

## **HOLLY LOHUIS**

### **Ocean Seeker**

Holly Lohuis is a marine biologist and educator who has appeared in many of Jean-Michel Cousteau's documentaries, including co-star of a new IMAX film, 'Secret Ocean 3D, launched in 2015. She is also featured as a diver and on camera biologist in the eleven hours of the PBS series, "Jean-Michel Cousteau Ocean Adventures."

With a degree in aquatic biology from UC Santa Barbara and experience in the ocean realm around the world, she is an eloquent and popular speaker on the beauty and crises facing our water planet. Holly is also a PADI Dive Master and Open Water SCUBA Instructor.

As a member of Cousteau's expedition team for over 19 years, Holly acts as a liaison between the team and scientists and is responsible for confirming the factual accuracy of Ocean Futures Society's documentaries and publications. She has worked full-time with Jean-Michel Cousteau's marine conservation organization, Ocean Futures Society, since 2002.

Holly has also been a marine educator for over 25 years. For nearly a decade she worked as diver/naturalist with Island Packers, the Channel Islands National Park boat concessionaire and was the education coordinator for their floating classroom programs. She then moved on to a more global arena, working with Passage Productions-Live Dive organization on cruise ships in the Caribbean, Pacific and Mediterranean. She was the on-site marine biologist at the eco-resort, Jean-Michel Cousteau Fiji Islands Resort, for eighteen months where she shared her wealth of knowledge and passion about the importance of protecting our water planet for future generations with guests and the local villagers.

She has taught thousands of children and adults about the wonders and fragility of the marine environment and the importance of protecting our water planet for future generations.

For her educational outreach efforts, Holly was honored in 2009 with the Hall of Fame award from the San Juan School district in her hometown Sacramento, California.

Holly's theme is straightforward: to connect the ocean to the existence and lifestyle of every human being. Everything is connected, and, as such, everything has a value in promoting the fantastic complexity that keeps the entire communities functioning, keeps our ocean planet habitable. This is relevant to coral reefs, human communities, and the planet. Oceans provide critical ecological and economic services and generate hundreds of billions of dollars each year; a significant amount of this economic value relies on healthy, functioning ocean ecosystems.

Through personal stories and exploration, Holly shares some the threats facing the long-term sustainability of our water planet and will showcase the stories of hope with ocean conservation success stories from her travels from around the world. Through her global travels and amazing encounters with many different marine species, Holly's passion is transmitted through her stories of adventure and exploration. She helps children and adults fall in love with the ocean and inspires us all to be apart of a sustainable future for our water planet.

### **“Sea of Hope: Our Gift to the Future”**

The ocean covers 70 percent of the planet's surface and touches us in ways we will never forget. The ocean drives climate and weather patterns, generates more than half of the oxygen we breathe, absorbs carbon dioxide, feeds clouds with rain-inducing moisture, provides food, connects cultures, inspires our spirits and, most importantly, sustains all life on this planet. The ocean is the passion and area of expertise of Holly Lohuis.

Join Holly Lohuis, marine biologist and Jean-Michel Cousteau's dive partner, for an engaging, uplifting and educational presentation on “Sea of Hope: Our Gift for the Future.” Through a multi-media presentation, Holly will share recently released footage from OFS's newest IMAX film ‘Secret Ocean 3D’ the PBS series, “Jean-Michel Cousteau Ocean Adventures.” Her personal travels with Jean-Michel and the OFS expedition team has taken her to the Amazon, Arctic, South Pacific, Northern Europe, Papua New Guinea, New Zealand and the Sea of Cortez. She will share stunning images and stories from her travels around the world. With her, the audience encounters the complexities of the ocean environment and is surprised by how it is being impacted with marine debris, toxic pollution, and climate change, all threatening the long-term vitality of our water planet.

Using coral reefs as an example of an underwater sustainable city, Holly highlights lessons the ocean teaches on how we can all take part in a global solution to create a sustainable future. As Jean-Michel Cousteau always says, "Whether it is a human community, the coral reef, marine mammals or the planet, biological diversity is social security. Protecting it is protecting ourselves."

Through Holly's presentation the audience falls in love with fascinating marine creatures and places and feels empowered to become part of the long-term solution to marine stewardship.

Through the beauty, clarity and inspiration of the Cousteau message, which Holly embodies and has lived, it is easy to see why protecting the ocean now is our gift to the future.

Other titles:

### **Embracing Change thru Ocean Exploration**

### **Making the Connection one Breath at a Time**

Testimonials:

"Thank you for taking the time to come share your experiences with us today. The presentation was excellent, and the whole event was a success. I'm glad you included the segment on blood-work, as that was the topic of much discussion — especially as it related to dispersants. Although we didn't have much time for discussion at the forum, we continued to talk about these issues in class later this afternoon. It was a great educational experience for our students as well as for me."

Gregory Jarrett

Walter H. Capps Center for the Study of Ethics, Religion & Public Life  
University of California, Santa Barbara

11/9/10

"Thank you so much for the presentation last night. I must say it was one of the best presentations we had."

Kaz Aizawa

President, Sole Searchers Dive Club

"I want you to know that you have **truly made a difference** in a lot of young, and older, minds! I received so much positive feedback about your lectures and gorgeous, stunning underwater photography. You have a great gift that has come from years of communicating with people." Thank you!

Robert Nelson, Principal Broker, California and Oregon

Nelson Real Estate - La Jolla, CA and Eugene, OR

12/1/10

You were certainly one of our best presenters in recent memory, and that doesn't just come from me.

Shawn Broes

Sole Searchers Dive Club

I want you to know what a deep impression you made on our SBCC students. My friend Liz O' Scanlon who brought her class, said to tell you that each of her students were "blown away" with your work with Ocean Futures. My class has written notes for you that I can give you on Monday. Even my young Chinese student who was preoccupied with his car problems while you were speaking wrote how inspired he was to take some sort of action.

Marcia Warrecker, SBCC

4/23/11

Well, when I grow up, I plan to be a doctor, but now that I have attended this seminar, I am beginning to have second thoughts. Maybe I can be a doctor that helps the animals that are being rescued from the contaminated environment. This seminar touched me so much, for going into this field is such a good deed. Without people like Holly, our world would keep spiraling down into a big ditch that might be inescapable. When I grow up, I want to make a difference in this world, regardless if I become famous or not. My goal is not fame, it is changing the world into a better place. When I am on my death bed, I want to think that my existence on this world was meaningful, and I was not just a liable person using resources. Yes, I am very interested in becoming some sort of surgeon, but now after this seminar, I am also taking marine biology into consideration.

(Shivani Patel)

Valley Christian School, San Jose

11/13

“Holly was an exceptional guest speaker to the California Channel Islands class at UC-Santa Barbara. This is an upper-level division course with over 200 students. Over the past six years, Holly has always made time in her busy schedule to visit this class and share her knowledge about the marine life in the Santa Barbara Channel and beyond. She instantly related to students by taking them on her journey from the time she was a student at UCSB to her current career with Ocean Futures. Holly has an incredible ability to bring the complexity and wonder of life in the ocean to the classroom by balancing her use of video alongside explanations of the natural history and ecology of marine life. Holly is an inspirational teacher who effectively communicates the importance of protecting and conserving oceans with a passion that is required to make a difference.”

Sara Baguskas

Instructor, California Channel Islands, UC-Santa Barbara

5 Feb 2014

On behalf of the Ventura County Sportfishing Club and myself I want to thank you most sincerely for attending our February meeting as the guest speaker.

Your presentation was beyond excellence, as noted by our members who gave you a standing ovation. In eighteen years you are only the second person to receive this honor, which puts you in our unofficial Hall of Fame.

Thanks again for giving our members such an enjoyable evening and we hope you will come back at a future date.

Brian Zimmerman

Club Founder and secretary