

Clinton Center Announces New Temporary Exhibit

'Washed Ashore: Art to Save the Sea' is (Made From) 100 Percent Garbage

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (March 26, 2019) – The Clinton Presidential Center’s upcoming temporary exhibit, *Washed Ashore: Art to Save the Sea*, will debut on April 27, 2019. *Washed Ashore* is a family-friendly exhibit that will feature more than 20 giant sea life sculptures – made entirely of trash and debris collected from beaches. This exhibit poignantly illustrates the toll trash takes on our oceans and waterways.

The incredible marine life sculptures will be accompanied by educational signage allowing visitors to learn about the fascinating species, environmental stewardship, responsible consumer habits, and how “every action counts” to help save our waterways.

Washed Ashore is a visual reminder of the disposable products that end up in our waters, and that each of us can take action to prevent further pollution. “Hope, creativity, [and] imagination will be required to meet the challenges that we face with our oceans,” said President Bill Clinton to the National Oceans Conference in June 1998. “But they are the traits that first enabled and inspired explorers to take to the sea. They are traits that allowed us to look at our inextricable ties to our environment and invent new ways to protect our natural wonders from harm in the last three decades. In the 21st century, these traits – hope, creativity, imagination – they must lead us to preserve our living oceans as a sacred legacy for all time to come.”

The *Washed Ashore* exhibit will be primarily displayed inside two of the Clinton Center’s galleries. Visitors will see Eli the Eel, walk through the Reef at Risk, and be able to play the Styrofoam Drum Set. The exhibit will open to the public on April 27; a second phase featuring additional sculptures will open in June, when Priscilla the Parrot Fish, a 16-foot-long, 1,500-pound brightly-colored sculpture will greet visitors from the water fountains located outside the front doors.

“The sculptures are beautiful, truly works of art, but they are a poignant reminder that our oceans and waterways are precious resources that need our attention now more than ever,” said Stephanie S. Streett, executive director of the Clinton Foundation. “From the student visitor to the grand parent, we hope that everyone who has the opportunity to enjoy *Washed Ashore* walks away with a renewed sense of awe and responsibility.”

Washed Ashore presents an opportunity to reflect on the Clinton administration’s efforts to safeguard essential bodies of water and promote environmental stewardship. “President Bill Clinton’s administration took strong action to protect our coasts and waterways,” said Terri Garner, director of the William J. Clinton Presidential Library. “He signed crucial legislation and issued key executive orders designed to improve water quality, protect wetlands and coasts, and reduce waste while increasing the use of recycled products.”

Washed Ashore is sponsored by the Regional Recycling & Waste Reduction District, which promotes effective recycling to residential customers and encourages strategies to reduce waste.

Former art teacher Angela Haseltine Pozzi created the *Washed Ashore* project and exhibit in 2010 when she moved to the Oregon coast following the death of her husband. After spending time walking on the beach, she grew concerned with the amount of trash that was continually washing ashore. “We have become a disposable culture where we are quick to discard items that we no longer want or need; we have to rethink the way we use and dispose of plastic, in particular. My greatest hope is that I run out of material to build sculptures,” Haseltine Pozzi said.