

NEWS RELEASE

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BID ON “OCEAN COMMOTION” AUCTION ITEMS AND SUPPORT THE VIRGINIA AQUARIUM

(VIRGINIA BEACH, VA) – The Virginia Aquarium’s annual online fundraising event is here! Newly named [Ocean Commotion](#), the auction presents exciting experiences and one-of-a-kind items to bid on now through October 8, including local attraction tickets, vacation getaways, beach cruisers, an electric golf cart, sports and celebrity merchandise, unique artwork, and more. Generous corporate partners for the event include title sponsor Capital Group and auction sponsor Checkered Flag Auto Group.

Anyone with a computer, tablet or smartphone can participate in the virtual auction. Simply [click here](#) to start bidding on the auction items and support the Virginia Aquarium. Bidders can choose from over 100 different items. Bidding opened on September 19 at 9 a.m. and will close on October 8 at 11:59 p.m. An exciting high-value item this year includes a 2022 White Bintelli Beyond Golf Cart, a six-person electric street legal ride, generously provided by Atlantic Electric Vehicles and valued at more than \$15,000.

All event proceeds will be used at the Virginia Aquarium to help care for thousands of animals, provide educational offerings to guests, offer outreach programs to schools, conduct research and conservation activities, and operate our nationally recognized Stranding Response Program. “Your gifts and bids to our premier fundraiser make a direct impact on furthering our mission to preserve the marine environment,” says Aquarium Executive Director Cynthia Spanoulis.

“We have proudly supported the Virginia Aquarium for 16 years, and the annual fundraiser is one way we support their very important mission,” says Michelle Collins, Senior Program Manager, Vice President at Capital Group. “We are excited to be the title sponsor of this year’s event and look forward to the success it will bring!”

For more information about Ocean Commotion sponsored by Capital Group, and how to make a gift, visit [VirginiaAquarium.com](#). Those wishing to help via traditional mail can send a donation of any amount to Virginia Aquarium Foundation, 717 General Booth Blvd., Suite 10, Virginia Beach, VA 23451.

Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center

The [Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center](#) is an accredited member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums and the Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums. The Aquarium is also a member of World Association of Zoos and Aquariums. The Virginia Aquarium’s mission is to inspire conservation of the marine environment through education, research, and sustainable practices. It is located at 717 General Booth Boulevard, just south of Rudee Inlet in Virginia Beach.

The Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, supports the work of the Virginia Aquarium. The Foundation procures and maintains the Aquarium’s exhibits, including the animals and habitats. It is also responsible for annual and capital fundraising, administration and funding for the Virginia Aquarium Stranding Response Program, conservation and scientific research efforts, and the Aquarium’s mission-related education programs. You can be a part of our mission by making a tax-deductible donation to support our incredible programming.

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