

April 13th
Diving into Deep Sea Technology
Herbst Pavilion, Fort Mason San Francisco
6 PM-7:30PM
(Reception 6-6:30, Presentations begin 6:30)

Dr. Tierney Thys (M.C. for the 13th and 14th)



Tierney is an ocean scientist, conservationist, media producer, public speaker and [National Geographic Explorer](#). She received her PhD studying fish biomechanics at Duke and continues research on ocean sunfish, [Mola mola](#) worldwide. As Director of Research at Sea Studios Foundation in California, she helped make numerous National Geographic films including the Strange Days on Planet Earth series, winner of the environmental Oscar, at the Wildscreen Festival. A member of the TED Braintrust, Tierney is currently producing a web series for [TED Ed](#) called [Stories from the Sea](#). You can find Tierney in her virtual aquarium in National Geographic's [Animal Jam](#), an online game, where she will soon launch her yellow submarine into the animated depths for more than 2 million gamers, ages 6-9.

PANELISTS

Chris Welsh



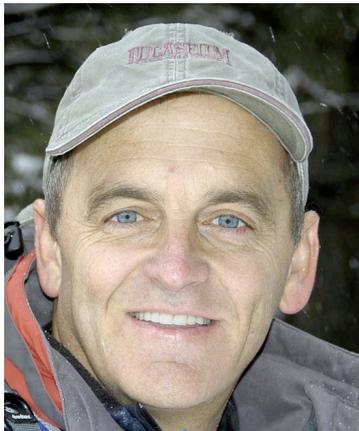
Chris Welsh is Chief Pilot and Co-Founder with Sir Richard Branson of Virgin Oceanic. Chris is a lifelong waterman with five LA-Hawaii sail crossings and success campaigning his own racing sailboat "Ragtime" in the LA-Tahiti and Sydney-Hobart races. Virgin Oceanic's goal is the Five Dives: visiting the deepest spot in each of the five ocean basins of the world. Chris is also an aviator with single and multi-engine, IFR, glider, seaplane and helicopter ratings. Chris's business background includes 25 years in commercial real estate investment and current forays into waste to energy recycling and marine oriented venture capital.

Dr. Erika Montague



Dr. Erika Montague is a deep sea ocean technologist. She has a Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University in Marine Biology with a focus on bioluminescence and has traveled to remote locations conducting research aboard deep-diving submersibles. She has also built a low-light, deep-sea observatory; developed undersea lander vehicles; and invented an autonomous tissue sampler for collection of DNA from deep-sea fishes. Erika recently returned from the DEEPSEA CHALLENGE expedition where she worked with the lander and submersible teams, helping to maintain and deploy scientific instruments and sampling devices.

Brett Hobson



Brett Hobson is a Senior Engineer for the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute. He has been developing and operating deep ocean vehicles for more than twenty years--from manned submersibles and remotely operated vehicles (ROVs) to seafloor crawlers and long-range autonomous underwater vehicles (AUVs). His state-of-the-art vehicles have been used for such diverse tasks as: ocean imaging and mapping, mine detection, oil exploration and nuclear reactor inspections. His work is motivated by a passionate desire to help scientists access and conduct research anywhere in the ocean on a continuous basis through the use of unmanned exploration vehicles.

Luke Beatman



Luke Beatman is the lead oceanographic data analyst at Liquid Robotics, Inc.-- the company who developed the first, wave powered marine robot. He oversees all data analysis for more than 100 Wave Gliders deployed globally. Prior to joining Liquid Robotics, Luke was at Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI) where he worked with research vessel flow-through systems, offshore moorings, and ocean-observing stations. From 2000 to 2008, he was at Moss Landing Marine Laboratory (MLML) where he created and maintained ocean observation stations for Central and Northern California Ocean Observing System (CeNCOOS); an organization dedicated to the support of science in the service of marine ecosystem health and resource sustainability. Through this work, Luke developed the first public oceanographic data portal for MLML and CeNCOOS.

Sterling Zumbrunn



Sterling Zumbrunn is the Chief Technical Officer at Backscatter Underwater Video & Photo in Monterey, California. As an avid underwater photographer, he embraced using digital cameras underwater over a decade ago, and has watched digital technology evolve at a rapid pace. Formerly the Director of Photography for Conservation International, Sterling has traveled to some of the world's most remote and threatened ecosystems, and documented their degradation as well as some of the conservation heroes working to protect them. You can view his work at <http://sterlingz.net>

APRIL 14th
Ocean Explorers
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David de Rothschild



David de Rothschild is a National Geographic Explorer, an International Ambassador for the NGO [Clean Up The World](#) and "Young Global Leader" nominee for the World Economic Forum. In 2010, de Rothschild launched "Plastiki," a 60-foot catamaran built from approx. 12,500 reclaimed plastic bottles using a unique recyclable technology called Seretex. The Plastiki and its crew sailed more than 8,000 nautical miles across the Pacific Ocean from San Francisco to Sydney.

Along with Plastiki, de Rothschild launched a platform for community interaction and sharing stories called "Myoo" (the name comes from the pronunciation of "community"). Plastiki was named one of 2010's fifty best [inventions](#) by Time Magazine.

Barton Seaver



Barton Seaver is a chef, author, speaker and National Geographic Fellow who is working to restore our relationship with the ocean, the land, and with each other—through dinner. He believes food is a crucial way for us to connect with the ecosystems, people, and cultures of our world. Seaver has left the restaurant business to use his knowledge and experience to link seafood to broader socioeconomic, ecological, health, and cultural issues. Barton recently joined the board of Harvard Medical School's Center for Health and the Global Environment. With Harvard and the support of National Geographic, Barton is bringing together Boston area hospitals and health care providers to ensure healthier, more sustainable food service opportunities for both patients and the public at large.

Jenifer Austin Foulkes



Jenifer Austin Foulkes is Google's Ocean Manager. Working with Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Lab, UCSD's Scripps Institute of Oceanography and NOAA, she took the lead in publishing Google Earth & Maps for the entire ocean at 1 km resolution. She has also collaborated with National Geographic, the Cousteau Society, MBARI, ARKive, Smithsonian, Pew and others to create the [Ocean Showcase](#) which highlights education tours using Google Earth and provides educational stories to the [Liquid Galaxy](#) surround Google Earth display. For a spectacular example see: [Underwater Earth's 360 underwater panoramas](#) from the Great Barrier Reef. She also cofounded the [Google Earth Outreach program](#) which gives nonprofits and public benefit organizations the knowledge and resources they need to visualize their cause and tell their story in Google Earth & Maps to hundreds of millions of people.. Prior to joining Google, she was at Stanford University in the Neurosciences Ph.D program.

Sylvia Earle



Called “Her Deepness” by the New Yorker and the New York Times, a “Living Legend” by the Library of Congress, and Time Magazine’s first “Hero for the Planet,” Sylvia Earle has led more than 100 expeditions as an oceanographer and explorer, authored 180 publications, and lectured in 70 countries. She is Explorer in Residence of the National Geographic Society, Leader of the Sustainable Seas Expeditions, Council Chair for the Harte Research Institute, Founder of Mission Blue and the SEAlliance, and formerly the Chief Scientist of NOAA. She has founded three companies and served on various corporate and non-profit boards. A graduate of St. Petersburg College and Florida State University with MA and PhD from Duke University she has 20 honorary doctorates and more than 100 national and international awards including the 2009 TED Prize and in 2011 the Royal Geographical Society’s Patron’s Medal, the Medal of Honor from the Dominican Republic and Australia’s SIMS Green Leadership Award.