



Media Release

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28th Annual Hampton Bay Days Bay Education Area Hosts “Meet and Greets” with Wyland and Aaron Brooks!!

Bay Education Area Returns to 28th Annual Hampton Bay Days!

*--Exhibits include the Wyland Mobile Learning Center, Aaron Brooks Family Foundation,
Chesapeake Bay Foundation, and more--*

Hampton, VA- This September 10-12, educate yourself on the value and importance of the Chesapeake Bay by stopping by Hampton Bay Day’s Bay Education Area, located between Wine and Eaton Streets in downtown Hampton. Featuring over 20 interactive booths, the area is great way to learn about environmentalism, conservationism, and one of our area’s most important natural resources (and the nation’s largest estuary), the Chesapeake Bay. Families will have the opportunity to discover live animal shows, aquatic art workshops, interactive presentations, and children’s entertainment all focused on the “Go Green Generation.”

This year the fully interactive Wyland Mobile Learning Center returns to Bay Days, helping to inform children on how pollution affects our water. Through a series of small activities, visitors can spin the wheel of (mis)fortune to discover the food web, bring rain down over a polluted city to see the impact on a watershed, divert a flowing river to learn about water management, use a computer model to see changes in a lake region over 200 years, and transform a raindrop in the

30-person on-board theater. Wyland, a world-renowned painter, is also known globally as a sculptor, photographer, writer, SCUBA diver, and marine life conservationist.

As a special treat to attendees, Wyland himself will be available for a “Meet & Greet” opportunity. He will lend his expertise to budding artists at our “Artist for a Day” mural painting experience (located in the Bay Education Center, next to the Wyland Clean Water Mobile Learning Center), as well as autograph Wyland-designed 2010 Hampton Bay Days posters, 2010 Hampton Bay Days t-shirts, and his new interactive book (posters, t-shirts, and books available for purchase). The Wyland appearance will take place on Saturday, September 11, 10:00 a.m. – noon. All items are available for purchase on-site during the festival or prior to the festival by placing an order with the Hampton Bay Days office.

New to the Bay Education Area this year is the Aaron Brooks Family Foundation! Brooks, a Newport News-native and former NFL quarterback for the Green Bay Packers, New Orleans Saints, and Oakland Raiders, will host a “Meet and Greet” opportunity at his booth in the Bay Education Area, Saturday, September 11, 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. The Aaron Brooks Family Foundation was established in November 2003 to support literacy, arts, and other youth inspired programs.

The Bay Education Stage will host a variety of live entertainment throughout the weekend, including the Rainbow Puppets and Uncle Ty-rone the Ventriloquist. In addition, Busch Gardens will put on a live animal show on Saturday, September 11 and meet & greets with the animals on both Saturday, September 11 – Sunday, September 12. There will even be a “School for Scallywags” with pirates. Other highlights include various storytellers, a magician, pirate dance troupe, and Lil’ Blue Book & the Therapy Dogs.

Other exhibitors in the Bay Education Area this year include Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Pet Therapy, Virginia Air & Space Center, The Mariners’ Museum, Virginia Natural Gas, Virginia Marine Science (VIMS), Virginia Tech Agricultural Research and Extension Center (VT AREC), WVEC-13 News, Oyster Gardeners, Newport News Waterworks, Ident-A-Kid, Busch Gardens, and more.

Bay Days Bay Education Area Meet and Greets (Saturday, September 11)

Wyland

Saturday, September 11

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Aaron Brooks

Saturday, September 11

2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Busch Gardens Animal Meet and Greets

Saturday, September 11 – Sunday, September 12

12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Bay Education Area hours are 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 11 and Noon- 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 12 (Hampton Bay Days is scheduled for September 10-12, Bay Education is not open on September 10). Carousel Park is located at 602 Settlers Landing Road, Hampton, VA 23669. For more information on the 28th annual Hampton Bay Days and the Bay Education Area, check out www.baydays.com or call 757/727-1641. The Bay Education Area is presented by VacationChannels.com.

In 1982, Hampton Bay Days was created as a unique outlet to educate the public on the importance of the Chesapeake Bay in the Hampton Roads region, as well as the rest of Virginia and Maryland. The goal of the festival is to provide an entertaining atmosphere while ultimately serving a greater purpose, highlighting aspects of the Bay and promoting its upkeep and preservation.

Hampton, Virginia, the oldest continuous English speaking settlement in North America, celebrates four centuries of history in 2010. We invite you to “Explore Old Worlds, New Worlds, Our World.” The Explore Hampton 2010 committee consists of Hampton citizens and representatives of businesses, churches, neighborhoods, Hampton University and the City of Hampton. For information on upcoming Explore Hampton initiatives, visit www.hampton400.

Partially bordered by the Hampton Roads harbor and Chesapeake Bay, Hampton, with the 344,000 sq. ft. Hampton Roads Convention Center, is located in the center of the Hampton Roads metropolitan area. Hampton is the site of America's first continuous English-speaking settlement and is home to such visitor attractions as the Virginia Air & Space Center and Riverside IMAX ® Theater, Hampton Maritime Center, Hampton History Museum, harbor tours and cruises, Hampton University Museum, Fort Monroe, award-winning Hampton Coliseum, The American Theatre, among others.

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