

AutoNation.
IMAX® 3D Theater
at the MUSEUM OF DISCOVERY AND SCIENCE



**LEGEND OF THE ENCHANTED REEF MAKES ITS PREMIERE
DECEMBER 17 AT THE
MUSEUM OF DISCOVERY AND SCIENCE**

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (November 1, 2022) – The Museum of Discovery and Science (MODS) will premiere *Legend of the Enchanted Reef* on December 17, 2022, in the AutoNation® IMAX® 3D Theater at the Museum of Discovery and Science (MODS).

Legend of the Enchanted Reef tells the heartfelt story of three friends on the ocean adventure of a lifetime. When their reef home is destroyed, a trio of brave fish set out on a quest to find the “Enchanted Reef” — a legendary pristine haven under the sea. This charming film, directed and written by Peter Popp and produced by Softmachine Immersive Productions, will delight and entertain the entire family while raising awareness about the need for marine conservation.

“We are inviting families to dive deep into underwater life with *Legend of the Enchanted Reef* and learn about saving our oceans through a heartwarming story,” said **Joseph P. Cox, president and CEO of MODS**. “At MODS, our mission is connecting people to inspiring science – above and below the sea! Be enchanted by this giant ocean adventure on the largest screen in south Florida – only at the Museum.”

Legend of the Enchanted Reef was awarded Best Feature Film at the Best of Earth 2021 Fulldome Competition, Best Narrative Film at the 2021 Dome Fest West Film Festival and Best Animated Fulldome Film at Fulldome Festival Minsk in 2021. The Best of Earth jury noted that the show: “is captivating in its

message, which is not directed solely at children as an audience but encourages families to engage with the topic of climate change and sustainability.” They also lauded *Legend of the Enchanted Reef* for setting standards with the narrative, characters and animations.

Legend of the Enchanted Reef is full of charm, humor and imagination that will appeal to all ages. Energetic Shorty, intelligent Indigo and Jake, the daring sawfish, live in a colorful coral reef community. The three friends are enjoying a fun day in their neighborhood when suddenly a fishing trawler devastates their home. Faced with a devastated reef, the trio has no choice but to set out on a quest to find a new place to live.

As they search the sea for a legendary reef, the friends encounter a variety of intriguing environments, from kelp forests to sunken wrecks—and even outer space! Their unforgettable journey brings them face-to-face with an octopus, dolphins, anglerfish and other exotic creatures. Throughout their adventure, they must avoid hungry sharks, hazardous pollution and other dangers, as they seek a reef that may be a myth.

Combining entertainment with educational elements, this timeless show conveys a clear message about the impact of pollution on our oceans. The endearing story of *Legend of the Enchanted Reef* highlights the importance of friendship and everyone’s desire to find a safe place to call home.

In addition to being an impressive, award-winning film, *Legend of the Enchanted Reef* is also a prequel — a rarity in the planetarium realm. It serves as a prologue to the highly successful *Kaluoka’hina: The Enchanted Reef*, which has been seen by more than five million people in 250 planetariums and theaters all over the world.

Legend of the Enchanted Reef was produced by Peter Popp and co-produced GEFA & Softmachine, Softmachine Immersive Productions, Experimenta Science Center, PiXABLE STUDIOS and GOTO INC. Financial support was provided by Deutscher Filmförderfonds, FilmFernsehFonds Bayern and Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung. The show is distributed by Reef Distribution.

Learn more about *Legend of the Enchanted Reef* and watch the trailer at dropbox.com/scl/fo/aba8pr96nxg1z61sfx580/h/Trailers?dl=0&subfolder_nav_tracking=1.

The AutoNation® IMAX® Theater at the Museum of Discovery & Science is located at 401 SW 2nd Street in Fort Lauderdale. *Legend of the Enchanted Reef* is included in the MODS Discovery pass, an all-in-one ticket that includes Museum exhibitions, live science demonstrations and one IMAX documentary film. For tickets, please visit mods.org/tickets. For showtimes, please visit mods.org/showtimes.

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About the Museum of Discovery and Science:

Founded in 1976 as the Discovery Center, today the Museum of Discovery and Science (MODS) is at the forefront of science education, innovation and exploration. MODS connects people to inspiring science, providing STEM education and cultural experiences for 450,000+ visitors annually in the 150,000 sq. ft. facility. MODS is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization that has been accredited by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM) for three decades (only 3% of science museums are accredited for excellence and leadership in the field). In the past year, MODS has added to that distinction by being named *Broward's Hub for Resilience Education* by the Board of the Community Foundation of Broward, selected by the LEGO Foundation as one of only 12 museums nationwide to join the *Playful Learning Museum Network* and was selected as one of 15 finalists for the prestigious *2022 IMLS National Medal for Museum Service*.

The Museum celebrates diversity and welcomes visitors from all walks of life. The Museum hours are Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. MODS is located downtown at 401 SW Second Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312. For more information about the Museum, please visit [mods.org](https://www.mods.org) or call 954.467.MODS (6637).

Like us or follow us on social media:

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About the AutoNation® IMAX® 3D Theater:

The AutoNation® IMAX® 3D Theater is owned and operated by the Museum of Discovery and Science (MODS). The Theater showcases IMAX dual 4K laser projectors and a 15/70mm projection system, which revolutionizes the way guests experience films on the six-story-high screen with an immersive 12-channel sound system featuring 114 speakers capable of 52,000 watts of digital sound. Whether it's a pin drop or feeling the heart palpitating force of a volcano, audiences will experience a new visceral sound experience. The AutoNation® IMAX® 3D Theater is the only place in South Florida where you can experience the power of IMAX® with Laser and is one of only three Certified Giant Screen® theaters in Florida by the Giant Screen Cinema Association. For showtimes, please visit [mods.org/showtimes](https://www.mods.org/showtimes). Private screenings are available, please inquire by emailing booking@mods.org.

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Reef Distribution:

Reef Distribution is an expert in the distribution and marketing of immersive edutainment that leaves a positive impact on the audience. Founded in 2003 by Dr. Peter Popp, Reef provides excellent marketing

tools and delivers high-quality content for 360° fulldome and Giant Screen Theaters located in science centers, museums and planetariums worldwide. Reef's mission is to raise awareness for the delicate balance between nature and humanity, while helping expand horizons through engaging science-based edutainment films, shows and experiences. Learn more at Reef-Distribution.com.

Softmachine Immersive Productions:

Softmachine Immersive Productions is an award-winning, trendsetting animation studio for 360° fulldome content, with more than 20 years of expertise and experience in immersive storytelling. Founded in 2001 by Dr. Peter Popp, Softmachine is a group of skilled, creative individuals with backgrounds in film production and 3D animation.

Softmachine produces premium immersive content in 2D and 3D for planetariums, science centers and attractions. Softmachine is the leader in the artistic and creative process of filmmaking, with a mastery of storytelling, editing, camera, sound and music. Learn more at softmachine.de.

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