor Marine Institute's Twenty Fifth Annual International Weekend.

Our International Weekend brings together high school students from around the world to learn and discuss global marine-related environmental problems that affect all nations and their people.

This year Seacamp will host 74 Florida Rotary exchange students from 28 countries, including Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Korea, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, and USA.

Seacamp will also sponsor Florida Keys high school students and chaperones to participate in the International Weekend. The students will come from three local schools: Key West High School, Marathon High School, and Coral Shores High School. A group of 12 students from Rutherford High School in Panama City, Florida will also join us for this event.

Our Twenty Fifth International Weekend will focus on four marine-related issues of global significance: 1) marine fisheries, 2) global climate change, 3) marine biodiversity, and 4) coral degradation.

Our goal is to educate participants on these four topics. Upon arrival, participants will be divided into eight groups. The groups will focus on the four topics mentioned above. Each group will have an instructor who will take students on boat trips and help them learn about the biology and ecology of local systems, including mangrove, sea grass and coral reef habitats. Activities will include boat trips, wading and snorkeling. It will be a hands-on experience, which will be both fun and educational. During these field trips, each group will discuss the biological as well as social background of their topics, first from a regional perspective and then from a global perspective, talking about their own countries.

It would be of great interest to all the participants if international students can share with us what is happening in their countries and how the discussed issues are being addressed there. We do understand that many international students have never studied these topics and may not know what is happening in their countries. For the last 24 years we have been organizing this International Weekend to learn together about our oceans and the threats they face. *We ask our international participants to do research on the Internet about their countries and share this knowledge with other participants.* We will share and learn together.

The boat trips and other field work will prepare everyone for one of the highlights of the International Weekend -- a roundtable discussion. At the roundtable, students will share what

they have learned about their individual group topics with everybody, and discuss possible conflicts and solutions. Before the roundtable there will be time for each group to discuss their topics amongst themselves and prepare for the roundtable discussion. During the roundtable, the floor will be opened for questions and discussion from other participants on each topic. We encourage all participants to offer their own experiences, knowledge and perspective of these issues for a more global view. A primary objective is to focus on different perspectives or 'sides' of each issue and to develop an understanding of different viewpoints.

The schedule of International Weekend activities includes:

	<b>Thursday, Jan 26, 2017</b>	<b>Friday, January 27, 2017</b>	<b>Saturday, January 28, 2017</b>	<b>Sunday, January 29, 2017</b>
<u>Morning</u>		8.00 a.m. - Breakfast 9.30 – 12.00 a.m. - Meet your group for a tour and snorkel workshop	8.00 a.m. - Breakfast 9.00 – 12.00 a.m. Pictures on the boats Program activity	8.00 a.m. - Breakfast 9.00 -11.00 a.m. Wrap up 11.00 Departure
<u>Afternoon</u>		12.30 p.m. – Lunch 1.15 – Ship Store open 2.00 – Pictures at the boats 2.15 - 5.00 p.m. Program Activity	12.30 p.m. - Lunch 1.15 – Ship Store open 2.00 – 5.00 p.m. Group discussions and Lab	
<u>Evening</u>	7.00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Arrival to Seacamp 8.30 p.m. - Camp fire	6.00 p.m. Dinner 8.00 – 10.00 p.m. Dance 10.30 Lights out	6.00 p.m. Dinner 7.30 – 10.00 p.m. Round-Table Discussion 10.30 Lights out	

We recommend that you bring the following items:

- Sleep wear, sleeping bag, linens, and pillow;
- Toiletries, wash cloth, bath towel, and 2 beach towels;
- Bathing suit, sunglasses, sunscreen;
- T-shirt, shorts, long pants, and a long-sleeved shirt or a sweatshirt;
- Socks, shoes, and old tennis shoes for wading;
- Rain jacket, notebook and pen,
- Water bottle, and
- Optional spending money (to buy souvenirs).

Snorkels, masks, and fins are available at NHMI to use free of charge. Please do not bring dive knives or radios.

**We look forward to seeing you all at Newfound Harbor Marine Institute at Seacamp.**

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