

## PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release  
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Caption:

### ***Mission Blue* documentary imagines a network of marine sanctuaries at ‘Ding’ airing**

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

The documentary features legendary oceanographer, marine biologist, environmentalist, and National Geographic explorer-in-residence, Dr. Sylvia Earle, and her campaign to create a global network of protected marine sanctuaries.

She has been studying the ocean for more than 60 years. “I saw the after-influence of what we can do to the natural world,” she says in the film. “Think of the world without an ocean.... No ocean, no life. No ocean, no us.”

Under Dr. Earle’s leadership, the Mission Blue team has embarked on a series of expeditions to shed light on vital marine ecosystems around the world and ignite support to safeguard them.

“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. 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).

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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