



PRESS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

San Antonio, TX. December 2, 2014--

### San Antonio Aquarium Announces an Opening Date

**San Antonio Aquarium announces opening dates on December 12<sup>th</sup> and December 17<sup>th</sup> with ribbon cuttings beginning each day. There are many ways for families to enjoy themselves at the aquarium beyond touring exhibits. Activities are an important part of a San Antonio Aquarium experience. The public is encouraged to visit to see what the San Antonio Aquarium is bringing to citizens of Greater San Antonio.**

San Antonio Aquarium will have a Member-Only Opening on December 12<sup>th</sup> and a Grand Opening on December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014. On each day, a ribbon-cutting will take place with the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce and city officials participating, at 10am.

San Antonio Aquarium has many opportunities to delight its visitors. The core vision of the aquarium is to become children's favorite aquarium in the world. To do this, interactivity is paramount. Children need to engage to be influenced and to learn. The exhibits at San Antonio Aquarium afford them the opportunity to touch a shark, feel the soft skin of a ray, feed birds in the aviary and get up close and personal with reptiles from the rain forest; a greater appreciation for the animals on our planet is then formed. Guests are encouraged to come back often. With thousands of amazing species, there's always something new to see!

Beyond aquarium species, Jurassic Jungle will fascinate dinosaur fans. These life-sized creatures will breathe, blink and roar, perfect for selfies. Sharky's Village will bring a magical world of imagination to

smaller children. This imaginary world for the younger children allows them to learn by playing in a kitchen and restaurant, vet clinic, mini sports arena, and school class room where they can study for their future career as marine biologists. I-Guana Jump Bounce House next door enables visitors to jump their hearts away on a variety of 2015 model bounce houses and other soft play items.

Other experiences visitors can have at the aquarium are plentiful.

Snorkel with the Stingrays allows visitors to see what it is like to be in the same body of water with the beautiful, soft, friendly stingray. Multiple opportunities per hour are available and pre-booking is encouraged on the aquarium website.

Octopuses are one of the most intelligent creatures on the planet. In an Octopus Encounter guests can touch, experience, and learn how these animals perform tasks illustrated more commonly in animals with more cognitive thinking ability.

San Antonio has many choices for birthday parties, but a party at San Antonio Aquarium affords educational interactive aquarium tours. Parties can also be booked at I-Guana Jump Bounce House, and for those that want to experience the aquarium and the bounce house, combo packs are available. A private room, Sharky's Cove, is available for larger, private parties.

Sleep with the Sharks, the aquarium's signature sleepover opportunity, affords a night of exploration of not just sharks but other animals preparing for night time. Guests can enjoy a tour, a movie, and so much more.

There are multiple opportunities for mermaid interaction each month and aquarium guests will want to ensure every person in the family gets to partake. Young girls in particular love to fulfill their mermaid dreams!

Morning Rounds allows aspiring aquarists, biologists, herpetologists, science geeks and animal lovers the opportunity to tag along with the aquarium crew on their morning rounds as they prepare for the day, check on water levels and feed animals.

With a private booking, the aquarium becomes a perfect party place for proms, weddings, receptions, corporate and family events. Parties of 30 to 1,500 can be accommodated.

One of the mainstays of the aquarium is its field trip program. It provides augmented, age-specific teachings for pre- and post-visit study for San Antonio area PreK – College students. Interested teachers can already book their field trip for the second semester of the school year on the aquarium website, [www.sanantonioaquarium.net/activities/field-trips](http://www.sanantonioaquarium.net/activities/field-trips).

Memberships, Birthday Parties and Sleep with the Shark activities are all 50% off for a limited time. The aquarium will be open 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Hours will be 10-7pm Sunday through Thursday and 10-8pm Friday and Saturday.

San Antonio Aquarium invites all citizens of Greater San Antonio to visit the aquarium to see the great new community asset that has been brought to families.

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***About San Antonio Aquarium:***

*San Antonio Aquarium, opening in San Antonio, TX in December, 2014 at 6320 Bandera Rd. provides children and families access to the excitement and learning opportunities of the ocean. Exhibits include jelly fish, sea horses, crocodilia, rare and colorful corals, sharks, stingrays, and thousands of other species. In addition to marine life, guests can interact with tropical birds and friendly reptiles. Popular activities include [Birthday Parties](#), [Snorkel With the Stingrays](#), [Sleep with the Sharks](#), [Private Events](#) and [Field Trips](#). [I-Guana Jump Bounce House](#) is sister facility in a separate yet adjoining building next door.*