

The Palm Beach Post

Sunday, March 17, 2024

# BOATING

## South Florida

**INSIDE:**

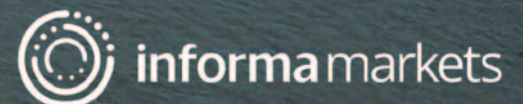
**The Palm Beach International Boat Show Gives Back program donates \$500,000!** pages 3-5

**FULL BOAT  
SHOW MAP  
INSIDE**

see page 12  
for details



PALM BEACH  
INTERNATIONAL  
BOAT SHOW



# ANGARI Foundation Expands Educational Ocean Expeditions

## West Palm Beach nonprofit advances at-sea, marine science education programs across South Florida with Boat Show Grant

By Chelsea Casagrande

In the name of science, ANGARI Foundation plans to expand their at-sea educational ocean expeditions to more students and educators across South Florida, including Title I schools. The Palm Beach International Boat Show Gives Back grant committee selected ANGARI Foundation as an inaugural grant recipient of the grant program to help continue the Foundation's mission of strengthening marine science education. The grant program is funded through the proceeds from the annual Palm Beach International Boat Show, owned by the Marine Industries Association of Palm Beach County (MIAPBC) and produced by Informa. MIAPBC recently named ANGARI Foundation an Environmental Steward of the Year for their significant community outreach in environmental and marine science education.

Through her passion for the ocean, marine science, and boating, president and co-founder of ANGARI Foundation, Angela Rosenberg, started the nonprofit with her sister in 2016. They converted a 65-foot yacht into an affordable research vessel and named it R/V ANGARI. Since its founding, ANGARI Foundation has become a community resource for affordable marine science



Captain Angela Rosenberg, president and co-founder of ANGARI Foundation, started the nonprofit with her sister in 2016.

research and STEM education in Palm Beach County. The Foundation has welcomed nearly 1,000 scientists, educators, and students aboard their research vessel for ocean expeditions and educational programs. As captain of R/V ANGARI, Rosenberg dedicates her time to supporting research initiatives. These initiatives foster a greater trust and dialogue between scientists and the public, while also educating the community on ocean conservation and investing in the future of STEM education.

The Palm Beach International Boat Show Gives Back grant will allow ANGARI Foundation to offer their educational shark research program, *Coastal Ocean Explorers: Sharks* (COE: Sharks), to more

schools in Palm Beach County, and potentially in Broward and Miami-Dade counties. Departing from ANGARI's headquarters in West Palm Beach, COE: Sharks features full-day expeditions for middle school and high school students and teachers to apply the scientific method and STEM knowledge by studying sharks aboard R/V ANGARI alongside researchers from Florida International University.

During COE: Sharks, participants first receive introductory training in marine science field methods and environmental principles before gaining firsthand experience on the water. They then work side by side with professional scientists and vessel crew to fish for, tag, and collect valuable data that supports shark research and conservation. Throughout the expedition, the participants also gain experience working with baited remote underwater video system (BRUVS) surveys. These surveys are accomplished by deploying a video rig in the Lake Worth Lagoon to study local marine life; identifying marine species and studying their population abundance. Through this place-based, educational experience, students and teachers explore marine operations and careers, scientific fieldwork, shark biology and ecology, natural resources, and marine conservation.

Since the program's start in 2022, the

demand for ANGARI Foundation's COE: Sharks has substantially increased. To date, the Foundation has hosted 28 COE: Sharks expeditions, welcoming aboard 259 students and 100 teachers, with more than 5,000 individuals engaged via related onshore programming. In 2023 alone, ANGARI hosted 13 COE: Sharks expeditions with 135 students and 47 educators.

"We're honored to have our educational efforts recognized by the Marine Industries Association of Palm Beach County and the Palm Beach International Boat Show Gives Back grant committee. It's surreal to see our vision come to life during this nonprofit journey," said Rosenberg. "The maritime industry has been a part of ANGARI's success from the beginning, initially providing support and services when we acquired and refitted our research vessel. We're fortunate to be able to work with various organizations, and MIAPBC has been an outstanding partner in helping us grow our programs and increase our impact."

Rosenberg hopes to expand the Foundation's environmental and educational impact in 2024, enabling it to reach more students and educators from all backgrounds, and invest in the next generation of scientists.