FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OCEAN INSTITUTE FEST CULINARY – MUSIC FESTIVAL TO DELIVER GOURMET FOOD AND LIVE MUSIC

Ocean Institute's largest fundraiser of the year features the best restaurants of Orange County and entertainment by Voices of Hope in support of ocean education programs

DANA POINT (February 12, 2020)—Ocean Institute Fest Culinary- Music Festival previously known as the Jazz Festival, will be on March 27 and 28, 2020. Monarch Beach Resort is this year’s title sponsor and the festival takes place over two extraordinary nights.

On Friday, March 27, guests will experience an all-inclusive Waterfront Food Festival featuring the best restaurants of Orange County. Executive chefs will present the crown jewels from their menus accompanied by a variety of unique craft cocktails, brought to you by Nolet's/ Kettle One and The Blind Rabbit.

Saturday's festivities include a performance by Voices of Hope as seen on America's Got Talent and food from the best coastal culinary talent. Each ticket includes a six-course dinner curated by Monarch Beach Resort's Executive Chef Jason Adams, along with executive chefs Kyle St. John from The Ranch at Laguna Beach, Ron Fougeray from Surf and Sand Resort, celebrity chef John Tesar from Laguna Cliffs Marriott Resort and Spa, and Chef Rob Wilson formerly of the Montage and now Glasspar. This is Orange County's only resort-driven culinary event.

Both nights feature live and silent auctions that directly support the Ocean Institute's Adopt-A-Class program that provides underserved students with hands-on STEM education.

Dr. Wendy Marshall, President of Education and Operations, said, “Ocean Institute Fest is an exciting new twist to our long-standing annual celebration when the Ocean Institute's community of friends comes together for a weekend of food, music, and fun all in support of our mission. The music and entertainment are sure to bring the audiences to their feet!
Again, this year, proceeds benefit Adopt-A-Class, which provides real-world learning experiences for thousands of students, most of whom have never seen the ocean. These experiences do not simply change a day in a child's life, but rather change their perceptions of what life has to offer and the many possibilities that are open to them."

LIVE 61, LA's hottest entertainment, will be performing on Friday and Saturday. The auctioneer for each evening will be celebrity host Matt Rogers. Rogers has hosted many television shows, including Discovery Channel's "Gold Rush: The Dirt", "Deadliest Catch: The Bait." and more.

Tickets for Friday start at $175 per admission with couples tickets at $300 per couple. Saturday night tickets start at $325 per individual seat and a limited number of Sponsorship tables remain. For more event details and tickets, visit oifest.org or call (949) 496-2274.

Images available upon request.

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About Ocean Institute

Ocean Institute is a highly respected ocean science, maritime history and experiential education nonprofit located in Dana Point Harbor, California. Its modern campus is adjacent to the Dana Point State Marine Conservation Area, and encompasses 33,000 square feet of hands-on exhibits, science labs and an aquarium collection of 1,100 live specimens of local marine life. Central to its unique identity throughout California, Ocean Institute operates two historic tall ships, Spirit of Dana Point and Pilgrim, a replica of the ship made famous by Richard Henry Dana Jr. in his epic memoir “Two Years Before the Mast.” Ocean Institute also operates the 70-foot research vessel Sea Explorer. Over a span of forty years Ocean Institute has enriched the lives of two million California students with a mission of “using the ocean as our classroom, we inspire children to learn.” Ocean Institute serves over 100,000 students, teachers and families each year with a hands-on approach to ocean-related science, research and conservation. Ocean Institute's diverse elementary, middle and high school program inventory is STEM-focused and aligned with California Common Core Standards. To learn more about Ocean Institute, including the annual Tall Ships Festival presented by Toshiba and Ocean Institute Fest, please visit www.oceaninstitute.org.