



# News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## FALL 'SHEDD'ULE OF EVENTS

**CHICAGO** – Fall into fun this season at [Shedd Aquarium](#)! Dive into the mysterious world of sea jellies at Shedd’s special exhibit, *Jellies*. Visit the aquarium’s youngest beluga whale, Nunavik, at the Abbott Oceanarium and see how much he’s grown. Discover what goes bump in the night during Shedd’s annual Spooky Seas sleepover and let the kids channel their inner penguin at the *Polar Play Zone* while engaging in some hands-on learning.

### FAMILY CANOE ADVENTURE

Grab a paddle and investigate the natural world with Shedd! Discover what makes the river an important ecosystem and travel to Skokie Lagoons in Winnetka to explore this unique aquatic environment. Paddle the lagoons, take part in aquatic investigations, and enjoy time with your fellow canoers as you explore the natural habitats. Canoe rental and life vest will be provided, along with light snacks. Children must be at least 5 years old and accompanied by a paying adult. To register, call 312-692-3206. Please e-mail questions to [families@sheddaquarium.org](mailto:families@sheddaquarium.org).

Sept. 24, 9:30 a.m. – Noon      \$20 a person (\$15 Shedd members)

### NATIONAL SEAFOOD MONTH AT SHEDD AQUARIUM

October is National Seafood Month, so Shedd is serving up a menu of [sustainable seafood events](#). On Sept. 17, visit Rushing Waters Fisheries, in Palmyra, Wisconsin and explore the ins and outs of trout aquaculture and see what it takes to run a fish farm. By the end of our tour, you’ll have a taste of the industry—including a trout lunch! On Oct. 1, test your talent for sushi rolling with experts from Fortune Fish Seafood Company as you learn the steps to creating your own sustainable seafood sushi and then feast on the results. Learn how to purchase and prepare a whole fish sustainably with Shedd on Oct. 18 at Dirk’s Fish & Gourmet Shop. Pick up new recipes and enjoy the tasty results of the demonstration.

The Business of Sustainable Seafood: Sept. 17, 9a.m. – 4 p.m.      \$45 a person (\$40 Shedd members)

Sustainable Sushi Class: Oct. 1, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.      \$40 a person (\$35 Shedd members)

Whole Fish Demo Class: Oct. 18, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.      \$45 a person (\$40 Shedd members)

### SPOOKY SEAS

Are you brave enough to get face-to-face with mysterious animals after dark? Then, come to [Spooky Seas](#), Shedd's annual family Halloween family celebration. Enjoy themed presentations, animal encounters, dinner and breakfast, gallery activities and a live DJ with dancing. Costumes are encouraged, but not required. Children must be at least 5 years old to spend the night. Families who wish to come to the party but not stay overnight may do so by registering for the evening-only option. For questions or more information, email [families@sheddaquarium.org](mailto:families@sheddaquarium.org). To register, call 312-692-3206

Friday, Oct. 28 – Saturday, Oct. 29

Overnight: 6:30 p.m. - 9 a.m. (evening only option ends at 10:00 p.m.) \$60 per person (\$55 for Shedd members)

Evening Only: 6:30 – 10 p.m. \$25 per person (\$20 for Shedd members)

### **JELLIES**

In Shedd's newest exhibit, *Jellies* sponsored by Walgreens, guests "dive" into the deep and mysterious world of sea jellies, learning how their simple bodies have allowed them to survive for millions of years. Among the educational experiences, guests will see how a jelly can devour enough food to double its weight each day, and learn how sea nettles hunt by trailing their long tentacles and frilly feeding arms covered with stinging cells that paralyze prey upon contact. The exhibit also features a lifecycle exhibit, combining video and actual jellies in various stages of their lifecycle. Guests will even learn about the anatomy of jellies through illuminated features, focusing on the most vital organs of their simple bodies.

*Jellies* will run for a limited time now through May 2012.

### **COMMUNITY DISCOUNT/FREE GENERAL ADMISSION WEEK**

On Shedd's [Community Discount/Free General Admission Days](#), Illinois residents can enjoy FREE general admission to the original galleries and discounted rates on admission to *Wild Reef*, *Polar Play Zone* and Abbott Oceanarium. Mondays and Tuesdays in September, October and November are Community Discount/Free General Admission Days.

Mondays and Tuesdays in September, October and November

General Admission - **FREE**

Discounted Shedd Pass - Adults: \$18.95; Children (ages 3-11): \$13.95  
(includes *Wild Reef*, Abbott Oceanarium and *Polar Play Zone*)

### **BEHIND-THE-SCENES TOURS**

What does it take to make your favorite Shedd exhibits so great? What do the aquarium's trainers do to keep the animals healthy? Find out during Shedd's [Behind the Scenes Tours](#) will answer these questions and more! The 50-minute tour gives guests a unique perspective of the aquarium, through the eyes of the animal care staff. Guests have the rare opportunity to see the animal healthcare center, where preventive care keeps Shedd's residents healthy, and go behind the galleries to view the animals from a new angle, see how nutritious meals are prepared for a wide range of tastes and witness the Aquarium at work.

Now through Labor Day: Daily - 11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m.

After Labor Day: Friday, Saturday and Sunday – 11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m.

\$16 per person

### **BELUGA ENCOUNTERS**

Ever wonder how a beluga whale's skin feels or what a whale's tongue feels like? Or how Shedd's expert trainers care for beluga whales and other marine mammals?

Now, guests can put on waders, get in the water with a beluga whale and find out! Awestruck guests will get nose-to-nose with these gentle white giants from the northern oceans of the Pacific Northwest, and learn firsthand how Shedd's animal experts care for these animals.

Morning and midday encounters are available on Friday, Saturday and Sunday:

\$250 per person, plus admission

\$225 for members

### **PENGUIN ENCOUNTERS**

Guests now have the opportunity to get up and close to Shedd's most popular feathered friends: penguins! The aquarium's newest hands-on experience allows guests to touch a penguin's sleek, slick feathers and learn fascinating facts about the birds and their care from one of Shedd's trainers. The 30-minute sessions are limited to groups of ten or fewer and include a 4x6 photo of the participant and the penguin.

Morning and midday encounters are available daily at 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Prices: \$59.95 for adults, \$50.95 for children  
Includes encounter, a 4x6 encounter photo and all-access admission

### **POLAR PLAY ZONE**

Touching and exploring is encouraged throughout this hands on exhibit, part of the reimagined Abbott Oceanarium, designed just for two- to seven-year-olds. Kids are invited to dress up and waddle like a penguin, touch a sea star, drive a submarine and more. While they play and explore, kids learn about polar opposites—big and small, fast and slow, shallow and deep, even north and south.

*Polar Play Zone* is open daily

Admission is included with the purchase of a Shedd Pass

### **DIVES**

Delve into the depths with a daily narrated dive in the Schooling Fish habitat of the *Wild Reef* exhibit. Wander through an underwater world of wonders as divers maintain this vibrant habitat. Also, learn more about some of Shedd's favorite reef residents, from the sea turtle Nickel to the 7-foot moray eel to the colorful parrotfish, during a new presentation in Shedd's signature Caribbean Reef habitat.

Caribbean Reef Dives

Daily: 10:30 a.m., 12 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m.

### **4-D SPECIAL FX THEATER**

Fall is the perfect time to experience Shedd's 4-D theater located in the Phelps Auditorium, the only 4-D theater in Chicago. Join your adventurous amigos, Dora & Diego, on Nickelodeon's high-speed, eye-popping chase from the tropical rainforest to the icy Arctic, in *Dora & Diego's 4D Adventure: Catch That Robot Butterfly!* You can also experience *Happy Feet: 4-D Experience*, a 12-minute 4-dimensional adaptation of the Academy Award®-winning motion picture. In addition, the crowd pleasing feature, *Planet Earth: Pole to Pole* takes guests on an entertaining and educational journey from the North to South Pole. All features engage all of the senses through effects like neck air bursts, water squirts, leg ticklers, seat buzzers and much more.

*Dora & Diego's 4D Adventure:  
Catch That Robot Butterfly!*  
Plays 40 minutes past the hour

\$6 at the theater door, \$3 for Shedd members.

Show is included in with the Total Experience and *Fantasea* Passes.

*Happy Feet: 4-D Experience* –  
Plays 20 minutes past the hour

*Planet Earth: Pole to Pole* –  
Plays on the hour

**Plan your trip with the Daily 'Shedd'ule: October – December**

9:45 a.m.	Penguin Chat – <i>Polar Play Zone</i>
10:30 a.m.	Caribbean Reef Dive – Caribbean Reef
10:45 a.m.	Animal Encounters – Islands and Lakes Gallery
11:00 a.m.	Beluga and Sea Lion Chat – Oceanarium
11:45 a.m.	Animal Encounters – Amazon Rising
Noon	Caribbean Reef Dive – Caribbean Reef
12:45 p.m.	Penguin Chat – <i>Polar Play Zone</i>
1:30 p.m.	Beluga and Sea Lion Chat – Oceanarium
1:45 p.m.	Animal Encounter – Amazon Rising
2:00 p.m.	Caribbean Reef Dive – Caribbean Reef
2:45 p.m.	Animal Encounter – <i>Wild Reef</i>
2:45 p.m.	Penguin Chat – <i>Polar Play Zone</i>
3:00 p.m.	Caribbean Reef Dive – Caribbean Reef
3:00 p.m.	Beluga and Sea Lion Chat – Oceanarium
3:45 p.m.	Animal Encounter – Local Waters Gallery

From now till Labor Day, Shedd is open from 8:30 a.m. – 6 p.m. daily. After Labor Day, Shedd is open seven days a week from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. during the week and 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. on weekends and holidays until Memorial Day. For more information, please call 312-939-2438 or visit [www.sheddaquarium.org](http://www.sheddaquarium.org). For group sales information, please call 312-692-3333. Advance tickets on sale through Ticketmaster at 800-745-3000 or [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).

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*Shedd Aquarium is supported by the people of Chicago and the State of Illinois.  
Shedd Aquarium is an accredited member of the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA) and the  
Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums*

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