

MARINE CAREERS DAY 2026

Speaker Guideline

<https://beneaththesea.us/marine-careers/>

Thank you for being a part of our program! The Marine Careers Day program at Beneath The Sea (BTS) provides young adults [high school juniors and seniors, college, gap year students and others] with information about a variety of marine and ocean-related careers. In part, due to the utter enormity of variety in marine-, ocean- and freshwater-related professions, students come to our Marine Careers Day talks and exhibitors looking for information, tools, support, mentorship, and the guidance to learn about different types of careers, education, training, networking opportunities, internships, and employment.

DAY OF PROGRAM

The program will take place on Friday, March 27, 2026 at the Meadowlands Exposition Center (MEC), 355 Plaza Drive, Secaucus, NJ. Parking is free at the MEC.

Morning speakers are scheduled to register at 8:00 – 9:00 AM; Afternoon speakers are scheduled to register between 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM. {As in prior years, there will be speakers in both the morning and afternoon in an adjacent room to the Exhibitor Room, with the opportunity for attendees to visit exhibitor tables or sign-up for hands-on demonstrations as their interests lie.}

The Marine Career Day program will be held in the MEC 1st floor Conference Rooms (B and C). When you arrive, check in at the Marine Careers Registration Desk in the lobby of the MEC. Signage will guide you to the Registration desk from the Main Entrance.

Allow enough time to arrive, check in, and have your electronic devices ready 5 min before your time to speak. You are given 20 min to talk with 5 min Questions & Answers (Q&A) with 5 min for the next speaker to get ready. The emcee will be keeping a strict account of the time. If you already have an exhibitor badge from your booth at the MEC, please wear it. For security purposes, all Marine Careers Day program exhibitors must wear an official Marine Careers Day program identification.

Some of the speaker's titles are not obvious career oriented. To that aim, during your talk make sure some of your talk is geared toward careers, how to get started, what are the various facets of your career, how you can make a difference now, and how to position yourself for your dream job. If there are more questions during the Q&A than your time allows, please offer private time in the hallway or in the exhibitor area. As you are departing the emcee will pull the raffles that are offered after each talk.

YOU are also invited to attend, with complimentary one-day admission:

The Beneath The Sea® Expo: Saturday from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM, OR Sunday from 9:30 AM – 4:30 PM. This complementary admission includes Exposition Center main exhibits, floor demonstrations, weekend seminars, and activities at the new environmental pavilion. It does not include BTS workshops, some of which require fees for entry.

Contact us with any questions or concerns at:

1) Susan Copelas, BA, Founder/President-Dive the World Adventures, WDHOF Associate

Senior Director, BTS Marine Careers Day

Marinecareers@beneaththesea.us

Phone: 914-664-4310

2) Gail Chapman, Ph.D., Women Divers Hall of Fame (WDHOF) Class of 2017

Director, BTS Marine Careers Day

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3) Rene Hernandez, Ph.D. WDHOF Class of 2004

Co-Director, BTS Marine Careers Day

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