



The History of Diving Museum
The Story of Man's Quest to Explore Under the Sea

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For immediate release:

Celebrate History of Diving Museum's newest Featured Exhibit: *Diving With a Purpose: Restoring Our Oceans, Preserving Our Heritage!* All are welcome for the opening ceremony, ribbon cutting and presentations on Sunday, June 2 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm.

The community is invited to join History of Diving Museum and partnering organizations, Diving With a Purpose (DWP) and the National Association of Black Scuba Divers (NABS), for the opening of the new Featured Exhibit, *Restoring Our Oceans, Preserving Our Heritage!* The evening will include a chance to meander through the exhibit, a ribbon cutting reception and presentations. Light refreshments will be served.

This amazing exhibit looks at underwater archaeology and how it has been used to understand cultural and historical significance and stories behind shipwrecks and more. Diving With a Purpose is a non-profit focused on the African-American component of these stories. The underwater sites on display range from sailing vessels to slave ships to the Tuskegee Airmen of WWII.

Sunday evening activities include two enlightening speakers. NASA engineer Erik Densen will speak on his involvement with the DWP organization from its beginnings in 2004 plus the various projects they have worked on with the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, National Park Service, NOAA, and others that helped put this exhibit together. The second speaker is archaeologist, Dr. Justin Dunnavant who has also worked closely with DWP and the research associated with African American history in relation to the archaeological sites.

The exhibit will be on display through December 31, 2019 with an abundance of events and special presentations. Some include: Dive Into History Weekend (June 15-16) with a Saturday morning event at the Museum and an afternoon dive/marine scavenger hunt at Captain Slate's Scuba Adventure; FREE admission for dads on Father's Day; celebrating PADI Women Dive Day on July 20 with a morning presentation at the Museum from Keys local Karuna Eberl (director) as she discusses her award-winning documentary "The Guerrero Project" covering the 1827 slave ship that sank off the Florida coast. The afternoon includes a Heritage Awareness dive with Sailfish Scuba in Key Largo. Special presentations and dive trips will continue throughout 2019, so stay up-to-date on social media and at DivingMuseum.org/Featured-Exhibit.

The History of Diving Museum is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit located in Islamorada (MM83), open daily from 10-5. It's a must see for anyone traveling along the Overseas Highway. Divers and non-divers alike are astonished by over 4,000 years of "man's quest to explore under the sea." The Museum Store has a plethora of gifts for everyone! Become a Member or sponsor and support special programming today. Contact Lisa Mongelia, Executive Director for more information: director@divingmuseum.org.

