

Bruckner Chase – Ocean & Community Engagement Actions

VISION

Evidence Based Ocean Engagement - Empowering Positive Ocean Connections and Actions: Knowledge, Means, Desire

To create sustainable positive impacts on the health, wellbeing and strength of our oceans and communities we develop and implement innovative programs and events that build personal, emotional connections among communities and the ocean environments we share. We want people to have a life long, personal connection to the water, but can not encourage people to get into their local waters without simultaneously connecting them to the tools and knowledge that will make those experiences safe and positive

OVERVIEW 2016 - 2017

Blue Journey 50: A Year Long and Life Long Quest to Positively Impact Our World and Our Oceans

A personal, community and ocean commitment that will span the globe and show that our greatest accomplishments can always be found along the journey forward. Woven amongst stories of sharks, jellyfish, endurance extremes and exotic cultures Blue Journey 50 will show that the ability to positively impact our world is not limited by where and how we started or where we now are in life. The highlight of the year long quest will be a ocean expedition and documentary in American Samoa that captures the stories, challenges and opportunities of the villages that have lived in harmony with the island and ocean for 3,000 years. To Bruckner what we do in a race or in the water makes us athletes, but what we do beyond the finish line FOR the ocean and FOR our communities can makes us heroes.

ENGAGEMENT AND ACTIVATION HIGHLIGHTS

NOAA National Weather Service 5-Year Cooperative Research and Development Agreement

With a shared interest in protecting the health and well being of our communities and our oceans Bruckner is collaborating with NOAA's National Weather Service to help shape how they connect ocean and beach safety, science and conservation to communities in the US and around the world. The first short film, "Ocean Safety with Bruckner Chase" was released on World Oceans Day through NOAA Ocean Today, and there is an extensive treatment of future films to be developed in the coming months and years. The next piece, "Dangerous Waves" is being shot in September with a planned release of October. See attached

Surf Lifesaving Open Water Sports for Athletes with Spinal Cord Injuries – Connecting and empowering communities for health, well being and quality of life

Founded under the belief that the ocean connects and unifies us all, the program helps physically challenged members of our community discover their personal connection to our natural waters while creating connections within our community that inspire and empower to enhance quality of life and the health of our waters. The program's Legion of Ocean Heroes Surf Lifesaving Festivals are a model for bringing together challenged and able bodied athletes to race side by side and head to head to inspire all those who take part.

Legion of Ocean Heroes After School Middle School Program

A pilot program at Pleasantville Middle School that uses Evidence Based Ocean Engagement to teach ocean science and conservation alongside aquatic safety. The program is a strength based empowerment program based on adolescent brain development and program design by Dr Michelle Evans-Chase, PhD

Ocean City Swim Club – A model for getting people immersed in their local open waters

An innovative model for open water swimming, ocean sports, ocean education and conservation, the program works with swimmers throughout the year in the pool, ocean and bays around Ocean City, NJ. The club conducts weekly ocean swims, pool workouts and paddleboard workouts for athletes of all ages and abilities, and the club administers the Unified Team program for athletes with spinal cord injuries. The program shares the Ocean Positive mission to positively impact how we feel, think and act towards our oceans

World Aquatic Health Conference – Keynote Address, October 19-20, Nashville, TN

Keynote and Workshops: "Real world examples of the cognitive, emotional, psychological, social and spiritual benefits of aquatic environments." Sharing ways to create sustainable connections across all ages and abilities.

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