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ACTIVISTS TO LEND THEIR VOICES FOR OCEANS

Storytelling event will support the fight against marine plastic pollution

SANTA MONICA, CA (March 2018)—Adventurers and extreme athletes will join forces this spring to support The 5 Gyres Institute at Voices 4 Oceans, a storytelling event that connects with the sea. (Think “The Moth,” but for a cause.) Speakers include Captain Pete Bethune of Earth Race Conservation, TIME magazine’s “Female Indiana Jones” Alison Teal and world record-breaking paddle-boarder Shilpika Gautam, who singlehandedly paddled the Ganges River, with music curated by KCRW’s legendary DJ, Chris Douridas. The event will celebrate the organization’s 10th anniversary and will kick-off its commitment to the North Star goal to “stop the flow of plastic pollution from source to sea by 2028.”

Voices 4 Oceans will take place on March 22nd at the Moss Theater, located at the New Roads School at the Herb Alpert Educational Village in Santa Monica, CA. The event is generously sponsored by Everything But Water, Nordic Naturals, Rothy’s and Starboard. In addition to the Live Program, a Silent Auction Reception will include food from Little Fatty, and libations provided by Karl Strauss Brewing Company, Pau Maui Vodka and Reed’s Ginger Beer, plus a Gold Frame Media photo booth. After the show, the VIP Dessert Reception will feature Rosenthal Estate Wines and chocolate by Alter Eco. Artwork was donated by Renee Lawter of Eyerus.

All proceeds will support the 5 Gyres mission to end the global health crisis of plastic pollution:

- 300 million tons of new plastic is produced each year and less than 10 percent of plastic is recovered for recycling.
- 5.25 trillion particles weighing in at 270,000 tons of “plastic smog” pollute our oceans worldwide—and a full 80% of that marine plastic pollution comes from land.
- More than 600 species are endangered or killed by marine plastic pollution.
- Plastic wreaks havoc on a marine ecosystem dependent on phytoplankton, which produce 70% of the earth’s oxygen and sequester 40% of its carbon.
- A tiny piece of plastic can be one million times more toxic than the water around it.
- Fish are eating these microplastics—and we’re eating the fish.

ABOUT 5 GYRES

Since 2010, the 5 Gyres Institute has researched plastic in all five main subtropical gyres; in 2014, the organization published the first global estimate of surface pollution, finding 5.25 trillion particles weighing in at 270,000 tons of “plastic smog” worldwide. The 5 Gyres study on microbead pollution in the Great Lakes inspired a two-year collaborative campaign that culminated in the 2015 law which made these plastics illegal nationwide. In 2018 the organization will embark on its 19th Expedition, to research microplastic pollution and zero-waste solutions in Indonesia. 5 Gyres is a science-to-solutions focused non-profit dedicated to a planet free of plastic pollution. More information is at www.5gyres.org.