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The Bay Foundation's 2nd Annual Coastal Connections Event Celebrates the Coast at Pacific Park, Sept. 22, 2016

Tickets On-Sale Now

Los Angeles, CA (August 23, 2016) – On Thursday, September 22, from 5:30pm – 8:30pm, [The Bay Foundation](http://www.santamonicabay.org) (TBF) will host its **2nd Annual Coastal Connections** fundraiser at a customized venue in Pacific Park on the Santa Monica Pier. The family-friendly-event will celebrate everyone's connections with the coast, along with TBF's recent accomplishments and upcoming projects. This event will feature a delicious buffet and bar, entertainment, passes for all the rides and games, and more! Tickets are on sale now, please visit www.santamonicabay.org or click [HERE](#).

TBF is honoring filmmaker and environmentalist Leslie Iwerks; Beth Ryan, a long-time volunteer for TBF and Disney VoluntEARS; and Terranea Resort.

"We are thrilled to be at Pacific Park this year, celebrating how all ages enjoy and value our beaches, which are visited by 72 million people a year," says Tom Ford, TBF Executive Director. "We at TBF, along with our partners, work to ensure the health, resilience and sustainability of the Bay through many projects that clean up waterways, create green spaces in urban areas, and restore natural habitats on land and under water.

"Our honorees have the TBF ethic, as witnessed through their art, labor and conservation. I admire their commitment to the Bay, the environment and future generations. I'm proud to be honoring them as they are admirable and deserving of our appreciation!"

[Iwerks](#), a long-time Santa Monica resident and coastal native, is the Academy Award-nominated director of the documentary "Recycled Life" chronicling the thousands of people living inside the largest landfill in Central America, the Guatemala City garbage dump. Among her repertoire of award winning films are those that expose the devastating impacts of the Alberta Tar Sands on humans and the environment ("Downstream", "Dirty Oil") as well as "Pipe Dreams" which investigates the toxic impact the Keystone XL Pipeline has on America's largest freshwater Aquifer. Her films have raised millions of dollars for charity, have screened on Capitol Hill, and have become part of the curriculum in classrooms across Canada and the United States.



Ryan, a Los Angeles transplant since 1991, has always been drawn to volunteering. In 1999, the environment caught her attention and she has worked ever since on restoration projects and beach cleanups with many groups, joining the Disney VolunteERS Leadership Council in 2010. She has been an inspirational and dedicated volunteer on TBF's Culver City Rain Garden and at Malibu Lagoon, bringing many VolunteERS with her.

Located on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, [Terranea Resort](#) overlooks the ocean and benefits from TBF's kelp restoration project. Appreciating its rich terrain, the resort encourages guests to discover and explore the scenic coastal trails, secluded beach coves and ocean environment using its Adventure Concierge services. The resort was purposefully constructed with ecological initiatives to reduce pollution to the ocean and restore the coastal bluffs. As a result the ocean is cleaner and the bluffs now support rare and endangered species while providing the amenities of a world-class resort.

The Honorary Host Committee reflects a number of elected officials who have shown commitment to the environment, working to ensure clean water and a healthy region for the future. The Honorary Host Committee includes U.S. Congressman Ted W. Lieu, State Senator Ben Allen, Assemblywoman Autumn R. Burke, Assemblymember Richard Bloom, Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, City of Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, City of Santa Monica Mayor Tony Vazquez, and City of Los Angeles Councilmember Mike Bonin.

Key sponsors include Terranea Resort and Pacific Park. For sponsorship, please contact jdubrow@santamonica.org. For more **information and to reserve tickets**, please visit www.santamonica.org.

About The Bay Foundation (TBF)

The Bay Foundation is a 501(c) 3 non-profit environmental group founded in 1990 to restore and enhance the Santa Monica Bay (from the LA-Ventura county line to the Palos Verdes Peninsula) and local coastal waters. The Foundation is the non-profit partner of the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission, raising and expending funds for research, education, planning, cleanup efforts and other priorities identified in the Commission's Santa Monica Bay Restoration Plan. As advocates for the Bay, TBF works collaboratively with a broad group of stakeholders, including government agencies, industry, environmental groups, and scientists, to implement innovative policies and projects that clean up the waterways, create green spaces and natural habitats in the Los Angeles region. The TBF conducts research and mentors student intern and volunteers through its Center for Santa Monica Bay Studies at Loyola Marymount University. <http://www.santamonica.org/>

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