

SOFOnaturalist



Each quarter SOFO features eco-links, written by a member or friend of the Museum. If you wish to submit an article, please contact us.

eco links

Chickadees

by John L. Turner



Black-capped Chickadee, credit Judy Gallagher

If you're attracted to birds then you're also very aware of how they can elicit reactions. Watching an Osprey dive into the bay with talons flaring and pulling away with a wriggling fish creates head nodding awe. A Scarlet Tanager, Tufted Titmouse, Downy Woodpecker, both White-breasted and Red-breasted Nuthatches, Ruby-crowned and Golden-crowned Kinglets, and a Brown Creeper or Baltimore Oriole flitting among oak flowers in the dappled sunlight of a spring forest produces a breathtaking WOW. There's one bird, however, that elicits a different response. Whenever I see one it automatically puts a smile on my face, often followed by a verbal "hello little fella" response. The species? The Black-capped Chickadee.



Black-capped Chickadee feeding from my hand at Morton Wildlife Refuge.

Black-capped Chickadees are the definition of cute. They're active, vocal, and small; have an extensive and distinctive black throat bib; and a head fitted with a black cap (the species – *atricapillus* – is part

of the scientific name *Poecile atricapillus*, which means "the black hair of the head." *Poecile* is Greek for pied (a reference to the two tone look of the bird, grey on top, white on the bottom). Given the distinctiveness of their plumage, they're not likely to be confused with any other bird here on Long Island.

Chickadees are animated birds, often flitting around in both trees and shrubs, probing the recesses of bark, amidst leaves, and along branches for prey. They often vocalize their well-known onomatopoeic "chick-a-dee" call (or their 'hey sweetie' whistle) as they move about. They are quite adept at finding prey and, due to special muscles and tendons in their legs, are able to hang upside down to probe for food on the underside of leaves and branches.

In wintertime chickadees form mixed species flocks with other songbirds including Tufted Titmice, Downy Woodpeckers, both White-breasted and Red-breasted Nuthatches, Ruby-crowned and Golden-crowned Kinglets, and Brown Creepers. These flocks move systematically through a woodland seeking food. By flocking this time of year with other species chickadees can feed more efficiently since there're more eyes to discern predators (Eastern Screech-Owls and Sharp-shinned Hawks eat chickadees) and to find food. Wait you say, maybe more eyes helps spot predators but don't the other birds in the flock mean direct competition for food at a time of year when food supplies are at a yearly low? Wouldn't this competition for food outweigh the benefit of being able to more easily see predators? Actually no. Ecologists who have studied this find these birds feed in different parts of the tree - nuthatches and creepers on the main trunk, the chickadees and titmice on larger branches, and kinglets on the smaller side branches. By doing this, a concept ecologists call "niche partitioning", they are able to divvy up a common resource in a way that reduces or eliminates competition between them. Ecological elegance.

Chickadees, being small animals that live in harsh climates where the temperature in the winter routinely drops well below freezing (in fact in northern Canada and Alaska they may experience nighttime temperatures as low as -50 degrees!!), have, not surprisingly, evolved a number of behavioral and physiological adaptations to increase their likelihood of surviving the cold. At night they seek out cavities or dense vegetation where winds are blocked or reduced, resulting in slower heat loss (bent tail feathers are a telltale sign of this cavity nesting habit - look for crooked tail feathers with the chickadees visiting your feeders). Studies have documented a 50 percent reduction in heat loss in cavity roosting birds as compared to those which roost in more open situations. On rare occasion, chickadees huddle together in cavities, further reducing heat loss. They also tuck their bill and front part of their head including the eye into their shoulder feathers to reduce heat loss from these un-feathered areas.

Perhaps the most remarkable adaptation is called regulated hypothermia, and it allows for chickadees to reduce their body temperature and metabolism, an effective strategy for reducing their heat loss at night. By lowering their body temperature from 108 degrees (they are hot-blooded!) to the mid-to-low 90s overnight, chickadees

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can reduce the amount of energy they burn during the night by 20-25 percent, perhaps the difference between life and death. To help stay warm chickadees intentionally shiver through the night, burning the fat they were able to build during the day from feeding. So, while they're very cute, chickadees are also tough creatures!

About a decade ago I watched a pair of chickadees excavate a nesting cavity in a dead grey birch. Chickadees have small bills and are not able to excavate cavities in live wood, depending instead on soft, rotting wood like the birch they were working on. The tree was located about ten feet from the edge of a paved bike trail in the Massapequa Preserve but the birds didn't seem to mind the traffic. I watched the industrious pair work to excavate the cavity, dutifully carrying the wood chips away in their bills, flying some distance from the nest site before spreading the chips (presumably to make it impossible for any nest predator to cue in to the nesting location from the chips). I monitored the progress of the nest and the success of the fledglings over the next couple of weeks. I'm not sure of the total but on several occasions I saw three young birds together.

There are six other chickadee species found in North America. The Carolina Chickadee is the chickadee of the southeastern United States, breeding as far north as southern New Jersey where it is displaced by the Black-capped (there are numerous reports of the two species interbreeding, resulting in hybrids). In the west there's the Mountain Chickadee and along the Pacific Coast the beautiful Chestnut-backed Chickadee. The Mexican Chickadee barely enters the United States in southeastern Arizona. In the far north we have the Gray-headed Chickadee and the Boreal Chickadee. The Boreal Chickadee has a large range across Canada, dipping down into the United States. It breeds in the Adirondacks so New York has two resident chickadee species. Titmice, of which Long Island has the Tufted Titmouse, are close cousins to the chickadees. In Europe and Asia there are many more chickadee and titmice species. The Black-capped Chickadee is the state bird of Massachusetts and Maine.



Black-capped Chickadee and the Tufted Titmouse feeding from my hand at Morton Wildlife Refuge.

If you wish to experience Black-capped Chickadees up close and personal plan a winter trip to the Elizabeth Morton National Wildlife Refuge in Noyac. Here, a population of tame chickadees, along with Tufted Titmice and White-breasted and Red-breasted Nuthatches, will land in your hand if it's filled with unsalted sunflower seeds (they don't eat millet and some of the other ingredients in commercial bird feed). If you get there early you may have several

birds lined up waiting to land in your seed-filled hand waiting not so patiently to grab a seed. I've had two species of birds land on my hand at one time, assessing which seed to take, one of which is almost always a chickadee. Some birds flit to a spot nearby to hammer open the seed while others fly farther away to cache it for a future meal. Chickadees, you see, have very good spatial memories and can remember where they've hidden hundreds of food items. (If you end up with a lot of unused seed please take it home to be used on a future visit rather than dumping it along the trail where it could attract unwanted animals).

Being able to watch these wild, free-flying, but trusting birds a mere arm's length away is an absolute joy. Children love it and it is a great way for them to connect with wildlife and nature. I hope you feel the tickling of tiny chickadee feet on your outstretched hand sometime in the winter, thereby making the acquaintance of these avian ambassadors. Bet they put a smile on your face, too.

About John Turner

John is a SOFO board member, author, naturalist, and writer, and is active in Long Island conservation issues. He is the author of the popular Long Island nature guide "Exploring the Other Island: A Seasonal Nature Guide to Long Island (2nd Edition)" and a children's book "Waylon's Wandering Waterdrop." John runs Alula Birding and Nature Tours, a small, Long Island based tour company, catering to the birder and naturalist who enjoys small and intimate group tours.

We hope you will join SOFO at 8AM on April 2, 2022, for a visit to the Elizabeth A. Morton Wildlife Refuge for the program *The Black-capped Chickadee: Up Close & Personal with John Turner*. The program is for adults, teens, and children ages 8 and older.

Important! Please Note:

Reservations must be made for this program due to its limited enrollment. No one will be able to join the program without a reservation. Reservations can be made by calling SOFO at (631) 537-9735 or emailing info@sofo.org

Footnotes on Nature

Earth Day — *Its beginnings in the U.S. and a bit about its reach into Latin America and the Caribbean*

by Carol Crasson, SOFO Education & Communications Director and LeighAnn Montaglione, SOFO Environmental Educator.

Earth Day began in the United States in 1970. Its purpose was to raise public awareness regarding environmental issues and concerns (one of which was industrial pollution) which were not widely talked about at that time. Environmental concerns gained momentum thanks in part to the 1962 New York Times bestselling book "Silent Spring" by Rachel Carson—one of the contributing factors that increased environmental concerns in the 1960s. The book brought attention to the dangerous effects of pesticides on birds. As earthday.org states, "The book represented a watershed moment, selling more than 500,000 copies in 24 countries as it raised public awareness and concern for living organisms, the environment and the inextricable links between pollution and public health."

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South Fork Natural History Museum (SOFO) Calendar At A Glance Spring 2022

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www.sofa.org • email: info@sofo.org.

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A full description of each program is listed on the SOFO website:

www.sofa.org/calendar

April, May, & June

To ensure the safety of our visitors, we will follow all COVID-19 safety protocols and are dependent on the State's changing guidelines.

For SOFO members: programs are free, unless otherwise stated.

Level of membership indicates the number of people entitled to a free program.

For SOFO non-members: there is a fee.

Please contact us at: info@sofo.org for fee information or refer to the SOFO website at: www.sofa.org.

If you are not already a member we invite you to join the museum.

Find out about membership levels at www.sofa.org/membership.

For full information on the South Fork Natural History Museum (SOFO), including entrance fees and hours of operation, please refer to the website: www.sofa.org.

STEAM



EDUCATION

***SOFO is going Full "STEAM" Ahead
at 10:30AM
on three Saturdays this spring!***

Sign up for one, or all three, of these art and science programs
with scientist Rockfish Rob and artist Magical Marla,
for children ages 7 and older.

There's limited enrollment so make your reservation now.

Rocks & Minerals-

Saturday, April 2, 10:30AM: Full "STEAM" Ahead

Finfish & Shellfish-

Saturday, April 30, 10:30AM: Full "STEAM" Ahead

Soil Science & Composting-

Saturday, May 21, 10:30AM: Full "STEAM" Ahead

Calendar At A Glance

Key: A–Adults T–Teens C–Children F–Family AA–All Ages

A full description of each program is listed on the SOFO website at www.sofo.org/calendar.

Advance reservations are required for all programs.

April

Saturday, April 2, 8AM: The Black-capped Chickadee: Up Close and Personal with John Turner: A/T/C 8+

Saturday, April 2, 10:30AM: Full “STEAM” Ahead: Rocks & Minerals with scientist Rockfish Rob and artist Magical Marla: C7+

Sunday, April 3, 10:30AM: Part Science, Part Art – Tree Walk & Leaf Rubbings: C6+

Saturday, April 9, 9AM: Alewife Walk with Peconic Bay Keeper Peter Topping: A/T/C5+

Saturday, April 9, 9AM: Trail Cleanup—Help Needed!: AA

Saturday, April 9, 10AM: Nature Hike at Mashomack Preserve: A/T

Saturday, April 9, 6:30PM: SOFO Young Environmentalists Society (YES!) Kids Present: A screening of What’s on Your Plate: F

Saturday, April 16, 10AM: Young Birders Club Meeting: Ages 8-18

Saturday, April 16, 10:30AM: Healthy Water—An Exploration into Water Quality: A/T/C8+

Saturday, April 16, 8PM: Full Moon Walk with Friends of the Long Pond Greenbelt: AA

Spring School Break

**One Hour Outdoor Nature Adventures for Children of All Ages
in Vineyard Field, the field behind the museum,
with the SOFO Environmental Educators**

10-11AM

Monday, April 18 – Let’s look for spring bugs in Vineyard Field with Paul

Tuesday, April 19 – Let’s listen for our backyard birds with Melanie

Wednesday, April 2 – Let’s use all our senses on a nature observation walk with LeighAnn

Thursday, April 21 – Let’s keep an eye out for the reptiles and amphibians in Vineyard Field with Jake

Wednesday, April 20, 1PM: Harvesting Fish & Shellfish of Eastern Long Island, presented by Ken Morse of Tight Lines Tackle, Sag Harbor: A/T/C6+

Friday, April 22, 10AM-4PM: SOFO Open House & Earth Day Celebration: AA

Saturday, April 23, 1PM: A Look at Our Slithering Friends: AA

Saturday, April 23, 8PM: Search for Singing Frogs—Spring Peepers: AA

Saturday, April 30, 10AM: Young Environmentalists Society (YES!) Meeting: Ages 10-16

Saturday, April 30, 10:30AM: Full “STEAM” Ahead— Finfish & Shellfish with scientist Rockfish Rob and artist Magical Marla: C7+

Saturday, April 30, 11AM: Beach Cleanup with the Eastern Long Island Chapter of the Surfrider Foundation: AA

May

Sunday, May 1, 8AM: Spring Migration Bird Walk with Joe Giunta: limited enrollment: A

Sunday, May 1, 10AM: Beach Cleanup with the Ross School: AA

Saturday, May 7, 9AM: Searching for Lead-backed Salamanders: A/T/C6+

Saturday, May 7, 9:45AM: Nature & Birdwatching Cruise: A/T/C10+

Saturday, May 7, 10:30AM: Healthy Water—An Exploration in Water Quality: A/T/C8+

Saturday, May 14, 9AM: Black Racer Snake Walk—A Beautiful & Beneficial Reptile: A/T/C5+

Saturday, May 14, 8:30PM: Horseshoe Crab Citizen Science with Cornell Cooperative Extension team at Pike’s Beach, Westhampton: A/T/C5+

Special Program
Saturday, May 14, 2-5PM:

May is Lyme Disease Awareness Month.

Come join in an informational meeting featuring experts in the field of tick-borne disease.
Following the presentation there will be a Q&A: A/T

Sunday, May 15, 9AM: Trail Cleanup—Help Needed! AA

Monday, May 16, 8:30PM: Full Moon Walk with Friends of the Long Pond Greenbelt: AA

Saturday, May 21, 10AM: Nature Hike & Log Rolling at Sagg Swamp Preserve: A/T/C6+

Saturday, May 21, 10:30AM: Full “STEAM” Ahead—Soil Science & Composting with scientist Rockfish Rob and artist Magical Marla: C7+

Sunday, May 22, 9AM: Greenbelt Nature Walk (2.5miles)—From SOFO to Poxabogue Pond: A/T/C10+

Sunday, May 22, 10AM: Young Birders Club Meeting: Ages 8-18

Monday, May 23, 7PM: ZOOM: The Night of Shooting Stars with Renowned Meteorologist Joe Rao: AA

Saturday, May 28, 9:30AM: Annual Black Racer Snake Search with Andy Sabin: AA

Saturday, May 28, 10AM: Annual Salamander Seining...and Some Frogs Too, with Andy Sabin: AA

Saturday, May 28, 10AM: Young Environmentalist Society (YES!) Meeting: Ages 10-16

Saturday, May 28, 10:30AM: “Forest Bathing” (shinrin-yoku in Japanese) & Beach Meditation: A/T

Sunday, May 29, 10:30AM: Is it a Turtle or a Tortoise? What’s the Difference?: C8+

June

Thursday, June 2, 5PM: So You Wanna Grow Your Own Oysters with John “Barley” Dunne: Director of East Hampton Shellfish Hatchery, Board of Directors of South Fork Sea Farmers: A/T/C10+

Saturday, June 4, 9:45AM: Nature & Birdwatching Cruise: A/T/C10+

Saturday, June 4, 10:30AM: Healthy Water—An Exploration into Water Quality: A/T/C/8+

Sunday, June 5, 9AM: Cranberry Bog Walk at Sweezy Pond Preserve, Riverhead: A/T

Sunday, June 5, 10:30AM: How to Prepare for Pollinators: AA

Tuesday, June 7, 8AM: Breeding Warblers of Long Island with Joe Giunta: limited enrollment: A

Saturday, June 11, 8AM: Birds of the Meadow & Woods—Eric Salzman Memorial Bird Walk
Cosponsored by the Eastern Long Island Audubon Society: A/T

Saturday, June 11, 9AM: Trail Cleanup—Help Needed!: AA

Saturday, June 11, 10AM-3PM: Dragonfly Day with Friends of the Long Pond Greenbelt: AA

Sunday, June 12, 10:30AM: The Importance of Land Stewardship: A/T/C8+

Sunday, June 12, 1PM: “Bio Blitz”—Surveying the Life of Vineyard Field: A/T/C6+

Tuesday, June 14, 9PM: Full Moon Walk with Friends of the Long Pond Greenbelt: AA

Saturday, June 18, 10AM: Young Birders Club Meeting: Ages 8-18

Saturday, June 18, 10:30AM: “Big Bug” Pond Search: A/T/C8+

Tuesday, June 21, 5:30PM: Sunset Nature Tour of North Sea Harbor by Kayak or Paddle Board and Welcome in the First Day of Summer – BYOK/PB or rent from East End Explorer: A/T

Saturday, June 25, 10AM: Young Environmentalists Society (YES!) Meeting: Ages 10-16

Saturday, June 25, 10:30AM: Meet the Martins—Purple Martin Life Cycle, Eggs & Hatching Chicks: AA

Saturday, June 25, 1PM: Salt Marsh Beach Walk at Northwest Landing: A/T/C6+

Sunday, June 26, 8AM: Nature Walk (3.5miles) from the Long Pond Greenbelt Nature Center to the Ponds of the Greenbelt: A/T/C10+

Sunday, June 26, 3PM: Seining & Digging for Marine Creatures at Northwest Landing: A/T/C5+

SOFO Mission

The mission of the South Fork Natural History Museum (SOFO) is to stimulate interest in, advance knowledge of, and foster appreciation for the natural world with special emphasis on the unique natural environment of Long Island’s South Fork.

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Satellite View of the Americas on Earth Day, 2014: credit NASA

They go on to write, “Senator Gaylord Nelson, the junior senator from Wisconsin, had long been concerned about the deteriorating environment in the United States...in January 1969, he and many others witnessed the ravages of a massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, California. Inspired by the student anti-war movement, Senator Nelson wanted to infuse the energy of student anti-war protests with an emerging public consciousness about air and water pollution. Senator Nelson announced the idea for a teach-in on college campuses to the national media, and persuaded Pete McCloskey, a conservation-minded Republican Congressman, to serve as his co-chair. They recruited Denis Hayes, a young activist, to organize the campus teach-ins and they chose April 22, a weekday falling between Spring Break and Final Exams, to maximize the greatest student participation. Recognizing its potential to inspire all Americans, Hayes built a national staff of 85 to promote events across the land and the effort soon broadened to include a wide range of organizations, faith groups, and others. They changed the name to Earth Day, which immediately sparked national media attention, and caught on across the country. Earth Day inspired 20 million Americans — at the time, 10% of the total population of the United States — to take to the streets, parks, and auditoriums to demonstrate against the impacts of 150 years of industrial development which had left a growing legacy of serious human health impacts. Thousands of colleges and universities organized protests against the deterioration of the environment and there were massive coast-to-coast rallies in cities, towns, and communities...By the end of 1970, the first Earth Day led to the creation of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the passage of other first of their kind environmental laws...” For more information, please go to www.earthday.org/history

Earth Day is celebrated on April 22. It's the day when we come together, around the globe, to talk about current environmental issues and bring awareness to them. This can range from a celebration of the Escazú Agreement in Latin America and the Caribbean to our own American celebrations throughout the country.

What is the Escazú Agreement?

As worded in the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) press release of April 22, 2021 “On the day of celebrations organized by ECLAC, the region's countries reaffirmed the importance of the first regional environmental treaty and their commitment to protecting the planet and the people who defend it. The States Parties to the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in

Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean — known as the Escazú Agreement — celebrated the treaty's entry into force this Thursday, April 22, on precisely the same date on which International Mother Earth Day is commemorated.”

Thanks to Earth Day the awareness of environmental issues has led to countless environmental protection laws being put in place. Without Earth Day many of the environmental safeguards we have today would not exist.

We've included the information about Latin American and the Caribbean because, as SOFO celebrates Earth Day on Friday, April 22, 2022, with the SOFO Earth Day Open House from 10AM-4PM, we will be including crafts and information on Neotropical migrating birds.

“A Neotropical migratory bird is a bird that breeds in Canada and the United States during our summer and spends our winter in Mexico, Central America, South America or the Caribbean Islands”*

An example of a Neotropical bird at the museum is our exhibit about the Scarlet Tanager.

We look forward to seeing you on Friday, April 22. To see the schedule of events for the SOFO Earth Day Celebration & Open House, please go to the SOFO website, click on Calendar, and go to April 22.

*Reprinted from www.nationalzoo.si.edu

SOFO news

SOFO Upgrades its Aquatic Tanks

In November of 2021, the museum closed for 14 days to upgrade the life-sustaining systems of our marine touch-tank and all the aquatic exhibits on the main floor of the museum. This upgrade, performed by Tony and Sasha of Aquatic C&M, was essential and will improve the tank's water flow, reduce algae growth, and prevent the possibility of tank leaks in the future.



Sasha preparing the touch-tank for painting.

Tony assembling the new filter sumps and chillers for the touch-tank.

NEW For 2022! Get Your SOFO Wildlife Passport

A fun way to sharpen your observation skills and learn about our local wildlife

Purchase your SOFO Wildlife Passport at the museum and enjoy a fun, new way to explore and learn about wildlife. Your SOFO Wildlife Passport guides you in observing a variety of local mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, marine creatures, insects, and other invertebrates. Visit the museum to collect a SOFO stamp in your passport for each observation. Earn stamps by attending SOFO outdoor programs or by making observations on your own. A completed passport will earn you

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Observing wildlife with the SOFO Wildlife Passport.

a reward for your achievement. For more information, please visit our website at www.sofo.org, on the education page.



SOFO Sharks Fall Interns

Molly Showers (left) and Ashley Goland (right).

SOFO 2021 Shark Research Interns

In the fall of 2021, SOFO's Shark Research & Education Program teamed up with two undergraduate interns from Stony Brook University, Ashley Goland and Molly Showers.

Ashley, a junior from northeast Massachusetts, is studying marine science with a minor in journalism. She has an interest in scientific writing and was responsible for creating SOFO's outreach materials on sharks. This included brochures and regular social media posts over the course of her fall semester.

Molly, from a town near Lake George, New York, is studying biology with a minor in marine science. She's interested in education and how science is communicated. She enjoys learning about marine life and was busy this fall updating SOFO's interactive shark exhibit, organizing images and data, and creating new informational pages on the shark exhibit.

South Fork Natural History Museum (SOFO)

Donates Memberships to Children from Long Island's Underserved Communities



Frank Quevedo, South Fork Natural History Museum (SOFO) Executive Director; Leah Oppenheimer, Children's Museum of the East End (CMEE) Community Outreach Director; Carol Crasson, SOFO Education & Communications Director; Ingrid Simunic, Children's Books Author, *Elliot's Adventures*; and Andrea Vrabelova, Visual Artist, (on-screen) with children from SOFO's "Make Your Own Nature Book—Imagination, Storytelling, and Artwork" program.

The South Fork Natural History Museum (SOFO) has donated 20 family memberships to children from underserved communities, creating a unique opportunity for learning that will last a lifetime. The recipients of this generous gift, made possible by an anonymous donor, are part of the Children's Museum of the East End (CMEE) "Ciencia" Program.

The family memberships include free admission to museum exhibits plus free or discounted admission to all weekly nature walks, talks, and programs for the child and their siblings, parents, and grandparents. It essentially opens the museum's door for these children and their families who may not otherwise be able to afford to engage and learn all year long.

"Our programs strive to bring children from all backgrounds and communities together. By uniting with underserved communities we tap into a broader range of perspectives and creativity to make this world a better place," said Frank Quevedo, SOFO's Executive Director.

The donated family memberships were distributed to children attending the ongoing SOFO program "Make Your Own Nature Book—Imagination, Storytelling, and Artwork." The workshops, in which children explore nature through creative writing and art, are led by Sag Harbor-based children's book author Ingrid Simunic, visual artist Andrea Vrabelova, and Leah Oppenheimer, CMEE's Director of Community Outreach.

"I am so impressed by what these children create in our workshops. It reinforces the need for kids to be given every opportunity to learn, create, and explore," said Ms. Simunic, who has authored four books

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in the "Elliot's Adventures" series. "Together, we are inspiring the next generation to build a more sustainable future by protecting our planet today!"

Ms. Oppenheimer added, "Students from CMEE's "Ciencia" program are huge fans of natural history, and these scholarships will assure that children and their parents are supported in their exploration of our beautiful countryside and beaches. Parents have told me how nature is something they all can observe and discuss and how much more their families see now than before the class. Learning how to look is all it takes."

SOFO and Ingrid Simunic will continue to engage and partner with local organizations like CMEE to reach and inspire more children with the highly successful nature storytelling and art workshop. If you are interested in partnership or attending a workshop, please contact Ingrid Simunic at info@dscvrinc.com or Carol Crasson at ccrasson@sofo.org.

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South Fork
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CONSERVING OUR PLANET: THE FUTURE STARTS NOW

*Marking 33 Years of Nature Conservation, Education & Exploration
Empowering Families to Become Responsible Environmental Stewards*

SAVE THE DATE
SOFO's 33rd ANNUAL GALA BENEFIT
Saturday, August 6, 2022



"Conservation is a cause that we must promote and pass on to future generations." – Andy Sabin

SOFO'S MOST EXCITING AND IMPORTANT FUNDRAISER OF THE YEAR

Benefiting SOFO's Educational & Environmental Programs & Initiatives

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 2022

VIP Cocktail Reception 6pm-7pm

Benefit Party, Honoree Presentation, Dinner & Dancing 7pm-10pm

Catered by ELEGANT AFFAIRS CATERING

Surprise Guests • Live Auction • Dancing

**VIP TABLES & TICKETS • GENERAL ADMISSION TICKETS
YOUNG PROFESSIONAL TICKETS • SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE**

Contact **Diana Aceti at 631.537.9735 • 631.903.7217**
dianaaceti@gmail.com • sofo.org/summer-gala/

To ensure the safety of our guests, we will follow all COVID-19 safety protocols which are dependent on the State's changing guidelines.

THE SOUTH FORK NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM (SOFO)
377 Bridgehampton / Sag Harbor Turnpike, P.O. Box 455, Bridgehampton

The South Fork Natural History Museum (SOFO) is a 501(C)3 nonprofit nature education organization chartered by the New York State Department of Education