



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MEDIA ALERT/ CALENDAR LISTING**

**Save-The-Date**

***The International SeaKeepers Society will honor renowned oceanographic explorer, conservationist, and documentary filmmaker, Fabien Cousteau at its 2015 Bal de La Mer & Founders' Dinner in Fort Lauderdale.***

Fort Lauderdale, Florida - The International SeaKeepers Society announces this year's winner of its prestigious SeaKeeper Award – Fabien Cousteau. The award will be presented at a reception on Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup> during the annual Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show.

Son of Jean Michel Cousteau III who received the SeaKeeper Award in 1996 and grandson of Jacques Yves Cousteau, Fabien continues his family's legacy to protect and preserve the ocean as a dedicated activist, explorer, and filmmaker. Fabien is well-known for his shark documentaries including "Attack of the Mystery Shark," based on a series of shark attacks along the New Jersey shoreline in 1916, and "Mind of a Demon," which focuses on the mysterious nature of sharks.

Florida was selected this year in tribute to one of Fabien's most recent undertakings, Mission 31, the longest expedition to take place at the world's only underwater marine laboratory, Aquarius located off of the Florida Keys. The mission honored the 50th anniversary of his grandfather's original underwater living experiment Conshelf Two, by expanding the Cousteau legacy going deeper (63 feet) and staying longer underwater for a total of 31 days aboard Aquarius. A feature documentary film of Mission 31 and a book documenting the adventures of Mission 31 is now underway. In addition the Fabien Cousteau Ocean Learning Center in the Florida Keys is under development and will be a virtual STEM platform to afford children around the world the opportunity to learn about oceans and engage with aquanauts, ocean explorers and marine biologists directly through social media and interactive videos.

In 2010, Fabien founded the nonprofit organization Plant A Fish, designed to empower communities and children to help restore local water ecosystems through the healthy "replanting" of key marine species with the ultimate goal of planting 1 billion "fish" worldwide. Fabien is a member of numerous charitable boards including The International SeaKeepers Society, Water Innovation Alliance, Millennium Project, Blue Ocean Film Festival, Plastic Pollution Coalition, One World One Ocean, Points of Light, Antarctic Ocean Alliance and the New York Harbor School.

The event will be held at a private location in Fort Lauderdale where guests will be treated to an incredible evening of cocktails, dining and entertainment in a waterfront ambiance. The evening will celebrate the work of Fabien Cousteau highlighting his extensive achievements. The latest 2015 missions aboard the SeaKeepers DISCOVERY Yacht Fleet will also be presented.

Cousteau joins an elite and influential group of leaders in marine conservation including: Monaco's own H.S.H. Prince Ranier III and H.S.H. Prince Albert II; Cousteau's father, French explorer and film producer, Jean-Michel Cousteau; Canadian film director/producer and deep-sea explorer, James Cameron; American marine biologist, author, lecturer and National Geographic explorer-in-residence, Dr. Sylvia Earle; French fashion tycoon, agnes b.; Sargasso Sea Alliance (SSA), a partnership to protect the Sargasso Sea led by SSA Board Chair, David Shaw and the Government of Bermuda; and most recently the 2014 recipient Wendy Benchley. For tickets and event information contact [gill@seakeepers.org](mailto:gill@seakeepers.org).

**About The International SeaKeepers Society®** The International SeaKeepers Society is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization focusing on the health of the world's oceans and climate. SeaKeepers works with the boating and yachting community to take advantage of their unique potential in order to further marine research and to raise awareness about the issues our oceans face. The International SeaKeepers Society acts as a global catalyst working with governments, scientists, industry, and other marine organizations to further its mission and to support sensible, achievable marine protection and restoration.

**For more information visit [www.seakeepers.org](http://www.seakeepers.org)**

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