



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**MEDIA ALERT**

***The International SeaKeepers Society honors Carrie Manfrino, Ph.D. as the first SeaKeeper of the World.***

**Miami, Florida- July 2015** – SeaKeepers welcomes oceanographer Carrie Manfrino into the newly launched SeaKeepers of the World Program. Manfrino has been named SeaKeeper of the Cayman Islands.

In June 2015 SeaKeepers launched the SeaKeepers of the World Program to identify individuals who demonstrate a commitment to ocean research and conservation in their local communities. SeaKeepers Board of Directors recognizes individuals whose environmental goals and scientific and conservation efforts align with the SeaKeepers mission to Research. Educate. Protect and Restore.

SeaKeeper of the Cayman Islands, Carrie Manfrino is Founder and President of the Central Caribbean Marine Institute (CCMI) as well as its Director of Research. Founded in 1998, CCMI runs research, education, outreach and conservation programs out of the Little Cayman Research Centre. Manfrino stresses the importance of marine biodiversity and has dedicated years of research towards studying coral reefs in her mission to inspire others to protect coral's fragile ecosystems. At CCMI Manfrino focuses on understanding the driving factors and ocean processes that lead to coral reef resilience. Her work has demonstrated the importance of controlling local impacts to reefs especially during times of high levels of global stress. She has also updated the CCMI biosketch. CCMI has established a long-term reef monitoring program and involves local and visiting citizen scientists regularly.

In addition to her other accomplishments, Manfrino has recently received a Fulbright Award. She is also an Associate Professor at Kean University's School of Environmental and Sustainability Sciences.

The International SeaKeepers Society will be identifying SeaKeepers of the World over the next year to represent regions around the globe.

**About The International SeaKeepers Society®**

The International SeaKeepers Society is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization focusing on the health of the world's oceans and climate. SeaKeepers works with the boating and yachting community to take advantage of their unique potential in order to further marine research and to raise awareness about the issues our oceans face. The International SeaKeepers Society acts as a global catalyst working with governments, scientists, industry, and other marine organizations to further its mission and to support sensible, achievable marine protection and restoration. For more information visit [www.seakeepers.org](http://www.seakeepers.org).

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