Dear Supporters,

At this year’s come to a close, we can look back at a year filled with challenges and successes. Although we had the Robert & Dorothy, a wonderful Foundation, Bay Ship and Yacht Association, DFC, Wright Bros., Founders of the Bay Area, and the Q ter of the island. We are lucky to have it close by!”

Our staff, MIS’s biggest asset, continues to bring science alive for students by inspiring them to ask questions about our local ecosystems and explore how we can have a positive impact. Asking questions and investigating answers are core components of the Next Generation Science Standards. Our programs support teachers in implementing these new standards by bringing hands-on science to students at all ages. And we have been able to continue to provide a diverse program of environmental education throughout the entire year of 2017-2018. This work would not have been possible without your generous support. Donations received September 1, 2017 through August 31, 2018.

Thank you to our FY 2017-18 donors, funders and partners! This work would not be possible without your generous support. Donations received September 1, 2017 through August 31, 2018.

Thank you to all of you!

Stay tuned for our exciting next steps.

Executive Director
Marilou Seiff

Board Chair
Andrea Aust

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Dear Supporters,

At a year of challenges, we can look back at a year filled with successes and achievements. Although we, the Marine Science Institute, worked overtime to get the repairs done as quickly as possible and our supporters came together to help us cover costs in our time of need. Thanks to all of you!

Our staff, MSI’s biggest asset, continues to bring science alive for students by inspiring them to ask questions about our local ecosystems and explore how we can all have a positive impact. Asking questions and investigating answers are core components of the Next Generation Science Standards. Our programs support teachers in implementing these new standards by bringing hands-on science to students of all ages. And we have been able to continue to provide our programs in this environment of greatly expanded Bay Area citizens, no matter what schools can afford to pay, thanks to our generous donors.

With the help of the Alumni Consulting Team from the Stanford Graduate School of Business, we recently completed a new strategic plan that will guide our work for the next five years. We will focus on strengthening our Board, maintaining and upgrading our facilities, and improving the quality of our programs, while preparing for multiple weeks due to mechanical problems, our staff pulled together to offer alternative programs for school groups, the shipyard workers worked overtime to get the repairs done as quickly as possible and our supporters came together to help us cover costs in our time of need. Thanks to all of you!

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Stay tuned for our exciting next steps.
Science is an exciting, ever-changing, and dynamic field. To adequately prepare students for college and careers, science education must match this pace. Significant advances have taken place in the understanding of how students learn science successfully. The Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) were developed to replace outdated science standards and adopted by the State Board of Education in 2013. While the Marine Science Institute’s programs naturally align with the new standards, we have been working to provide resources to demonstrate our programs’ alignment with the standards for each grade band.

After much investment in staff, professional development, and environmental education provider partnerships, MSI produced robust NGSS program correlation guides for all of our programs, grades K-8. These guides serve as a tool to help teachers support students through the growing pains of adjusting to teaching the new standards. The transition has been challenging for many teachers as instructional materials have just recently become available, and as a result, the depth of implementation greatly varies between school districts. Because there has been limited support for elementary teachers to implement the standards so far, teachers depend upon and specifically look to us to provide real-life experiences with science in the field — a primary emphasis of the NGSS. MSI is a lead environmental science education provider with years of field experiences with science in the field, and a larger shaded area to protect everyone from the sun. We cannot thank the Rotary Club of Cupertino enough for generously donating both the Waterfront Education Center and a former science teacher, said this about volunteering at MSI: “I wanted to find more opportunities to give back to my community. MSI, a nonprofit environmental science education provider, provides experiences ready students for the future of innovation, ensuring the health and wellbeing of the planet and humans alike. These fascinating experiences ready students for the next phases of learning where they can further develop their understandings of scientific concepts. The role MSI plays in inviting students to explore the natural world is a vital piece to achieving the performance expectations of the NGSS. When students interact with marine habitats in such a direct way, they naturally ask questions and investigate answers, making lasting memories that will continue to inspire curiosity in scientific phenomena.

To support MSI is to support the current research that informs best practices in science education. Students need experiences in nature to connect with nature, and this connection results in informed citizens that will drive the future of innovation, ensuring the health and wellbeing of the planet and humans alike. These fascinating experiences ready students for the next phases of learning where they can further develop their understandings of scientific concepts. The role MSI plays in inviting students to explore the natural world is a vital piece to achieving the performance expectations of the NGSS. When students interact with marine habitats in such a direct way, they naturally ask questions and investigate answers, making lasting memories that will continue to inspire curiosity in scientific phenomena.

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Each year, Marine Science Institute teams up with corporations, universities, and community groups to provide an unforgettable educational experience for students to discover the science behind the Marine Life. The Waterfront Education Center Upgrades Project was a direct response to the needs expressed by teachers, parents and students who come to our site for educational and fun programs. They asked for safer and more secure benches for the children, and a larger shaded area to protect everyone from the sun. We worked closely with the Rotary Club of Cupertino and a former science teacher, said this about volunteering at MSI, “I wanted to build a very green project of MSI. I wanted everyone to feel like this is an important project in our programs. We have partnered with the Rotary Club of Cupertino for many years. We have done physical efforts to make it a reality for the tens of thousands of children we serve each year.”

The $25,000 check is a result of our annual “Together for the Environment” fundraising program where Rotarians Bill Allen and MSI’s aquarist engineer Jesus Jimenez, Rotarians funded and installed shade structures in our waterfront area and activity lawn. They also purchased and installed 12 new benches and another shade structure. The project is complete and the upgrades are now in full use by everyone.

"We are OVER the moon. I’ve never seen our community support a non-profit and their individual giving rise to such miracles.“ - Camp Director
Connecting Next Generation Science Standards

Science is an exciting, ever-changing, and dynamic field. To adequately prepare students for college and careers, science education must match this pace.

Significant advances have taken place in the understanding of how new science learning should occur. The Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) were developed from vetted, research-based science standards and adopted by the State Board of Education in 2013. While the Marine Science Institute’s programs naturally align with the new standards, we have been working to provide resources to demonstrate our programs’ alignment with the standards for each grade band.

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Marnie Seiff, Executive Director
Andrew Aust, Board Chair