

## PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release  
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Caption:

### ***Chasing Coral* documentary dives into reefs at ‘Ding’ airing**

The award-winning documentary film *Chasing Coral* continues the sixth annual free “Ding” Darling Wednesday Film Series on Feb. 21, at 1 p.m. in the “Ding” Darling Visitor & Education Center auditorium.

From the director of *Chasing Ice*, the Netflix original film explores the beauty of coral and its fragility and future in a changing climate. Coral reefs around the world are vanishing at an unprecedented rate. A team of divers, photographers and scientists set out on a thrilling ocean adventure to discover why and to reveal the underwater mystery to the world.

Selected for film festival showings throughout the nation, *Chasing Coral* won the Audience Award for U.S. Documentary at the Sundance Film Festival. The film took more than three years to shoot, and is the result of 500-plus hours underwater, submissions of footage from volunteers from 30 countries, and support from more than 500 people around the world. The *New York Times* calls it “an emotional race against time.”

“Ding” Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge hosts the free seven-film, biweekly series with sponsorship from Sanibel-Captiva Beach Resorts. Seating is free, but limited and on a first-come basis.

Below are the season’s remaining scheduled films. All films begin at 1 p.m. A short discussion will follow each film to allow visitors to gain more from their documentary-viewing experience by listening to other people’s points of view and analyzing what they just watched.

For full descriptions of the films, please visit  
[dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/lecture-and-film-series](http://dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/lecture-and-film-series).

Feb. 21 - *Chasing Coral*

March 7 – *The Forgotten Coast: Return to Wild Florida*

Mach 21 - *Mission Blue*

April 4 - *STRAWS*

#### ABOUT DDWS

As a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, DDWS works to support J.N. “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge’s mission of conservation, wildlife and habitat protection, research, and public education through charitable donations and Refuge Nature Shop proceeds.

To support DDWS and the refuge with a tax-deductible gift, visit [dingdarlingsociety.org](http://dingdarlingsociety.org) or contact Birgie Miller at 239-472-1100 ext. 4, or [dingdarlingsociety@gmail.com](mailto:dingdarlingsociety@gmail.com).

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