The Safina Center
at Stony Brook University

The Safina Center Welcomes New Fellow - Dr. Ellen Prager

Author and Marine Scientist brings Earth and Ocean Science to all Ages

Stony Brook, NY, June 17, 2014: The Safina Center's Fellows Program has expanded to include a new Fellow: author and marine scientist, Dr. Ellen Prager. Prager is widely recognized for her expertise and ability to make science entertaining and understandable for people of all ages. She has built a national reputation as a scientist and spokesperson on earth and ocean science issues and is a sought-after speaker for public-oriented events and as an expert by the media. She has appeared on The Today Show and NBC News, Good Morning America, Fox News, CBS Early Show, CNN American Morning, Larry King, The Weather Channel and in shows for the Discovery Channel.

Dr. Prager's newest book ***The Shark Whisperer***, published in May 2014 by Scarletta Press, is the first book in a middle grade fiction series that combines humor and adventure with learning about the ocean, marine life, and ocean issues. Sylvia Earle calls it "an underwater Harry Potter". In February of this year her illustrated young children's book, ***Sea Slime: It's Eeuwy, Gooey, and Under the Sea*** was released by Sylvan Dell. For adult ocean-enthusiasts, her book ***Sex, Drugs, and Sea Slime: The Oceans' Oddest Creatures and Why They Matter*****,** took an entertaining look at marine biodiversity, its relevance to the average person, and why ocean life and resources are now at risk. It has been called hilarious, tastefully salacious, and fascinating.

Dr. Carl Safina, Founding President of The Safina Center explains that "Ellen is a kindred spirit and we've been on parallel quests to explain and inspire about nature and the sea for at least 15 years. Her work has just the kind of high-spirited, inventive quality I like to be associated with. It's a pleasure to be in her circle of light and to help boost her reach."

"Having long known Carl and admired his work, I am thrilled and honored to have the opportunity to now collaborate with him as a Fellow of The Safina Center," says Prager. "Being a Fellow will provide support for my work to bring ocean science and conservation to broad audiences, in particular with my new middle grade fiction series."

Dr. Prager currently works as a freelance writer, consultant, science advisor to Celebrity *Xpedition* in the Galapagos Islands, and as an NBC News on-air expert. Prager was previously the Chief Scientist for the Aquarius Reef Base program in Key Largo, FL, which includes the world's only undersea research station. She also served as Assistant Dean at the University of Miami's Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science.

The Safina Center (formerly Blue Ocean Institute) was founded in 2003 by author and conservation pioneer, Dr. Carl Safina. We work through science, art, and literature to inspire solutions and a deeper connection with nature. Our core programs include Carl Safina's writing, teaching and film work, our Fellows program and Sustainable Seafood program. The Safina Center's mission is to inspire more people to actively engage as well-informed and highly motivated constituents for conservation.

For more information and interviews, contact:
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- More about Prager's Safina Center Fellowship here.
- Prager's full bio here.
- Photos for this release here.
- More about Prager's books, lectures and media work here.