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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Richard Louv to Speak at National Marine Educators Association Conference

JOIN AUTHOR OF *LAST CHILD IN THE WOODS* AND *THE NATURE PRINCIPLE*
IN PRE-CONFERENCE TWITTER CHAT

Mobile, AL (PRWeb) June 17, 2013 – Richard Louv, recipient of the Audubon Medal, accomplished journalist, and author of eight books about the connections between family, nature and community, will serve as the keynote speaker for the National Marine Educators Association (NMEA) Conference in Mobile, Alabama on July 22, 2013. Louv's national best seller, *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children From Nature-Deficit Disorder*, and most recent book, *The Nature Principle: Reconnecting with Life in a Virtual Age*, have stimulated an international conversation about the relationship between children and nature, a topic of particular interest to marine science education professionals. In a time when obesity, attention disorders and depression are on the rise, Mr. Louv offers inspiration for people of all ages to reflect on the direct connection between the natural world and quality of life.

Prior to the conference, NMEA will be hosting Mr. Louv in a live chat on Twitter, providing anyone with a Twitter account an opportunity to engage with the author. On Friday, June 28 from 2:30-3:30pm (EDT), questions for Mr. Louv can be sent to @NatlMarineEd by tagging tweets with #LouvChat. Educators, parents, and anyone with an interest in information regarding healing the broken bond between children and nature are encouraged to participate.

"In our current world, it can be easy to get consumed by technology and built environments," commented NMEA Conference Co-Chair, Joan Turner, of the Dauphin Island Sea Lab. "We are thrilled to have Louv participate and remind us all the importance of the work we do in educating the generations behind us on how to preserve nature for future generations to enjoy its beauty and wonder."

The NMEA conference will be held July 22-26, 2013 on the historic campus of Spring Hill College. For full conference details, including registration fees and a schedule of events, visit www.nmea.disl.org or follow NMEA on Facebook and Twitter at /NatlMarineEd.

NMEA is a national organization of professionals in education, science, business, government, museums, aquariums, and marine research, with 17 chapters and over 800 members across the country and internationally. Learn more about NMEA at www.marine-ed.org.

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