A close-up photograph of a bird's head and neck, showing its feathers and a young chick nestled in a nest of wood chips. The bird's feathers are a mix of brown and white, and the chick is covered in dark, fluffy down. The nest is made of brown wood chips. The text "2017 ANNUAL REPORT THE SAFINA CENTER" is overlaid on the top left of the image.

2017 ANNUAL REPORT
THE SAFINA CENTER

THE WHALE SANCTUARY PROJECT: CREATING WILD HABITATS FOR CAPTIVE WHALES

by Erica Cirino, Writer, Artist and Social Media Coordinator

“Lori is an out-of-the-box thinker who is showing us the science of mental experience, something that a generation ago was deemed impossible, something many still resist. And her vision of whale sanctuaries will become how whales get phased out of captivity.”
— Carl Safina

“I am honored to be a creative affiliate of The Safina Center and to be in the company of such an inspiring and diverse group of people who are trying to make the world a better place. And I am privileged to call Carl Safina my friend and colleague and to have him share his talents and insights with us now as a board member of the Whale Sanctuary Project.” — Lori Marino

There are many people who believe whales and dolphins do not belong in aquariums and marine parks, and for good reason: When you put a large, highly intelligent animal that naturally travels a hundred or more miles a day into a small concrete tank, the results aren't pretty. The animals suffer increased mental and physical disease and mortality, are more aggressive toward people and other animals, cannot perform many of their natural behaviors and experience broken family bonds. Instead, they are forced to perform “tricks” for human enjoyment.

The Whale Sanctuary Project, a nonprofit co-founded last year by neurobiologist and animal rights activist Dr. Lori Marino, has a goal of creating a safe, healthy environment for captive cetaceans to gain more freedom. This will come in the form of a large seaside sanctuary that would house these captive animals, as well as sick and injured wild whales and dolphins. A highly trained staff would oversee their care, and the group also plans to create an on-site and virtual education center.

Now, author and ecologist Dr. Carl Safina has announced he is accepting a position on the Whale Sanctuary Project's Board of Directors. He says he is willing to contribute to the project in any capacity he can.

“This is about enlarging our circle of compassion to include lifetime care for captive or injured whales and dolphins,” Safina says.

Currently the Whale Sanctuary Project is focused on building the foundation it needs to build a sanctuary in the future. The first sanctuary would be the size of a large city park and could home six to eight cetaceans. There would be sea nets separating the sanctuary from the open ocean and could create separation within the sanctuary. It's scouting for potential locations in British Columbia, Nova Scotia and Washington State. The organization plans to decide on a final location by the end of 2017.

It has assembled a board, which, besides Safina and Whale Sanctuary Project President Lori Marino, includes Executive Director Charles Vinick who has worked closely with Jacques and Jean-Michael



▲ Lori Marino, Safina Center Creative Affiliate. Photo: Lori Marino

Cousteau on various ocean conservation initiatives, David Phillips of Earth Island Institute and Naomi Rose of Animal Welfare Institute in Washington, D.C. It also has a full staff and team of advisors working on the project.

The project was funded with an initial grant of \$200,000 from Munchkin, Inc., whose founder Steven Dunn was inspired to donate after learning about the lives of captive cetaceans in the documentary *Blackfish*. This year Munchkin has donated a \$300,000 challenge grant, which Whale Sanctuary Project hopes to match by the end of the year. The total cost of the sanctuary is \$15 to \$20 million.

While the price of the sanctuary may be steep, the sanctuary's benefit to cetaceans could be priceless. It would give them a refuge to more peacefully and naturally live out their lives. And it would also serve as a symbol of humanity's changing beliefs about keeping animals in captivity.

“The presence of a sanctuary will serve to demonstrate how our relationship to these magnificent animals is changing, potentially enabling all captive whales to live in natural environments and— one day—ending the practice of theatrical performances,” Marino says.

This story was originally published to National Geographic's Ocean Views blog on July 20, 2017.



FRONT COVER PHOTO
Two-week-old Laysan albatross chick. Photo: Hob Osterlund

THIS PAGE
(Left) Common terns. Long Island, New York. Photo: Carl Safina
(Right) Offshore bottlenose dolphins. Atlantic Ocean. Photo: Carl Safina

BACK COVER
(Top) Safina Center "Kalpana Chawla Launchpad" Fellow Kate Thompson brings orphans to national parks in Tanzania. Photo: Kate Thompson
(Bottom) Safina Center Fellow Ian Urbina documents ocean crime in the South Pacific. Photo: Ian Urbina

MISSION

At The Safina Center we advance the case for life on Earth by fusing scientific understanding, emotional connection, and a moral call to action. We create an original blend of science, art, and literature in the form of books and articles, scientific research, photography, films, sound-art, and spoken words. We bear first-hand witness and then we speak up, we speak out, and we teach. Our work is designed to inspire and engage others to devote their time and energies to conservation of wild things and wild places.

The Safina Center is a 501(c)3 nonprofit based on Long Island, N.Y.

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WE ARE ABOUT VALUES

by Carl Safina, Safina Center Founder and President

Last year in my annual message I wrote, “people filter information through their values.” And I added, “to most people, facts mean less than values. Values determine how we view facts. Many will even deny facts that aren’t in line with their values.”

Mind you, I’d written that message before the election. And now Federal websites are being purged of scientific information. Federal reports are being purged of any mention of a changing climate. The Endangered Species Act is more at risk than ever. National monuments created to protect ecosystems, animals, and beauty, are “under review.” The Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Interior (along with Justice and Education) are being run by people who hate the mission of those agencies.

More obvious now than ever: facts are not the root of these problems; this is a war of values.

That’s why values have long been the focus of The Safina Center. We’re not trying to force anyone to have an intelligent conversation with us. We are trying to touch people, deeply. We want to accomplish something very simply stated: to permanently change how people feel about things.

We aim to stop people in their tracks and make their jaw drop. On a good day, something we’ve written might bring you to tears. It could be tears of grief, about devastation. It could be tears of joy, about something saved or just hearing that there remains so much to celebrate and so much beauty to revel in. It could be a photo of a bird. We work to engage emotions, vividly and acutely—because your efforts are needed.

In other words, we are motivated and inspired—and we want to be contagious. We want you—we need you—motivated and inspired, yourself.

We’ve succeeded in touching you if something we’ve done makes you smile or cry, makes you tell a friend, makes you read aloud in bed, makes you pick up the phone, makes you write to anyone elected or appointed, selected or anointed—and scream holy hell or shout with delight. Because a lot is at stake, there’s not a lot of time to waste, and everyone matters now.

Our Center staff and fellows, Erica Cirino’s writing and speaking, Paul Greenberg’s books and PBS special on the future of food, Shelly Dearhart’s work on seafood sustainability for Whole Foods nationwide, Ian Urbina’s exposure



▲ Carl Safina aboard Greenpeace's Arctic Sunrise.
Photo: Christian Åslund

of the extent of illegal fishing and human rights abuses globally, John Weller and Shawn Heinrichs’s heart-stopping photos and on-the-ground conservation work in Indonesia, Ben Mirin’s recording expeditions to create his extraordinarily engaging living-sound art, Kate Thompson’s work in Tanzania and Madagascar, and Hob Osterlund’s nest-by-nest albatross protection—that’s us. Our common through-line: passion for conservation and creating tangible work products—books, film, images, art, scientific publications—that you can share.

We understand the information as well as most but we are not ashamed to focus on the living world’s beauty. The main problem with asking people to help “protect biodiversity” is that you have to explain what biodiversity is. It’s far from a household word. (I was flabbergasted that recently the chairman of a major university’s center for sustainability asked me to explain the word “biodiversity” to him. Never assume anything!) But if we show the beauty in the living world, and ask people to work with us for the sake of beauty—well, that gets you a pretty big tent.

The beauty of the world is a worthy enough goal. Beauty is what makes life worth the time it takes. Beauty is a mental health issue. I realize that sounds funny, but, really; think about it.

I and our Center’s staff and our fantastic fellows are not helping you pass a quiz. We’re working to help you pass a living world on to your children and their children. Then it will be their turn. And they’ll carry the values we’ve given them.

No less is at stake.

Carl Safina

ACHIEVEMENTS OF 2017

Following the publication of his best-selling book, *Beyond Words: What Animals Think and Feel*, Carl began working on a new book about things animals learn from other animals that they would not know by instinct alone. He and our Fellows and Creative Affiliates also traveled the world to give workshops, sign books, speak, and present. Their goals are big and their causes are noble: They traveled to conflict zones to investigate piracy and illegal fishing; made music to aid in animal conservation; helped establish marine protected areas; uncovered the latest data on oceanic plastic pollution and more. We welcomed Shelley Dearheart to our Sustainable Seafood Program, which continues to work closely with Whole Foods Market and this year published several informational guides on mercury in seafood. Our seafood ratings are still featured at the seafood counters in all Whole Foods stores in the U.S. We've worked hard to make more connections with our audiences on social media, this year branching out to Instagram and making more use of online engagement to get people involved in conservation efforts. The Safina Center's progress in reaching new audiences also continues to grow through mainstream outlets such as National Public Radio, The New York Times, National Geographic, CNN and others, as you can read in the *Making Waves* section on page 30. Together we create artworks, books, films, photographs, stories and workshops, which, when combined with our solutions-oriented approach has the power to compel our audiences to make real-world change. Our mission is to inspire a deeper sense of connection with the natural world. Check out *Milestones and Firsts* on page 26 to read more about our achievements this year.

FELLOWS PROGRAM

Safina Center Fellows this year worked in the areas of wildlife and environmental conservation, fisheries-related human rights, human and environmental health and artistic innovation. We are proud of this exceptional group of award-winning authors, filmmakers, photographers and conservation scientists who together help advance global conservation, working creatively. Current Fellows include:

- New York Times best-selling author Paul Greenberg, who is a Safina Center Writer in Residence
- investigative journalist Ian Urbina, whose previous New York Times work on human rights abuses on high-seas illegal fishing vessels earned him a Pulitzer Prize
- photographer and filmmaker John Weller and photographer and marine conservationist Shawn Heinrichs whose work focuses mainly on protecting reefs and manta rays in Indonesia
- writer and photographer Hob Osterlund who protects albatross nesting areas
- sound artist and science educator Ben Mirin
- filmmaker and noted photo artist Chris Jordan
- fisheries scientist Eric Gilman

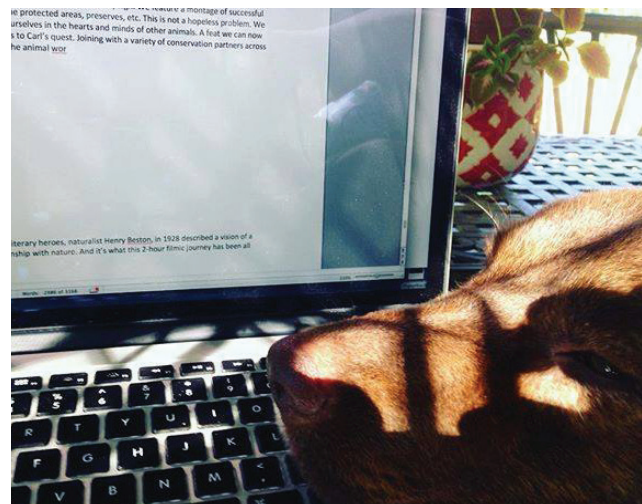
Greenberg and Weller are also all globally recognized Pew Fellows (as is Safina).

For more about our Fellows, see page 12 and their essays throughout this report.

CARL SAFINA'S WORK

Carl is now working on a new book about the social lives of animals. This follows *Beyond Words*, which is being translated into 12 different languages. This surge of international interest in Carl's work has meant more international media attention and travel. In Carl's TED talk "What are Animals Thinking and Feeling," he discusses the science and ideas he used when writing *Beyond Words*. His talk has been viewed nearly two million times.

This year Carl traveled from Barcelona to Dominica and beyond to exchange ideas and insight about animals and humans' relationship to them with other experts and the public. To read more about Carl's work this past year, see page 10 and his essay on page 11.



▲ Carl Safina's canine editor Chula has decided there needs to be a big space on the page Carl has been writing. Photo: Carl Safina

INTRODUCING THE SAFINA CENTER "KALPANA CHAWLA LAUNCHPAD" FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

In 2017 the Safina Center established its "Kalpana Chawla" Launchpad Fellowship program. It was designed to kickstart projects undertaken by promising young venture-level talent, helping launch the early thrust of their careers and create an affiliation of like-minded kindred spirits. The fellowship is named after astronaut Kalpana Chawla.

Kalpana Chawla was a dynamic, nature-loving female astronaut who perished aboard the Columbia Space Shuttle in 2003. She chose to bring Carl Safina's *Song for the Blue Ocean* as one of the few personal belongings to accompany her in space. A year after her death, her family and friends established the Kalpana Chawla Scholarship at the Safina Center. We are honored to commemorate Kalpana's adventurous and courageous spirit by supporting inspiring young conservationists.

In 2017, the Safina Center nominated and accepted two candidates for its "Kalpana Chawla Launchpad" Fellowships: Science Writer and Artist Erica Cirino, and Humanitarian and Conservationist Kate Thompson. Read on to learn more about these inspirational young women.

ERICA CIRINO

Science Writer and Artist

Erica Cirino is a freelance science writer and artist. As a writer she covers wildlife and the environment, specializing in biology, conservation and policy. Her photography and mixed media works explore the human connection to nature, especially wild creatures.

In 2016 Cirino sailed across the eastern Pacific Ocean from Los Angeles to Honolulu through the famous "Great Pacific Garbage Patch" with a Danish nonprofit called Plastic Change. On board a 54-foot steel sloop, she witnessed and documented—in writing, photography and film—the organization's scientific work, ocean plastic, marine wildlife and life at sea. Her stories about the expedition appear in *Scientific American*, *VICE*, *Oceans Deeply*, *The Revelator* and other science media outlets. Last January she was interviewed on NPR station WCAI-Woods Hole, discussing the expedition and the latest news about ocean plastic. Seeking to spread her message even further, Cirino began giving presentations about plastic, ocean science and what she witnessed at sea.

As a "Kalpana Chawla Launchpad" Fellow, Cirino plans to embed with scientists at the front lines of the plastic pollution fight, visiting some of the most polluted places on Earth and documenting what she experiences. She will use her field material to write stories and enrich her presentation "Exploring the Pacific Ocean and Beyond in Pursuit of Plastic," which she'll deliver at high schools, colleges and public spaces. The premise of her speaking tour is inspired by the Jacques Cousteau quote, "We must go and see for ourselves," an idea that mirrors Cirino's journalistic ethic: rather than report from home, she makes it a point to go and see plastic pollution, science and solutions in action. Cirino hopes her presentations inspire effective social and political action on plastic pollution for the benefit of ecological habitats worldwide.



◀ Erica Cirino surveys Nai Yang Beach in Phuket, Thailand, for plastic to photograph. Besides Thailand and her sailing trip across the Pacific, in the past year Erica has traveled to Italy, Denmark, Sweden, Grenada, as well as the Great Lakes and other regions of the United States in pursuit of plastic pollution, experts and innovators.
Photo: Steven Ferneding



▲ Safina Center "Kalpana Chawla Launchpad" Fellow Kate Thompson works to bring orphans to national parks in Tanzania. Photo: Kate Thompson

KATE THOMPSON

Humanitarian and Conservationist

Katharine (Kate) Thompson, who focuses on humanitarian aid and human-wildlife conflict, is a student in the Interdepartmental Doctoral Program in Anthropological Sciences at Stony Brook University, and a freelance scientific illustrator. Her dissertation research will use a combination of ethnographic interviews, dietary journals, and zooarcheological resources to understand the factors that drive the hunting and consumption of wild animals in Madagascar. Thompson believes that addressing the needs and priorities of local populations (including food security, access to medical and educational institutions, and safe and reliable employment) is vital to advancing conservation efforts, both in Madagascar and around the world.

Thompson is the founder and executive director the Amani Foundation, which benefits and runs Amani Children's Home in northern Tanzania. Amani Children's Home is located within walking distance of Lake Manyara National Park, two hours from Lake Tangire National Park, and half a day's drive from the Serengeti National Park and Ngorogoro Conservation Areas. The surrounding community faces high rates of human-wildlife conflict and persistent poaching (featured in the 2015 documentary "The Ivory Game"). Therefore, Amani Children's Home and Amani Foundation are in a prime location to help children develop environmental sensitivity and a knowledge of the wildlife around them as well as engage the broader, predominantly Maasai community in a dialogue on human-wildlife co-existence.

As a "Kalpana Chawla Launchpad" Fellow, Thompson plans to 1.) start programs that educate children about the local ecosystems and their role in the protection of them, and 2.) invest in lasting resources that will allow students to continue their pursuit of knowledge after the educational programs have concluded. Thompson also plans translate and show educational movies to the local community, in hopes of sparking a dialogue about wildlife and conservation across generations and along the front lines of hunter-wildlife conflict in the Northern Circuit.

YEAR IN PICTURES



◀ This year Carl was invited to speak in Barcelona, Spain. His best-selling book *Beyond Words* has been translated into Spanish, among 11 other international languages. Photo: Patricia Paladines

▶ Carl Safina and Safina Center Fellow Paul Greenberg on location in Montauk, New York, for Paul's PBS Frontline documentary "The Fish On My Plate." Photo: PBS Frontline



◀ Safina Center Fellow Ben Mirin clinched a spot in National Geographic Kids Almanac 2017 for his show *Wild Beats*. In his show he mixes amazing music from animal sounds, many of which he's recorded himself, and his own original beat-boxing. Photo: Ben Mirin



◀ Carl Safina and Safina Center Staff Member/Kalpana Launchpad Fellow Erica Cirino and dogs working at the Safina Center headquarters in Setauket, New York.

This year Carl and Erica worked together to publish dozens of stories for National Geographic, Medium and other well-known publications this year. Photo: John Griffin

Safina Center Fellow Shawn Heinrichs takes a selfie with a whale shark to help bring attention to the need to protect the species. Photo: Shawn Heinrichs ▼



► A photograph of Laysan albatross mother Mahealani and her daughter Kalama. Safina Center Fellow Hob Osterlund spent much of the year documenting Kalama's life for a coming documentary. Photo: Hob Osterlund



► CRESLI's summer whale watching trip to the Great South Channel, 40 miles off Nantucket, only gets more exciting with each passing year! We saw more than a hundred whales: humpbacks, seis and minkes; and dozens of offshore bottlenose dolphins. There were also many terns, gulls and shearwaters to observe.

Taking "whale selfies" with the humpbacks was a popular activity on this year's trip. Apparently, the whales also enjoyed the selfies! Photo: Carl Safina.





◀ Carl Safina speaks at the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) in Yarmouthport, Massachusetts.
Photo: IFAW

CARL SAFINA'S WORK

Carl Safina's focus for the year 2017 has been getting started on his new book about what animals must learn in their social groups that instinct alone will not get them. In one sense this is about animal culture. And following up on his New York Times Best-Seller *Beyond Words; What Animals Think and Feel*. Carl gave talks, interviews and presentations all over the country and beyond. Carl also attended important conservation meetings, working to hold the line on conservation gains of the past in the face of new challenges and attempted rollbacks on fisheries management and national monument protections.

▶ Carl listens to sperm whales' sonar clicks and social codas with The Sperm Whale Project off Dominica.
Photo: Carl Safina



HOW OLD IS TODAY? AN ANTARCTIC MORNING

by Carl Safina



▲ An Antarctic morning. Photo: Carl Safina

The light comes from everywhere and from nowhere. The ocean, glittering then vanishing in gauzy vapors, handles us more gently than anyone could have hoped. Snow flurries in and hurries out. Mists veil coasts so raw, so newly released from the lock of ice, they seem barely to have brushed a breeze. When the mists lift, sunlight strikes rock and ice and sea, radiating the bright brilliance of fleeting moments. Now we see that those rock slabs rising from shore spire up into jagged pinnacles crowning massive mountains stretching across the horizon and leaning back into eternity.

How old is today?

“Cairo: Blast in Christian-minority Coptic church kills dozens, mostly women.”

The shoulders of each peak lie draped in snowy capes. In the valleys the snows deepen and compress into fields of ice flowing—imperceptibly, but inexorably flowing—under an enormity of weight and time, frozen rivers of fate in confrontation with the sea. Unnamed glaciers between unnamed peaks, unnamed beaches no human foot has trod; and under an unashamed sky on every ledge the painted seabirds flit and sort and court and warm tomorrow’s youth. This is the original world, the world of eternal beginnings and endings, endless birthing and endless comings of age, all conspiring into the long procession of the ages.

“Stocks set records again as energy companies continued climbing with benchmark U.S. crude adding 15 cents and tech companies like Apple and IBM traded higher...”

The glaciers terminate as great gleaming brows of ice. Their heavy worry-lines of cracks and crevasses, the only evidence of their motion, foretell their crumbling fate. Within those cracks, broken hearts of ice 30,000 years old glow blue, glow turquoise—. Born in snowflakes before the last ice age, now old and wrinkled but still radiating youth from inside, they brood and hesitate over their inevitabilities. And isn’t it astonishing that even in time we can sense, in the moment of a human morning, they groan and roar and burst; sloughing great blocks of ancient identity into the heaving sea.

“New York. President-elect Donald Trump has picked Exxon-Mobil CEO Rex Tillerson as Secretary—”

How old is today? There is no night, only light. So there are no days, only daylight. These shores who host our view, who cradle our glaciers, who separate land from waters as on the first day; they are today, too; they make today, as they have been doing for one hundred million years.

As mountains go, they are young. Today is as old as cold coffee, acute as our deepest regret; vivid as the best day we’ll ever have. Today is new as the clouds that level the peaks for an hour, as old as the peaks that shave snows from those drifting clouds.

Today is as old as the words “should have.” As new as the realization that “should have” is an idea with no future. Today is as young as the word “enough” that frees us to attend to what matters, to meanings as deep as blue hearts of ice in the flicker of fleeting time and the brevity of our long and seemingly momentous lives.

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"Hawaii: on the mid-Pacific atoll of Midway, the oldest known wild bird, an albatross known as Wisdom, has laid an egg at age 66."

How young is today? Somewhere near the edge of our galaxy, on this sparkling dot of diamond-dust, for an instant our ship achieves the illusion of cruising slowly. The high peaks click past. The glacial faces smile anonymous smiles. Their broken bits crowd the sea like lost teeth.

"Washington, D.C.: Hydraulic fracturing to release natural gas and oil can harm the quality and availability of drinking water in the United States, according to a new governmental report."

And beyond the toothy floating tiles of ice gather checker-board petrels, bathing, washing from their breasts the stains of parenthood. In the cliffs they trill and carry on their passions, forging this year's link in the great chain of being. As do the penguins, braying on their hillsides, porpoising through their waters.

As, too, do the great whales on the wide and silver sea, spouting their great steamy fountains, breathing deep their recent reprieve from human savagery. Lucky for them that they hold few intergenerational memories. It frees them to comport with us as though forgiving all, as though this day is young, as though today and their children are all that matter to them.

"Rap Superstar Kanye West has emerged from the hospital to meet the president-elect, marking the artist's first appearance since a reported mental breakdown."

And so the whales and glaciers show us, but cannot teach us, that cherishing intergenerational pain is one way we curse ourselves, that it's possible to remember too much to fully face the day.

"Beirut: the pullout of Syrian Rebels and civilians from their last holdout in the besieged city of Aleppo has been delayed."

How old is today?

This ragged, rugged coast, crenelated and spired and frosted to white oblivion, having no eyes for night or light, sensing neither cold nor kiss of sun, has simply stood, has known only one day here for these most recent hundred million years.

Today is older than we are, and younger than we will ever again be. As old as we make it. We have today. And that is true every day, but won't always be.

This continent of eternity and change, formerly so ravaged of life but now the best-protected of all worlds on Earth, offers us a chance, a glimpse of how to get it right.

This story was excerpted from a story originally published to Literati Magazine on December 26, 2016.



▲ An Antarctic glacier. Photo: Carl Safina

OUR FELLOWS PROGRAM



▲ Ian Urbina spent this year uncovering stories of crime on the high seas all over the world. Photo: Ian Urbina

IAN URBINA

Pulitzer-prize winning investigative journalist Ian Urbina is working on uncovering crime on the high seas. Ian's most recent series for The New York Times, "The Outlaw Ocean," details a multitude of offshore crimes, including the killing of stowaways, sea slavery, intentional dumping, illegal fishing, the ship theft, gun running, crew stranding, and murder. He spends much of his time reporting from Africa, Asia, Europe, South America and the Middle East to learn more about ocean crime, inserting himself in sometimes dangerous places and situations to gather his reporting materials.

While much of his work is currently under wraps, we can tell you that Ian is currently working on more writings and a speaking tour based off his ocean-crime project. In addition to his extensive reporting for The New York Times, he's written several blogs for the Safina Center based off his travels, which you can read on our website: <http://www.safinacenter.org/blog/>.



▲ Chris Jordan's 2017 highlight was the world premier of his film "Albatross" at the Telluride Film Festival. Photo: Chris Jordan

CHRIS JORDAN

Found-object artist, photographer and filmmaker Chris Jordan is working on artistic projects that depict the relationships between people and nature. Many of Chris' artworks are created from photographs of garbage and mass consumption. He started down this unique path of creation after visiting an industrial yard and noticed patterns of color and order in the materials stockpiled there. Chris uses everyday commonalities such as plastic bottles and illustrates the blind unawareness related to American consumerism. His art is often unsettling but sends a bold message about the robotic choices humans make in their everyday behaviors leaving the viewer to draw his or her own conclusions about the potential consequences which will arise from our habits.

Chris poured much of his time and effort in 2017 working on his latest film *Albatross*, which premiered at the Telluride Film Festival in May. Also this year Chris showed his photographs and films at several galleries this year, including the University of Colorado at Denver's Vicki Myhren Gallery, where he had "Camel Gastrolith" on display as part of the gallery's "Storm Warning" exhibition about climate change and other environmental challenges.



▲ Paul Greenberg on location in Norway for his Frontline documentary *The Fish on My Plate*. Photo: PBS Frontline

PAUL GREENBERG - WRITER IN RESIDENCE

In 2017, writer Paul Greenberg wrapped up work on his forthcoming book, *The Omega Principle: A Journey to the Bottom of the Marine Food Web*, which is slated for publication next year. His book breaks down the science of marine food webs and the many threats they face, including overfishing, the loss of forage fish species, rising sea temperatures and ocean acidification. A PBS Frontline documentary related to Paul's book, called "The Fish On My Plate," premiered in April 2017 in about 1 million homes around the United States, and was viewed online by 100,000 others. Paul has been interviewed by various media outlets, including NPR's *The Salt*, the Leonard Lopate Show, PRI's *The World*, *Civil Eats*, *Nat Geo Ocean Voices*, *Wisconsin Public Radio* and more.

Last year Paul also wrote several stories that have appeared in the *New York Times* and *Hakai Magazine*, among other media outlets. Paul has continued speaking about his writing, fish and fisheries, at institutions and events worldwide, including Duke and Yale Universities, the NYC Greenmarket, and the Nonfiction Writers Conference in Bergen, Norway.

BEN MIRIN

Sound artist Ben Mirin and his engineer have just delivered the masters of their studio session at Centre ValBio to their featured Malagasy band, Ahay An'Ala (We, The Forest People). "They were really pleased with our work and we hope the tracks will serve them well in advancing their music careers," says Ben. This year he went on a sound-recording trip in a ship off the waters of Belize, and is working with his recordings to create compositions. He's also working on a coming audio series with BirdNote Radio.

Ben was recently commissioned by National Geographic to create a new composition for one of their biggest expeditions, the Okavango Wilderness Project, which he premiered at the June Nat Geo Explorers Festival, and has produced a studio version. He's also working with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology to create BeastBox, an interactive online game that combines music and the science of animal communication. The game allows players to learn about biodiversity by combining the sounds of animals that live in the same geographic regions, rewarding players for correct combinations. The game premieres at the Lab's Migration Celebration in Ithaca on September 19.

This year we also congratulate Ben on giving his fourth and biggest TED Talk yet, recorded at the TEDNYC Idea Search 2017. You can view it online at: <http://bit.ly/2uTy7By>

HOB OSTERLUND

Riding the wave of a successful book launch and tour of her first book, *Holy Moli: Albatross and Other Ancestors*, Hob Osterlund continues her Laysan albatross conservation work in 2017. Hob continues to pour her efforts into her role as Kauai Coordinator for the Cornell Lab of Ornithology Bird Cam project. Now four seasons in, tens of thousands of viewers in more than 190 countries have been able to share the joys of watching Laysan albatrosses live on the online "Tross Cam."

This year Hob is working on a special film and photography project documenting the life of one very young albatross named Kalama, who became the star of this season's Tross Cam. You can learn more about Hob's project and its charismatic main character, Kalama.

When she's not working with albatross, Hob spends much time documenting the lives of other wildlife native to Kauai such as endangered Hawaiian geese and monk seals. She shares her photos with others online, hoping to not only share the animals' beauty with the world, but also the ecological problems that threaten their survival, like climate change and its associated sea level rise, marine plastic and invasive predators.

SHAWN HEINRICHS AND JOHN WELLER

This year photography and film duo Shawn Heinrichs and John Weller teamed up for a joint Safina Center Fellowship to better focus their attention on their Provinsi Konservasi environmental outreach campaign, in which they bring attention to the need for marine conservation and sustainable economies that don't overexploit the seas. As part of their work in Indonesia, the pair document the landscapes, wildlife and local people who call the province of Papua Barat "home."

In addition to his work with John in Indonesia, Shawn has traveled the world photographing and filming manta rays and sharks both above and below water to bring attention to the need to conserve them. Specifically, Shawn's ethereal photographs and compelling films of manta and mobula rays premiered online in mid-September, a week before the Convention for International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES) 17th Conference of the Parties (CoP17), held in Johannesburg, South Africa, to help emphasize to policy makers the importance of protecting these at-risk marine creatures.



▲ Ben performing at the 2017 National Geographic Explorers Festival. Photo: Ari Beser



▲ Hob with a Laysan albatross decoy. Photo courtesy: Hob Osterlund



▲ Shawn and John at Wayag Lagoon in Raja Ampat, Indonesia. Photo: Shawn Heinrichs and John Weller



ERIC GILMAN - FISHERIES SCIENTIST

In 2017 our resident fisheries scientist Eric Gilman published several peer-reviewed journal articles on the implications of lost and abandoned fishing gear (an issue referred to as "ghostfishing") on marine ecosystems, as well as the effects of bycatch, or the unintentional capture of certain fish and other marine species by fishers. His research on ghostfishing and bycatch was featured in a report produced by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Eric also had a peer-reviewed book chapter on the effects of climate change on tuna included in a book about the consequences of rising ocean temperatures.

In September Eric chaired a panel on fisheries monitoring and management at the 8th International Fisheries Observer & Monitoring Conference in San Diego.

▲ Eric Gilman focused his work this year on ghostfishing and bycatch.
Photo: Eric Gilman

OUR CREATIVE AFFILIATES



JANE ALEXANDER
Actress and Author



DAVID DE ROTHSCHILD
Environmentalist and Adventurer



LINDA LEAR
Biographer of Rachel Carson & Beatrix Potter, and environmental historian



LORI MARINO
Neurobiologist and Non-human Rights Campaigner



KATHLEEN DEAN MOORE
Environmental Philosopher and Writer



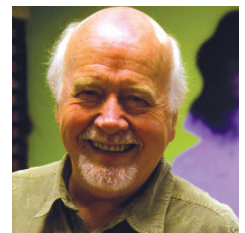
LUANNE RICE
Novelist



ISABELLA ROSSELLINI
Actress, Author and Creator of "Green Porno"



DAVID ROTHENBERG
Musician and Philosopher



PAUL WINTER
Musician and Musical Adventurer

THE CONSERVATIONIST'S KITCHEN

by Paul Greenberg, Safina Center Fellow

A little while back, Carl Safina wrote a post about what he eats and why and it got me thinking.

Over the last ten years I've been actively trying to reduce my food waste. This, in large part because something like 50% of all food produced in America ends up in a landfill.

So I'll start at the beginning with shopping. An obvious no brainer is to choose unpackaged or minimally packaged foods. Whole vegetables, whole fish, whole chickens are also more economical. It takes a little more work to break down a whole chicken, but I find that for our family of three I can usually get three full meals out of a single bird. The legs and wings are broiled, the breasts grilled and spritzed with lemon, the liver and heart go into Marcella Hazan's fantastic chicken liver pasta or sprinkled over salad and the fat that comes off the skin is a delicious addition to refried beans. Bones of course make great stock and so a 4th meal of a hearty soup is even possible. A similar treatment can be done with a whole fish as I told the Washington Post a few years back. With vegetables, I have found that one really has to ignore the tendency to peel and discard (as so many recipes instruct). Unpeeled, a carrot is just as delicious and even more nutritious. The nesting leaves of a head of cauliflower make a perfectly fine substitute for celery. Even the skin of an onion, while perhaps not directly consumable is a great addition to that soup stock.

Bread making is another area where you can lighten the load on the landfill. A homemade loaf of bread ends up with minimal packaging (the paper for the flour, the bottle for the yeast) and by my calculation the cost runs about half of a bought loaf. If you've got a crust-eschewing child (as I do) those crusts can be dried out and stored for later use—for croutons, stuffing or as the base of things like meatballs and meatloaf.

Once back at home with my groceries I try as much as possible to diversify the processes that get a shot at all I've purchased. What I mean by this is that most shoppers have a simple binary ecology going on at home. They buy, they eat, they discard. But there are so many complementary systems out there that can economically address your food waste. The aforementioned stock is a good one, where bones, skins and a variety of wastes are rendered down into something delicious. But one should also turn to things like fermentation and decomposition. In my home I always maintain a vinegar pot, usually a quart sized yogurt container. Into this go all of my fruit discards -- apple cores, strawberry tops, peach pits, etc. A spoonful of yeast and a half spoon of sugar and water about halfway up quickly starts bubbling. You can leave this covered so that it doesn't become too odiferous. In a week or two you'll have vinegar. Boil it once to sterilize and you're good to go.

The conservationist kitchen needn't stop at the stock and the vinegar. All of that pulp left over after fermentation and boiling makes great compost. I'd advise trying to maintain a small vegetable garden if you've got the room. But if you don't most municipalities have compost drops. For me, though, a garden is where I see the circle get closed and waste more or less eliminated. I maintain two compost bins (garbage cans with many aerating holes actually). The primary bin receives all the waste from the kitchen. I turn that waste over into the secondary bin after about six months. In another six months I have usable compost. To speed things up at the beginning of the fishing season I always buy a couple dozen night crawlers and put them in the primary bin. Not only do I get the advantage of faster compost making, worms are quick to reproduce so in the end I only have to buy bait once a year. Often times the worms make it through the winter sparing me another trip to the bait shop.

Beyond compost there are even more savings to be had. I put both of my compost bins up on cinderblocks, high enough so that I can slip in a bowl underneath. Into this bowl drips the precious "compost tea"—the liquor that comes through all that organic matter when it rains. This is an excellent fertilizer, which produces vigorous vegetable growth.

The last process that I think is worth amending on a hotter dryer planet is to clean up after the meal. And here, again, some advance planning and careful thought is worthwhile. I try to limit my use of pots and pans and whenever I know that part of meal prep involves boiling water, I make sure to use that boiling water more than once. When making pasta, for example, I drain over a bowl with the green beans, peas or other vegetables I plan to prepare. The hot pasta water parboils most vegetables so that a second burner isn't required. In addition, as any backwoods camper knows, boiling water is also a cleanser. So, I try to plan out what needs to be cleaned as I'm draining whatever it is I'm boiling.

I realize that all of this sounds like a lot to a busy person just trying to make it through the day and feed the family. But all of these ideas don't have to be employed at once. Rather, one can start simply by changing one's initial premises. If you go into the kitchen with the idea that "waste" is an outdated concept you will, more and more, leave your dinner table with a sense of balance. We of course have a long way to go before we achieve true balance with our natural environment but if we can't start at home where can we start?



▲ Keeping a garden is the key to closing the waste cycle. I have one in my New York City home. Photo: Paul Greenberg

This story was originally posted to the Safina Center blog on July 15, 2017.

CUBA – GARDENS OF THE QUEEN

THE LAST STAND FOR CARIBBEAN REEF SYSTEMS

by Shawn Heinrichs, Safina Center Fellow

I remember as a young child, driving down with my family to Florida to snorkel the reefs of the Florida Keys coral cay archipelago. We would start at Key Biscayne just below Miami, and work our way down through Key Largo and a dozen other keys, ending our journey in Key West, the southern most point in the continental United States.

Spending countless-hours each day exploring in the sea, even as a child I was struck by vibrant colors and intricate structures of what seemed like endless stands of healthy coral reefs, and also by the sheer volume and diversity of fish species that made their homes in these reefs. I remember swimming alongside huge southern stingrays as they cruised across the shallow sea grass beds, dodging countless conches and starfish scattered on the ocean floor. I remember swimming out over the reef walls to intercept eagle rays and reef sharks patrolling in the blue, only to come face-to-face with massive barracudas glaring at me with their intimidating jaws full of razor-sharp teeth! And I remember fish, lots of fish of all kinds, including huge groupers, massive schools of grunts, pork fish, parrot fish, surgeon fish and enormous tarpon, flashing their silvery scales as they turned and drifted into the abyss. It was a magical place and a special time that fueled my childhood passion for the oceans.

As the years passed, we periodically made pilgrimages back to the Florida Keys, but things were changing. The once-vibrant reefs turned grey, algae took hold, and the reef structures collapsed. The clear blue waters became muddied, and silt further choked the corals. The large groupers, sharks and rays disappeared, and the massive schools of fish dwindled into a shadow of their former numbers. And as the reefs died, so did my childhood joy while exploring them. We eventually stopped visiting the keys. Sadly, this tragic story has played out again and again across the entire Caribbean, with the latest estimates placing the coral reef loss across Caribbean at greater than 80% over the past few decades (Catlin Scientific Survey). After decades of severe reef degradation and intensive overfishing, for most us who experienced these once thriving reefs, the memories have faded, and for the younger generations there is no prior reference at all. And as happens all too often, the baseline has shifted, and the current depleted and overfished condition of Caribbean reefs has become the new norm.



▲ An American crocodile waits motionless in the mangroves at Gardens of the Queen. Photo: Shawn Heinrichs



▲ A large black grouper and schools of pork fish make their home in Gardens of the Queen. Photo: Shawn Heinrichs

If we aspire to restore the health of Caribbean reefs and rebuild the fish populations, we cannot look to the current condition of most of its reefs as a reasonable reference point. Instead we must consider what these reefs looked like before they were so degraded, choked in algae, and stripped of all large predators and most commercially-valuable fish species. We must remind our communities of what a healthy and thriving Caribbean reef system actually looks like, and inspire them through imagery and storytelling, that such reefs exist even today within Caribbean. It was with this objective in mind that I made my first journey to Cuba.

The Gardens of the Queen ('Jardines de la Reina' in Spanish) is possibly one of the last relatively intact reef habitats in all the Caribbean. Whereas most of the reefs in the region have been severely overfished and/or destroyed, this area hosts an astonishing abundance and diversity of corals and marine life. Spanning 840 square miles of islands, reefs and mangroves, this remote archipelago located 60 miles to south of the main island of Cuba, has been a strictly protected marine reserve since 1996. And the results of this bold conservation effort are staggering. Large, mature and healthy Caribbean reef sharks freely approach and swim amongst divers on most dives, while massive Goliath groupers emerge from beneath overhangs and Nassau groupers, black groupers, and tiger groupers fearlessly rise from the reef to greet divers. Endangered hawksbill turtles curiously approach, and tarpon can be found hiding under most overhangs. Stingrays and eagle rays drift across the sandy bottoms and massive schools of grunts and pork fish stream over the healthy reefs, like flowing rivers of gold. In the mangroves and sea grasses, American crocodiles lie motionless, with only their eyes breaking the calm surface. And finally, as you surface from the dives, groups of Silky sharks, whose population has been depleted by over 90% throughout the Caribbean, freely approach and investigate divers, including some of the largest and most robust female Silky sharks I have ever encountered.

For years I have had the ambition to create a picture of what the Caribbean looked like before we so severely depleted it. Our modern society is trapped by a "shifting-baseline," where most people forget how abundant and thriving the oceans once were, and allow the current diminished state to become the new baseline. Three to four decades ago, the Florida Keys and much of the Caribbean had thriving reef systems akin to that of the Gardens of the Queen, but today only a shadow remains of this once-flourishing sea. My hope is that by presenting what a truly healthy marine ecosystem should look like, I can help inspire people to raise the bar higher and take more aggressive steps to conserve what is left, and even more importantly, choose to make significant course-corrections to help the reef systems of the Caribbean one day recover.

This story was originally published to National Geographic's Ocean Views blog on August 21, 2017.

HALFWAY TO FLEDGE

By Hob Osterlund, Safina Center Fellow



▲ Mōlī chick, nine weeks old. Photo: Hob Osterlund

Kalama, the Laysan albatross star of Cornell Lab of Ornithology's live streaming "TrossCam," is now twelve weeks old, which means she's crossed the halfway point on her way to fledge. A tiny nestling can grow into a full-grown and magnificent mōlī—as they are known in Hawaiian—in twenty weeks or more.

During that time, Kalama has charmed her way into the hearts of viewers from all over the world, and Cornell has already tallied more than six hundred thousand hits. Now in its fourth season, the TrossCam has continued to increase in popularity from each year to the next.

Unlike most baby birds, Kalama has two moms. Female-female pairs are not uncommon among the mōlī of Kauai, but their eggs are typically infertile. The solution? Replace with fertile eggs from the other side of the island, where the U.S. Navy and the Pacific Missile Range Facility discourage nesting because of concerns about bird-aircraft collisions. Albatross tend to like runways for the same reasons pilots do, so the risk is very real.

By this age, Kalama rarely sees her parents. Foraging for a growing chick is a fulltime job, and the North Pacific is a vast empire covering millions of square miles. Her adoptive mothers, Mahealani and Pilialoha, return to Kauai to feed their babe about once every two weeks.

There are seven other chicks in Kalama's colony. She's likely to have some degree of exposure to two of them sometime soon: one chick is down a slope about fifty feet away, just out of view. The other is on the other side of a garage, but is already within Kalama's view. As they get older, all the young mōlī will come out into the open and out into the wind. They need to strengthen their wings, and if there's anything they love, it's a good squall.

Since before Kalama hatched, the Kauai Albatross Network has been collecting video clips that depict her life. A trailer of a short film called "Kalama's Journey"—part documentary, part poetry—will be available soon. Watch for it on the Safina Center website: <http://www.safinacenter.org/>.

This story was originally posted to The Safina Center Blog on May 1, 2017.

RADIOGRAPHIC REVIEW

By Erica Cirino, Safina Center Writer, Artist and Social Media Coordinator



▲ From *Radiographic* by Steve Miller, copyright © 2017, published by Glitterati Incorporated www.GlitteratiIncorporated.com

From X-rays and MRI scans of animals and plants from the Amazon, to electron microscope images of viruses and blood cells and proteins, to inky Rorschach blots, New York City and Hamptons-based artist Steve Miller's works exist at the intersection of scientific accuracy and otherworldly abstraction. Both beautiful to look at and interesting to think about, his pieces can be found in his new book, *Radiographic*, which has a foreword written by Carl Safina. I interviewed Miller to learn more about his artistic process and new book.

Erica Cirino: You're known as a pioneer of the so-called "sci-art" movement. When, how and why did you begin creating sci-art?

Steve Miller: It never entered my mind that any trail I followed might become an art movement. In the early 80's it was clear that computers and science were going to change the way we communicate and reshape society. I knew that was the new language system I wanted to study and I eventually applied those ideas by using medical technology to make portraits. Through the use of technology, the traditional portrait, could literally be turned inside out.

EC: What about science and the natural world most inspires you to create?

SM: The parameters of science and the natural world embrace vast bookends in time from quark gluon plasma (the state of matter at Big Bang) to the overwhelming scale of beauty that I witnessed in Brazil. To travel that distance is, approximately, 14 billion years presenting an unlimited abundance of mysteries to explore. So my practice has included an investigation of quantum theory through experiences at Brookhaven National Labs and CERN, the human portrait, as well as observations about nature as seen through the lens of technology. I liked the idea that science and technology could allow for a fresh look at historical art categories, one of which was a kind of Dutch still life called a vanitas from the 16th and 17th century. In vanitas paintings the viewer is made aware of the temporal nature of reality by a series of images expressing the notion that the clock is running out. You might see an hour glass, wilting flowers, a skull or a musical instruments, all measurements of time. In my vanitas series, I X-rayed flowers and looked at images of my blood using an electron microscope. In addition, I added images of the AIDS virus as a contemporary expression of human mortality. I didn't see this as morbid but rather as an expression of urgency. That feeling of urgency has not left me.

EC: What kind of audience are you targeting with your work, and what message or messages are you trying to send?

SM: Right when we have maximum population, we have cut over half of the world's forests that we need for the CO2/oxygen exchange. That's an important message and how do we disseminate the urgency of our global limits? Of course, I am an artist so, using the traditional mediums of art (painting, sculpture, prints and books) was my starting point. Eventually, however, I could not accept the limits of fine art categories. When I was in Brazil I met a scientist and designer, Oskar Metsavah, who owns a fashion company called Osklen. He understood my message and I saw fashion as a way to address a larger audience so, I did an eco-aware surf line of clothing for him. In the US, I continue to make clothing for artmultiple.biz because I love the possibility of reaching a larger audience. Around the world, there is a surf culture that respects the environment so I designed surfboards and skatedecks.

EC: What was your inspiration with your new book, *Radiographic*? X-ray art is not something you see every day.

SM: The use of x-rays are not new to art. One notable early example is the artist Man Ray who used x-rays in the early part of the 20th century. My use of x-rays started in the 80's when I was looking at the human body. I was also using electron microscopes, CAT scans and MRI imaging that eventually led to making portraits. While I employed satellite mapping and straight photography, the x-ray label has stuck. The title, *Radiographic*, seemed a good way to connect 20 years of my work where the use of x-rays was consistent tool.

EC: How did you first meet Carl, and why did you ask him to write your foreword?

SM: True story: I read the first page of Carl Safina's *The View From Lazy Point* and knew that I had to have him write for *Radiographic*. The challenge was how to get a perfect stranger, with immense time constraints to get interested in what I was doing. I called a local book store, Book Hampton, where I had purchased "Lazy Point." They knew Carl and from the store I got his email address. With a few missed connections, eventually, he agreed to stop by my Sagaponack studio "for only 20 minutes" because he was really busy. Well, he stayed about an hour so, I thought maybe I was making progress. Then, his travel schedule could not accommodate my publication deadline and I had given up all hope. Out of the blue, on the deadline day, he produces the beautiful essay for my book. Needless to say, I was astonished and grateful to have his text. Since then we have spent a few more hours together on my porch, at the Explorers Club and I anticipate a visit to his house at Lazy Point in the near future.

Radiographic by Steve Miller is published by Glitterati Incorporated and sold online and in select bookstores.
Follow Steve Miller on Instagram at [@stevemillerdotart](https://www.instagram.com/stevemillerdotart).

SEARCHING FOR DAWN CHORUSES IN NYC

By Ben Mirin , Safina Center Fellow

An alarm was going off somewhere in the street below. It sounded like an oven timer. The roar of an engine rose like a wave as a truck lurched onto my block, air brakes kicking on and off to bring fifteen tons of metal to a halt three doors down. A creak, a pneumatic hiss, and then a pause...and then the wave built again as it drove around the corner.

In Brooklyn there is never silence. I was up at 3:30am to record bird songs and even at this dark hour, millions of cars and people sent a vibrant hum through the city. To experience a bit of contrast from the regular sounds of my neighborhood, I got up an hour before sunrise, climbed to a friend's roof and began recording the dawn.

The best time to experience natural sound in New York is during a dawn chorus, when birds in a local habitat sing together to reclaim territories after a long dark night. It usually takes place an hour before sunrise, but to truly capture this crescendo of activity you have to be up and recording before it starts. It was 4:15, and I still had 90 minutes before daybreak. I waited and listened to the air conditioners on my building working overtime in the summer heat.

At 4:52, the first Northern Cardinal sang two soft plaintive notes. After a few test runs, he let loose with his full melody. In less than a minute there were three birds singing back and forth, calling to see who among their competitors was still around from the day before. An American Robin chimed in, and families of House Sparrows began restlessly squabbling in the rafters.



▲ Recording equipment set up on a Brooklyn rooftop. Photo: Ben Mirin



▲ Recording the dawn chorus. Photo: Ben Mirin

Natural sound still has a place in New York, it just has to fight for airtime with everything else. There is extensive research to suggest that birds adjust the frequency of their calls to make themselves audible over city noise. In addition, diurnal birds like cardinals and robins often sing at night when the airwaves are less polluted with human commotion, and because city lights offset their circadian rhythms.

These behavioral changes are testaments to nature's ability to adapt to a habitat of our own creation. In cities around the world, wild animals continue to live alongside our noise, our lights, our trash, and ourselves. Many native species are forced out or driven extinct, and those who survive are often ignored. The ones who thrive, we call pests. On an evolutionary scale, it's a brand new kind of urban ecosystem, racing to keep up with human life with no end in sight.

Living in Brooklyn, I try to make adaptation a two-way street. I get up in the early morning, leave my ear buds at home, and give myself time for long walks in Prospect Park. Listening to natural sounds helps me recalibrate my place in the web of all life. I feel connected, attentive, and more human. I reconnect with my four-year-old self, the boy who went on owl walks at night, went to the zoo to feed ducks, and got lost in bird books before he knew how to read them.

These experiences do not have to be in the past. It is easy to forget that we have our own brand of wildness in New York, but if we tune in we can begin to understand our impact on life both within and beyond its walls. We should listen locally to act globally, and learn more about the rhythms of this city and the moments when it breathes. There are still days when I fail to do this, but I know I'll never feel at home unless I keep trying.

By seven o'clock many more birds were awake. The cardinals had gone farther away, but a Common Grackle was flitting between the fenced-in backyards. Cedar Waxwings had taken up posts in the willow out front, and Chimney Swifts circled in small flocks overhead with lively chatter. After running uninterrupted through the entire night, the alarm in the street had finally stopped. I guess someone had finally had enough.

This story was originally published to The Safina Center Blog on July 27, 2017.

CARL SAFINA & "BEYOND WORDS" GO TO SPAIN, EDITOR LIDIA REY GOES TO NEW YORK

By Lidia Rey, Editor at Galaxia Gutenberg

Galaxia Gutenberg is a publishing house devoted to Humanities, and as such we publish essays on Literature, in addition to Sociology, History, Philosophy, Politics, and also other topics. In 2015 we published a book about the intelligence and sensibility of plants, written by an Italian biologist who is revolutionizing this area of study in such a way that even NASA has asked him for advise in building up new space robots imitating vegetal behavior.

This book had so great a success, that we thought we lacked its counterpart: a book that revealed and explored animal intelligence. We had an objective, and in our search we came across *Beyond Words* by Carl Safina, and we immediately fell in love with it and decided to obtain Spanish book rights and help "spread the word," as it is usually said. It was curious how every person involved in the translation of the book fell in love with it, from the designer, to the proof corrector, the press department and even our interns, they all felt like this book told something different and opened their minds in some kind of way towards respect for animals.

By experiencing these reactions, we thought it was necessary to invite Carl Safina and make him tell the Spanish readers about it, and so we found the perfect spot: Kosmopolis. It is a Literature festival in Barcelona with a good audience rate and a fantastic media representation. Carl gave a great conference there in March 2017, and when it finished many people wanted to have their books signed or send comments to him about his book's content. But not only that; the press was very interested as well and we managed to get the best Spanish journalists to interview Carl during his visit. All these efforts had their fruits and the first Spanish edition was sold out in just a few months after its release. We continue to sell the second edition at a good rhythm.



▲ Carl Safina at the 2017 Kosmopolis Amplified Literature Festival in Barcelona, Spain. Photo: Patricia Paladines



▲ Lidia Rey with Carl Safina in Barcelona, Spain. Photo: Carl Safina

I was his translator in this whole process, and learned a lot during the interviews. I love to take care of people, so I was a bit worried that he spent a whole day answering questions after being able to fall asleep on the plane ride over, with bad weather and almost no free time to rest or eat, but he was very professional and maintained good spirits. As a big fan of whales, I told him that the part of the book dedicated to them was specially compelling to me and so he invited me to a whale-watching trip off Long Island, where Carl lives, in July.

July is a busy month for us at the publishing house, but of course I said yes. I had the best of times, together with my boyfriend who was also kindly invited. Long Island unveiled itself to us in all its greatness through Safina's eyes. He knows every species living there and their behaviors. We saw all kinds of birds including ospreys, snakes, turtles, deer, sharks, fish, and, of course, many many humpback whales and some minke!

Both Carl and his wife Patricia made us feel like home, I cannot forget about Chula and Jude, their dogs, always around us. And we met the most interesting people: J.P. and Marilyn, and their incredible inventions and crafts, of whom somebody must write a book because they have so much to tell the world; Ernie and Sophie, big Barcelona lovers and wonderful hosts; Artie and the rest of the crew at the Viking Cruises; Maria Bowling, a whale lover and great photographer; Erica and her friends, from whom I learned a lot about the area, snake breeding and art; and many many others. We all saw these gorgeous whales together and shared smiles and laughs and nervousness and felt small in comparison to them and to their adventures in the sea. I truly thank Carl for this opportunity and will treasure this experience in my mind for a very long time.

Carl Safina's book Beyond Words was published in Spanish by Galexia Gutenberg this year.

Carl spoke about his newly translated book at Barcelona's Kosmopolis Amplified Literature Festival in March.

SIGN ON LETTERS - SUPPORTED POLICIES

POLICY CAMPAIGNS

We are often asked to support wider coalitions on a range of ocean and environmental issues. Here are the policy efforts we were involved in during 2017.

Sustainable Fisheries and Ocean Policies

- Comment recommending that the New England Council grant protections for corals in undersea canyons near the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Monument, and to continue strong protections for the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Monument
- Comment encouraging New York State Department of Conservation to implement terrapin excluder devices on crab and lobster pots
- Sign-on letter encouraging the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the National Marine Fisheries Service to change pot and trap fisheries in ways that would better protect California's marine wildlife from entanglements
- Scientific sign-on letter for upholding the current requirements in the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and the development of robust bycatch assessment programs.
- Support for greater protections for horseshoe crabs
- Scientific sign-on letter to list Pacific bluefin tuna as endangered under the U.S. Endangered Species Act and support for a two-year commercial fishing moratorium
- Comment advocating for greater ecological protections and catch limits for Bluefin tuna
- Support for increased National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) funding
- Comment and advocacy materials for greater protections for Atlantic menhaden
- Comment for reduction in fishing of river herring in New England
- Comment opposing H.R. 200 and other bills that would weaken the U.S.'s successful management of sustainable ocean fish resources

Energy

- Sign-on to opposition letter suggesting an alternate nomination to Susan Combs to the post of Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Policy, Management and Budget

Environmental Protection/Pollution

- Sign-on to an opposition letter fighting government attacks on the Endangered Species Act
- Sign-on opposing Trump's nomination, David Bernhardt, for Deputy Secretary of the Interior



◀ This year the Safina Center was involved in many policy efforts, involving protection of Atlantic menhaden, Diamondback terrapins and Bluefin tuna like the one in this image. Photo: Carl Safina

WELCOMING NEW SAFINA CENTER CREW MEMBER, SHELLEY DEARHART

By Erica Cirino, Safina Center Writer, Artist and Social Media Coordinator

In 2017 we welcomed Shelley Dearhart to the Safina Center crew as our new Research Scientist and Sustainable Seafood Program Director. Shelley Dearhart's experience has encompassed marine mammal, diamondback terrapin, ocean health, and fisheries research and conservation efforts. Every aspect of her career path has related to the importance of healthy fishery practices. She fell in love with sustainable fisheries through the South Carolina Aquarium's, Good Catch program, which she managed for three years. Shelley earned a B.A. in both Biological Sciences and Psychology from Clemson University and most recently received her M.S. degree from the College of Charleston's Environmental Studies program.

Moving into her role with the Safina Center, Shelley works to assess global fisheries, direct seafood researchers, serve as the main liaison with the Safina Center's seafood partner, Whole Foods Market, and stay involved with current sustainability practices and efforts happening worldwide.

This year Shelley was very busy completing interviews for multiple media outlets based on her expertise in sustainable seafood and the Safina Center's role in conservation of fished marine species, including for NPR's "The Salt" and USA Today. She wrote comment letters recommending science-based policies for marine ecosystem and fisheries managers that would help conserve at-risk species from extinction, including corals and river herring. She's blogged for the Safina Center about the importance of protecting Bluefin tuna from overfishing.

And Shelley continues to update the Safina Center's seafood ratings based on new fisheries science.

Outside of her work, Shelley enjoys time on the beach with her pup, Henry, as well as traveling and spending as much time on the water as possible.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Safina Center continues to partner with Whole Foods Market. Whole Foods uses more than 160 wild-caught seafood ratings made by the Safina Center in conjunction with the Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch to source responsibly caught seafood and to educate consumers at the Market's counters.



WHOLE
FOODS
MARKET



▲ Shelley and her dog Henry.
Photo: Jason Chricton Photography

MILESTONES AND FIRSTS

We are constantly creating a body of work to advance conservation of wild beings and wild places. Our books, films, photographs, articles, lectures and workshops, musical performances, and more—took the Safina Center crew around the globe, from Barcelona to Belize, from the Great Pacific Garbage Patch to the Great Lakes, from Tanzania to Toronto. Here's a list of recent awards, publications, honors and "firsts," from this year back to our founding in 2003.

2017

Carl Safina's seventh book, *Beyond Words: What Animals Think and Feel* is translated into Spanish and 11 other languages. It is also adapted into a two-book series for young readers.

The Safina Center establishes the Safina Center "Kalpana Chawla Launchpad" Fellowship to honor the memory of the late astronaut Kalpana Chawla.

The inaugural Safina Center "Kalpana Chawla Fellowship" is awarded to science writer and artist Erica Cirino and humanitarian and conservationist Kate Thompson.

Safina Center "Kalpana Chawla Launchpad" Fellow Erica Cirino wins CUNY Resilience Fellowship for science journalists.

Safina Center Creative Affiliate Lori Marino establishes The Whale Sanctuary Project and Carl Safina joins its board.

Safina Center Fellow Ben Mirin gives a TED Talk at the TEDNYC Idea Search 2017.

Safina Center Fellow and Writer in Residence Paul Greenberg's PBS Frontline documentary "The Fish on My Plate" premieres online and on television.

Safina Center Fellow Chris Jordan's film "Albatross" premieres at the Telluride Film Festival.

Shawn Heinrichs and John Weller help establish a new Marine Protected Area in Raja Ampat, Indonesia.

2016

Carl Safina's seventh book, *Beyond Words: What Animals Think and Feel*, releases in paperback with much media attention on July 12, 2016. It hits #8 on The New York Times Best Sellers List in the "Animals" category and receives many positive reviews. He signs books and gives

talks on *Beyond Words* all across the U.S., at universities, book stores, conservation centers and conferences.

Carl Safina's TED Talk, "What are animals thinking and feeling," based on *Beyond Words*, is viewed more than 1.7 million times.

Carl Safina explores the Arctic with Greenpeace to bear witness to the effects of overfishing and climate change. He publishes blogs about what he sees and experiences live from Svalbard, Norway.

Safina Center Fellow Hob Osterlund releases her first book, a memoir, titled *Holy Moli: Albatross and Other Ancestors*, on May 5, 2016, and goes on an international book tour across the Pacific and Pacific Northwest region of North America.

Safina Center Fellow Shawn Heinrichs helps film and coordinate the first-ever televised public service campaign to reduce the consumption of shark fin soup in China.

Safina Center Fellow John Weller wins the 2016 International Understanding Through Photography Award, presented by the Photographic Society of America for his work on the Ross Sea and its contribution to international understanding of the sea and its ecological importance.

2015

Carl Safina's seventh book, *Beyond Words: What Animals Think and Feel*, releases to rave reviews July 14, 2015. It is #2 on The New York Times Best Sellers List, "Animals" category, and #1 in Amazon's Best, "Animals and Cognition" and "Animal Behavior" categories.

Excerpts and interviews from *Beyond Words* appear on PBS, NPR, The New York Times and in dozens of online magazines from TIME to National Geographic.

Safina Center Fellow, John Weller and his partner Shawn Heinrichs complete their film Guardians of Raja Ampat (Indonesia) and show it on a grand outdoor screen in 12 key villages.

Safina Center Fellow Dr. Ellen Prager's new book, *The Shark Rider*, is released on May 1st.

Fellow Paul Greenberg releases his best-selling book, *American Catch: The Fight For Our Local Seafood*.

Safina Center Fellows, Dr. Demian Chapman and Debra Abercrombie complete many Shark Fin ID Workshops in countries around the world including Hong Kong, Mainland China, India and South Africa.

Carl Safina, Senator Edward Markey, offshore drilling experts and scientists hold press conference in Washington DC to address lingering effects of the 2010 BP oil disaster.

Carl Safina is finalist for the 2016 Indianapolis Prize and Lilly Medal, a biennial prize in global wildlife conservation.

2014

Blue Ocean Institute changes its name to The Safina Center.

Safina Center Fellow, Paul Greenberg publishes his third book *American Catch: The Fight For Our Local Seafood*, to critical acclaim.

The Safina Center logo appears in 370 Whole Foods Market stores in the U.S. in recognition of our advisory relationship.

Safina Center Fellows, Paul Greenberg and Demian Chapman are both named Pew Fellows in Marine Conservation.

Safina Center Fellow Dr. Ellen Prager publishes *The Shark Whisperer*, her first book in a new fiction series for middle grades, *Tristan Hunt and the Sea Guardians*.

2013

First full series of *Saving the Ocean with Carl Safina* broadcasts on PBS to 90 million households in the U.S. and Canada. (Episodes available for free 24/7 on PBS.org.)

Carl Safina is finalist for the 2014 Indianapolis Prize.

Carl Safina is lead scientist on the GYRE expedition on plastic pollution to the southwest coast of Alaska.

Stony Brook University establishes the Carl Safina Endowed Research Chair for Nature and Humanity.

Carl Safina receives an Honorary Doctorate from Drexel University.

Carl Safina is named Inaugural Andrew W. Mellon Distinguished Fellow in Environmental Studies by Colby College.

Rutgers University presents Carl Safina with a Distinguished Alumni Award in Biology.

Fellows, Dr. Demian Chapman & Debra Abercrombie hold Shark Fin Identification Workshops in Honduras, Belize, Costa Rica, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Hong Kong, USA, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Egypt, Oman, Brazil and Fiji.

We are recognized by Intelligent Philanthropy for our commitment to transparency.

2012

The View from Lazy Point, A Natural Year in an Unnatural World wins 2012 Orion Magazine Book Award.

We complete 10 episodes of *Saving the Ocean with Carl Safina* for PBS television.

We release, "MERCURY: Sources in the Environment, Health Effects and Politics."

A Sea in Flames: The Deepwater Horizon Oil Blowout is named to Top Ten List by the Project on Government Oversight.

Carl Safina receives Ocean Hero Award from Diver magazine.

2011

Carl Safina's fifth book, *The View from Lazy Point; A Natural Year in an Unnatural World*, releases on January 4, 2011, to rave reviews.

Carl Safina's sixth book, *A Sea in Flames; The Deepwater Horizon Oil Blowout*, releases on April 19, 2011, to excellent reviews.

Both books are selected for The New York Times Book Review's "Editor's Choice."

Carl Safina wins James Beard Award for Journalism.

Carl Safina is nominated for the 2012 Indianapolis Prize.

Carl Safina is named among "Twenty-Five Visionaries Who Are Changing the World" by Utne Reader.

First two episodes of *Saving the Ocean with Carl Safina* air on more than 100 PBS television stations across the U.S.

2010

Carl Safina's first children's book *Nina Delmar: The Great Whale Rescue* releases in paperback in January.

Carl Safina testifies before Congress regarding the Deepwater Horizon Gulf of Mexico oil well blowout.

We establish partnership with Whole Foods Market to provide seafood rankings in stores.

We launch collaboration with The Gelfond Fund for Mercury Related Research & Outreach at Stony Brook University.

Carl Safina becomes co-chair of The Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science at Stony Brook University.

Carl Safina wins Sylvia Earle Award presented at the Blue Ocean Film Festival.

Carl Safina wins Guggenheim Fellowship in Natural Sciences Science Writing.

Carl Safina wins Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Wildlife Film Festival.

MILESTONES AND FIRSTS

2009

The New York Times publishes Carl Safina's op-ed "Darwinism Must Die So That Evolution May Live."

FishPhone App receives a "Best in Green" award by Ideal Bite, a green-living website.

We launch Green Chefs/Blue Ocean program, an online sustainable seafood course for chefs and culinary students.

2008

Environmental Defense Fund names Carl Safina's first book, *Song for the Blue Ocean; Encounters Along the World's Coasts and Beneath the Seas* named "One of 12 Most Influential Environmental Books of All Time."

We distribute our 2.5 millionth ocean-friendly seafood guide.

2007

We form the Friendship Collaborative with Ken Wilson, Senior Pastor of Vineyard Churches of Ann Arbor, MI, to further dialogue between scientists and evangelical Christian leaders.

Carl Safina and producer John Angier develop new PBS television series, *Saving the Ocean with Carl Safina*.

Blue Ocean Institute partners with Stony Brook University's School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences to collaborate science communication.

2006

The New York Times Book Review selects Carl Safina's book *Voyage of the Turtle* as an "Editors' Choice."

Carl Safina gives invited talk at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland on the status and future of fisheries and the oceans.

U.S. poet-laureate Billy Collins helps launch Blue Ocean Institute's Sea Stories literary project with his poem "Coastline."

Carl Safina awarded George B. Rabb Medal from Chicago Zoological Society's Brookfield Zoo.

2005

Carl Safina receives an Honorary Doctorate from State University of New York.

Carl Safina co-authors "U.S. Ocean Fish Recovery; Staying the Course," an op-ed published in *Science* magazine.

2004

Mercédès Lee gives an invited talk at the World Bank, bringing global attention to ocean conservation and the importance of seafood sustainability as a food security concern.

2003

MacArthur fellow Dr. Carl Safina and Mercédès Lee launch the Blue Ocean Institute (now The Safina Center).

Carrie Brownstein, Mercédès Lee and Carl Safina's publish the first fully transparent methodology for sustainable seafood ranking, "Harnessing Consumer Power for Ocean Conservation" in *Conservation Magazine*.

Carl Safina's book *Eye of the Albatross; Visions of Hope and Survival* receives John Burroughs Writer's Medal. It also wins "Year's Best Book for Communicating Science" by National Academies of Science, Medicine and Technology.

Carl Safina writes the foreword for a new edition of *The Sea Around Us* by Rachel Carson.

Carl Safina receives Rutgers University George H. Cook Distinguished Alumnus Award as Most Distinguished Alumnus in 50-year history of the Ecology and Evolution Graduate Program.



▲ Ian Urbina reporting from the field in the South Pacific.
Photo: Ian Urbina

PRAISE FOR CARL SAFINA AND THE SAFINA CENTER



▲ Carl Safina and Sylvia Earle in the Gardens of the Queen in Cuba.
Photo: Carl Safina

"I just recently watched the TED Talk again today after more than a year and a half, and it was not any less moving for me. As a result, I simply felt moved to attempt to thank you for giving that talk, to thank you for your views and compassion, and to thank you for all that you do. Please know that your work and efforts are immensely appreciated and touch many people's (human and nonhuman) lives, in ways that I venture you are not even aware." — Lynn Hines

"Carl, I can't tell you how many people quote you or refer to Beyond Words as a real game-changer for them in understanding other animals." — Lori Marino (Safina Center Creative Affiliate)

"Although I completed all the requirement for entry to medical school, during my senior year I came across Beyond Words: What Animals Think and Feel. It was the first time I questioned my career path. Your stories opened my eyes to a world I was vaguely aware of and incited a desire to work with animals." — Raquel S.

"I just wanted to thank you for how you and the team you are on make the world a better place." — Leah J.

Beyond Words gave me the will to try to be a biologist. — Jeanne K.

"I am reminded through your story telling that the universe is continually engaging us with the very thing we are looking for: connection. — Skipper D.

"I would like to take a moment to tell you about the profound impact your work has had on my life. I mean it. My main research focus is international tuna fisheries management and governance. I know I would not be here without the inspiration of your book." — Laurenne S.

"I just finished BEYOND WORDS. What an amazing book. I do believe this is by far the best non-fiction I have ever read." — Dee G.

"It is important for me to tell those who make a difference in my life. And you have." — Alana F.

"Your books, your TED talks, your dedication, and your insight give me so much hope and have helped me to become more aware and conscious. You have been one of the biggest influences in my life." — Carol P.

"I have read all your books. I have loved all your books and you are my favorite author!!" — Lisa D.

"Yours is an extraordinary, exhilarating and tremendously important book." — Charles F.

MAKING WAVES

In 2017 the Safina Center crew wrote articles and books, took photos, created films, mixed music, gave lectures and workshops, engaged in research and more. On television, film festivals, gallery, radio, print, web outlets and social media, The Safina Center's global reach continues to grow each year.

Media Coverage of Our Work

Tracking the travels of Bluefin tuna to save them from the sushi bar by Erica Cirino. *Oceans Deeply*. September 14, 2017.

Indianapolis Prize thrusts conservationists into spotlight, names nominees by Sarah Bowman. *Indy Star*. September 12, 2017.

Considering the clarity of X-ray photography by Seph Rodney. *Hyperallergic*. September 5, 2017.

Sorry, Charlie: Trump rejects bid to list tuna as endangered by John Sciliano. *Washington Examiner*. August 8, 2017.

Lifeline: LI farmers, fishermen sell shares of their harvests by Daysi Calavia-Robertson. *Newsday*. August 5, 2017.

Audio: DJ remixes the sounds of birds, lemurs and more to inspire conservation by Mike Gaworecki. *Mongabay*. July 12, 2017.

The bunker resurgence: The good news beyond recent fish kills by Glenn Jochum. *East End Beacon*. June 19, 2017.

Carl Safina: "Só os humanos matamos animais de forma miserável" by Jacinto Antón. *El País*. June 1, 2017.

Von albernem Elefanten und großzügigen Wölfen by Irene Binal. *MDR*. May 17, 2017.

Wie Tiere fühlen und denken by Johannes Kaiser. *NDR*. May 16, 2017.

7 things we learned from new 'Frontline' about state of the seafood industry by Mary Beth Quirk. *Consumerist*. May 10, 2017.

Carl Safina: "Solo los humanos matamos animales de forma miserable" by Jacinto Antón. *El País*. April 4, 2017.

El hombre que 'habla' con los animales: "Decir que los perros no aman es ignorante" by Sergio Ferrer. *El Confidencial*. March 22, 2017.

Is China's hands-off approach to fisheries producing more fish? by Erica Gies. *Hakai Magazine*. February 23, 2017.

The one ingredient secretly in a ton of the seafood you eat by Lee Breslouer. *Thrillist*. January 27, 2017.

If you were an elephant by Charles Foster. *The Guardian*. January 19, 2017.

CARL SAFINA – Books

Beyond Words; What Animals Think and Feel. 12 international translations: China, Korea, Poland, Lithuania, France, Germany (print and audio), Italy, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Spain and the UK.

Beyond Words; What Animals Think and Feel. Adaptation for young readers, to come out as a two-book series.

CARL SAFINA - Media

The great East Coast return to abundance—your help needed by Carl Safina. *National Geographic Ocean Views*. September 4, 2017.

Threats to the oceans and what we should do about them by Carl

Safina. *Medium*. June 8, 2017.

Burning up by Carl Safina. *Medium*. April 19, 2017.

What does it mean that another giant elephant has fallen? by Carl Safina. *Medium*. March 17, 2017.

Southern Resident killer whale population is running out of salmon, running out of time by Carl Safina. *National Geographic Ocean Views*. January 31, 2017.

Tilikum: A killer whale's tragic life by Carl Safina. *Medium*. January 10, 2017.

Thinking in the deep: Inside the mind of an octopus by Carl Safina. *The New York Times*. December 27, 2017.

How old is today? An Antarctic morning by Carl Safina. December 26, 2017.

CARL SAFINA – Book Chapters and Forewords

Safina, C. Foreword. *Radiographic*, by Steve Miller. *Glitterati Incorporated*, 2017. Print.

CARL SAFINA – Radio Interviews

Green Inside and Out. January 20, 2017.

Radio Wolfgang London. September 5, 2017.

Cape Cod Broadcasting. September 15, 2017.

The Greentrepreneur Show. September 17, 2017.

Pet Talk on KOKX Iowa. November 9, 2017.

CARL SAFINA – Lectures, Keynotes, Workshops and Public Talks

Kosmopolis: The Amplified Literature Fest. Barcelona, Spain.

reACT Symposium on Arts and Entertainment. Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island.

I Am Not An Animal! Symposium. Atlanta, Georgia.

Stanford University's Weekly Seminar Series. Hopkins Marine Station, Stanford University.

Detroit Zoo Animal Welfare Symposium. Detroit, Michigan.

Partners Village Store. Westport, Massachusetts.

Nantucket Book Festival. Nantucket, Massachusetts.

Canio's Books. Sag Harbor, New York.

International Fund for Animal Welfare. Yarmouth, Massachusetts.

Locust Valley Bookstore. Locust Valley, New York.

Bioneers Conference. San Rafael, California.

Safina Center Blogs

Join the wildlife club! by Kate Thompson. September 22, 2017.

Salmon return to the Salmon by Paul Greenberg. September 18, 2017.

Hurricane cat by Jake Price. September 13, 2017.

Rumors and rage: When good conservation sounds bad by Hob Osterlund. September 1, 2017.

Wild voices: Audio "notes" from *Beyond Words* by Carl Safina. August 31, 2017.

Cuba – Gardens of the Queen: The last stand for Caribbean reef systems by Shawn Heinrichs. August 21, 2017.

An elephant seal enters the world: Capturing a rare and beautiful moment in words and on camera by Jodi Frediani. August 10, 2017.

A deep dive opens my eyes to plastic below the ocean's surface by Erica Cirino. July 29, 2017.

Searching for dawn choruses in New York City by Ben Mirin. July 27, 2017.

Many U.S. efforts to improve seafood traceability fall short of goals, according to new report by Ian Urbina. July 19, 2017.

The conservationist's kitchen by Paul Greenberg. July 14, 2017.

How much is an albatross worth? by Hob Osterlund. July 14, 2017.

Northeast Canyons and Seamounts National Marine Monument under fire by Shelley Dearhart. June 12, 2017.

The birds and the dolphins by Ben Mirin. June 4, 2017.

Why I "go and see" by Erica Cirino. May 29, 2017.

Why does Somali piracy appear to be making a comeback? by Ian Urbina. May 7, 2017.

Why do we have a World Tuna Day? by Shelley Dearhart. May 2, 2017.

Halfway to fledge by Hob Osterlund. May 1, 2017.

A new Marine Protected Area in the heart of marine biodiversity by John Weller and Shawn Heinrichs. April 11, 2017.

Looking for birds and plastic in Denmark by Erica Cirino. March 28, 2017.

The Greckos: A success story in the crackdown on illegal fishing by Ian Urbina. March 24, 2017.

If I had to choose one animal to make my music by Ben Mirin. March 16, 2017.

Watch live: Laysan albatross chick being raised by two moms by Hob Osterlund. March 1, 2017.

Building home and friendship in Africa by Kate Thompson. January 31, 2017.

The algae trout by Paul Greenberg. January 18, 2017.

Cod liver oil by Paul Greenberg. January 15, 2017.

Antitumpistan by Paul Greenberg. January 12, 2017.

The oil at the bottom of the world by Paul Greenberg. January 10, 2017.

Menhaden, it's what's for dinner by Paul Greenberg. January 10, 2017.

The legend of Babakoto by Ben Mirin. January 3, 2017.

Anja on fire by Ben Mirin. January 3, 2017.

Discovering the art of field recording by Ben Mirin. January 1, 2017.

PAUL GREENBERG – Media

The two sides of Mount Marcy: Hiking in the shadow of a disastrous family trip up New York's highest peak by Paul Greenberg. Adirondack Life. September/October 2017.

Oh Norway by Paul Greenberg. The Lost Explorer. August 2017.

How your diet contributes to water pollution by Paul Greenberg. Eating Well Magazine. July/August 2017.

The fight to save salmon by Paul Greenberg. Blue Apron. June 5, 2017.

What Trump's budget means for the Filet-O-Fish by Paul Greenberg. The New York Times. April 25, 2017.

Dam busters. Hakai Magazine by Paul Greenberg. April 4, 2017.

PAUL GREENBERG – Film

The Fish on My Plate. PBS. April 2017.

PAUL GREENBERG – Lectures, Keynotes, Workshops and Public Talks

Verden i Bergen Nonfiction Literature Festival. Bergen, Norway.

The State of Seafood. New York, New York.

Maine Marine Fare. Searsport, Maine.

JOHN WELLER AND SHAWN HEINRICHS – Collaborative Conservation Work/Media

Documentation of Indonesian Marine Protected Areas.

Economists World Ocean Summit, Indonesia.

Documentation of Misool Marine Protected Area.

Helped Sea Sanctuary establish a new research base for manta rays and whale sharks.

JOHN WELLER – Additional Conservation Work/Media

Photography for a Cause: Shooter John Weller. Alert Diver. 2017.

Wildlife International Photography, Featured Print Exhibition. Festival Henan Province, China.

Broadmore Garden Club. Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Ocean Legacy: How the international community adopted the world's largest marine protected area in the Ross Sea, Antarctica. Stanford University, Monterey, California.

Earth Optimism Conference. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Sustainable Oceans Summit. Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.

Earth Day: Seeing our Earth from above and below. U.S. Department of State, Washington, D.C.

Loveland Photographic Society. Loveland, Colorado.

Colorado School of Mines. Golden, Colorado.

HOB OSTERLUND – Conservation Work

Cornell Lab of Ornithology "TrossCam."

Photography of Kauai's albatross and other native wildlife.

Kauai Albatross Network.

HOB OSTERLUND – Lectures, Keynotes, Workshops and Public Talks

Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge. Kauai, Hawaii.

University of Portland School of Nursing. Portland, Oregon.

Book Passage. Corte Madera, California.

Broadway Books. Portland, Oregon.

Portland Audubon Society. Portland, Oregon.

UCC Congregational Church. Portland, Oregon.

BEN MIRIN – Media

TED Talk: DJing to the Sounds of Nature. YouTube. June 5, 2017.

BEN MIRIN – Concerts and Public Talks

Rockefeller University. New York, New York.

Stanford University. Monterey, California.

Linnaean Society of New York. New York, New York.

National Geographic. Washington, D.C.
Brooklyn Botanic Garden. New York, New York.
Ronald Reagan Center/ITC. Washington, D.C.
The Explorers Club. New York, New York.
Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Ithaca, New York.

IAN URBINA – Media

International trips and research on fisheries and ocean crime.

CHRIS JORDAN – Works

Albatross. Film. May 2017.

CHRIS JORDAN – Lectures, Keynotes, Workshops and Public Talks

IMPAC4 (4th International Marine Protected Areas Congress, Coquimba, Chile.

AXIS MUNDI. Sie Film Center, Denver, Colorado.

Telluride Film Festival. Telluride, Colorado.

ERIC GILMAN – Scientific Journal Articles and Book Chapters

Gilman, E., Suuronen, P., Chaloupka, M. In Press (2017). Discards by global tuna fisheries. Marine Ecology Progress Series

Gilman, E., Weijerman, M., Suuronen, P. 2017. Ecological data from observer programs underpin ecosystem-based fisheries management. ICES Journal of Marine Science.

Gilman, E., Huang, H. 2017. Review of effects of pelagic longline hook and bait type on sea turtle catch rate, anatomical hooking position and at-vessel mortality rate. Reviews in Fish Biology and Fisheries 27: 43-52.

Hall, M., Gilman, E., Minami, H., Mituhasi, T., Carruthers, E. 2017. Mitigating bycatch in tuna fisheries. Rev Fish Biol Fisheries.

ERIC GILMAN – Presentations

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Expert Workshop on Fishing Gear Marking and Mitigating ALDFG from Gillnet and Trap Fisheries Jakarta, Indonesia.

ERICA CIRINO – Media and Accomplishments

Stories for: Ars Technica, Hakai Magazine, Living Bird Magazine, Medium, National Geographic Voices, Nautilus Magazine, Oceans Deeply, Scientific American, The Atlantic, The National Audubon Society, The Revelator, Undark Magazine, VICE, NPR Station WCAI-Woods Hole

Inaugural CUNY School of Journalism Resilience Fellow

ERICA CIRINO – Lectures

The Go and See Tour: Exploring the Pacific Ocean and Beyond in Pursuit of Plastic. 26 lectures on plastic pollution, science and solutions across the United States.

KATE THOMPSON – Conservation Work and Accomplishments

Successful defense of dissertation proposal and advancement to PhD candidacy.

Conducted pilot research in Madagascar on resources and culture.

Developed wildlife education materials for youth in Tanzania.

Continued infrastructure improvements on the Amani Children's Home, added to library, and prepared for future research projects.

A MESSAGE FROM SAFINA CENTER CHAIRMAN, B. ERIC GRAHAM

"Events of the last year make it very clear that those of us who love clean water, healthy seafood, land, and air and wildlife have our work cut out for us. While many organizations also do great work, The Safina Center trades in that rarest of commodities: Inspiration in difficult times, progress despite it all. Our message is a kind of hard-headed, pragmatic hope...delivered with love, beauty, and compassion for all beings."

About Eric: Eric is an entrepreneur who is committed to bringing energy efficiency and renewable energy systems to market. Eric has launched and helped many leading clean energy tech companies bring their technologies to market including EnerNOC, Fraunhofer CSE, Next Step Living and Building 36/Alarm.com.

As CEO of CrowdComfort Eric is revolutionizing organizational communication with employees and customers by leveraging mobile technology and cloud analytics. His platform offers building owners and managers access to aggregated data to improve employee productivity, safety & comfort to optimize building performance and lower operational costs. CrowdComfort's technology leverages the Human Sensor Network to bring new levels of reach and engagement to business operations and the built environment.



▲ Photo: Eric Graham

The Safina Center Summary Statement on Financial Position

May 31, 2017

Assets

Cash And Interest-Bearing Deposits	\$389,127
Investments	\$225,247
Contributions And Pledges Receivable	\$673,480
Other Assets	\$474,135
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,791,989

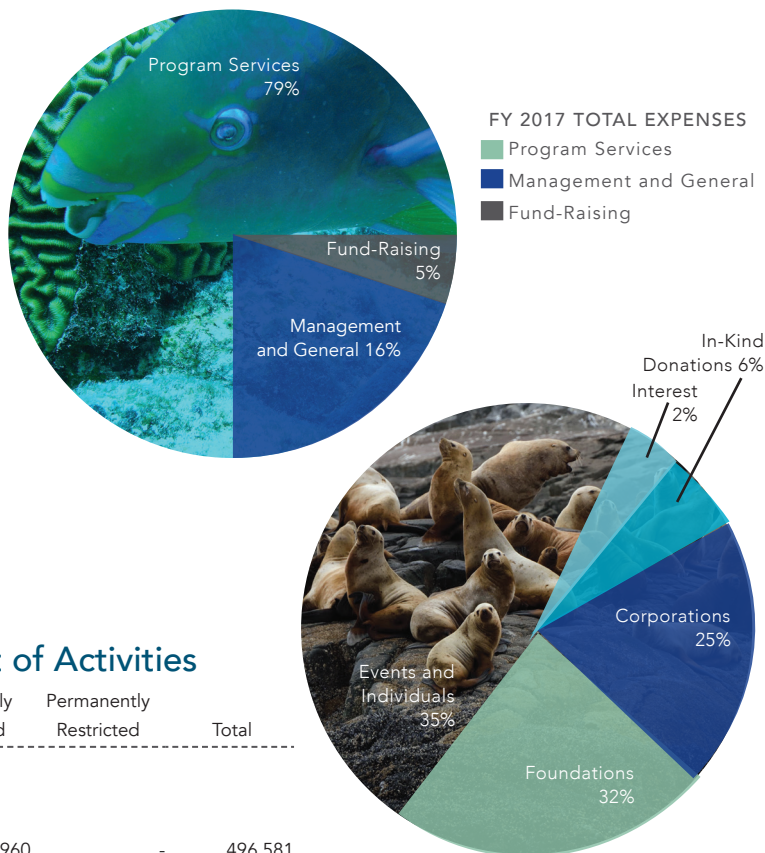
Liabilities

Accrued Expenses	\$23,637
Fiscal Sponsorship	\$9,601
Loan Payable	\$500,000
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$533,238

Net Assets

Unrestricted	\$962,777
Temporarily Restricted	\$215,974
Permanently Restricted	\$80,000
Total Net Assets	\$1,258,751

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS \$1,791,989



The Safina Center Summary Statement of Activities

Year Ended May 31, 2017

PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE:

Public support:

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Contributions	270,621	225,960	-	496,581
Revenue	90,913	-	2,454	93,367
Net assets released from restrictions	204,650	(202,196)	(2,454)	-
TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUE	566,184	23,764	-	589,948

EXPENSES:

Program services	367,559	-	-	367,559
Supporting services:				
Management and general	72,139	-	-	72,139
Fund-raising	24,517	-	-	24,517
Total Supporting Services	96,656	-	-	96,656
TOTAL EXPENSES	464,215	-	-	464,215

Increase In Net Assets Before Other Decreases	101,969	23,764	-	125,733
Other Decreases:				
Unrealized loss on investments	(2,455)	-	-	(2,455)
Increase In Net Assets	99,514	23,764	-	123,278
Net Assets, beginning of year	863,263	192,210	80,000	1,135,473
Net Assets, end of year	\$962,777	\$215,974	\$80,000	\$1,258,751

The Safina Center's complete audited financial statement may be obtained by writing to:
 Mayra Mariño, Business Manager
 The Safina Center
 80 North Country Road
 Setauket, NY 11733

THANK YOU, OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS!

Please accept our profound gratitude. Your financial contributions helped us accomplish an incredible depth and quality of work in 2017. Again, we thank you for all of your ongoing support!

Up to \$1,000

Richard Abbott
Jane Alexander
Eric & Nancy Badkin Antlitz
Averill Babson
Marilyn and John Paul Badkin
Janice Badkin Elze
Nancy Ann Balto
Rodney Berens
Giulia Bertoldo
Lucille Betti-Nash
Jackie Black and Melanie Stiansny
Barbara Block
Elise Boeger
Rema Boscov
Waveney and Malcolm Bowman
Maria Bowling LLC
Brenda Boleyn and Susan Kadar – In Memory of Robert M. Fano
Jean Brenner
Carrie Brownstein
James Brumm
Marian Brunnck
Christopher Brunnck
Marija and Robert Bryant
Crystal Bunch
Tom and Lee Caggiano
Greg Caramenico
Linda Carlisle
Chris Carrieri
Sarah Chasis
Kenny Cheung
Jennifer Chidsey
Pamela Childers
John M. and Linda Clark
David and Margaret Conover
Lucas Connelly
Edward Cosgrove
John and Judy Day
Nancy and John Debellas
Sandra and Peter Desimone
Robert Dezafrá
Susan Dierker
Distinctly Montana – William Muhlenfeld
Jeffrey Dobrinsky
Quentin and Susan Durward
Anne Earhart
Sylvia Earle
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▲ Killer whales in Scotia Sea. Photo: Carl Safina

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“Direct compassion and heart-filled work toward the living creatures of this planet.” —DR. ERIC GILCHRIST

In 2011, we established an endowment fund to honor the memory of our dear friend and board member, Dr. Eric Gilchrist. His steady support for The Safina Center has continued beyond his passing through a bequest that now serves as the seed for our endowment.

His generosity continues to inspire us.

There are four easy ways to contribute to The Safina Center.

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631-675-1984

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The Safina Center

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Author and scientist Dr. Carl Safina founded
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 with Stony Brook University's School of Marine and
 Atmospheric Sciences.

FROM HIGH FASHION TO THE HIGH SEAS: MY JOURNEY TO OCEAN CONSERVATION

by Shari Sant-Plummer, Safina Center Fellows Program Supporter

“Shari Sant-Plummer is one of the most dedicated forces funding conservation. It is a deep love of hers, and I can tell because she shows up everywhere at conferences and meetings and at gatherings in distant locales. She’s driven by passion. Shari’s not just sitting in her office.” – Carl Safina

Growing up in California I spent a lot of time outdoors: Both sets of grandparents and my father had beach houses, and we spent hours body surfing and swimming in the summer. I even went to college at UC Santa Barbara so I could be near the ocean, but after two years I wanted something new, so I transferred to New York University to experience city life. My love of the ocean and nature took a back seat for a while to the excitement of Manhattan, though technically I was still living on an island! I eventually became a fashion designer and stylist at Ralph Lauren, which consumed my life completely for nine years.

My father Roger Sant and step-mother Vicki Sant started the Summit Foundation in 1991, and the four children became board members. I was still working at Ralph Lauren in NYC, so that was my first real exposure to environmental issues. I gradually returned to my passion for the ocean in 1999 when my husband, Dan Plummer, and I got scuba certified on our honeymoon in St. John, USVI. By then my interest in protecting the planet had blossomed, and after leaving Ralph Lauren and NYC, I had opened one of the first eco-fashion and lifestyle retail stores, “Worldware,” in San Francisco in 1994.

I was fortunate to meet Dr. Sylvia Earle on a dive trip to Belize in 1999, and she inspired me to focus my environmental activism on protecting and restoring the ocean! I learned from her that among other critical functions, the ocean provides half the oxygen we breathe, and it can only continue doing that if the ecosystem is healthy. She explained that rampant overfishing, degraded habitat, plastic pollution, and carbon emissions were taking its toll.

Dan and I created our foundation about 10 years ago; we named it “Code Blue” because it described the urgency of the anthropogenic challenges the ocean was, and still is, facing. I find this work to be incredibly rewarding! It’s been a privilege to travel around the world with my colleagues diving, exploring, and photographing the world’s beautiful underwater habitats while working to protect them!

Over the years working in this field, I have come to realize that human ignorance to the problems is main reason there is not enough global support for the solutions. I am always looking for ways to convey the issues that will create an empathetic response, and inspire action. I learned about Carl through his incredible writing. *Song for Blue Ocean* was the first book of his I read, and I became a huge fan of his writing over the years! My husband and I met Carl at an environmental event



▲ Shari Sant-Plummer dives in Raja Ampat, Indonesia.
Photo: Sylvia Earle

many years ago and have supported his work ever since. I was particularly drawn to the Fellow’s Program because I think the world needs many more Carl Safina’s with the talent to educate and inspire through storytelling.

My mother, Phyllis Gainsborough, (now married to my wonderful stepfather Phil Gainsborough) taught learning disabled children at the Neuropsychiatric Institute at UCLA, and later became a private therapist. I helped her with her class in the summer when I was in high school, and she inspired me to study Sociology and Psychology in college so I could be a social worker. Of course, I ended getting a good job in fashion and never did get my Masters in Social Work. But the ethic of making a difference in the world stayed with me.

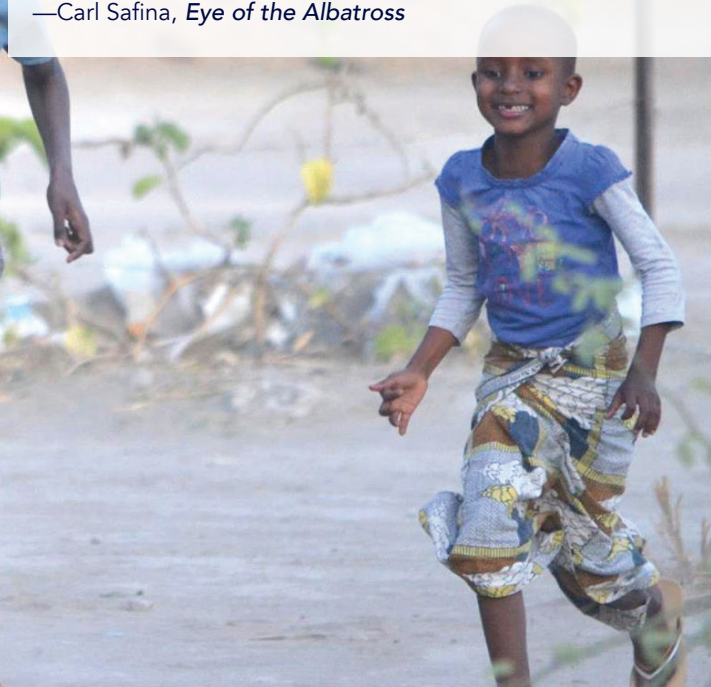
My father, Roger Sant, and stepmother, Vicki Sant, deserve a lot of credit for my environmental education, and introduction to diving. By starting the Summit Foundation and including their children on the board, they taught us not only about the complex problems of the world, but also how to combat them through philanthropy. We all learned to be charitable through this process, something I took for granted, but not everyone with the means chooses to use their wealth in this way. I feel very fortunate that we were able to learn that from them, and that I was finally able to fulfill my desire to help others through this work.

The Safina Center’s commitment to conservation communication through their Fellows Program is perfectly in line with the work of Code Blue. There are not many organizations creatively communicating the science of the natural world, and educating people on the anthropogenic threats to human and planetary survival the way the Safina Center does.



"I am impressed anew by...how much the harshness that challenges life is what causes the beauty. Birds fly because they must escape predators and search for food. Trees grow skyward because they compete fiercely with other trees for light. Living things need something to push off of. Each of us needs challenges to give us the right shape.

—Carl Safina, *Eye of the Albatross*



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