



SHEROES OF THE OCEAN – ADVOCACY THROUGH STORYTELLING

W South Beach, June 3, 2023 5-7PM

Sheroes of the Ocean – Advocacy through storytelling: this will be the third of a series of talks (in-person, virtual and in hybrid format) highlighting the stories of inspiring women from the activist, scientific as well as the creative space, engaged with the preservation of the health and rich biodiversity of our precious oceans. We are committed to growing this series, which began in 2020 as ARTSail Conversations, by identifying and connecting with women from across the globe and establish a network to support and sustain their efforts and each other, and create a website dedicated to this endeavor.

The first Sheroes Conversation took place last year at the W South Beach, in conjunction with the 2022 World Ocean Weekend; it was followed by another talk hosted by the East Hotel in August 2022.

For this third edition, we are bringing together an exciting panel to draw attention to the powerful advocacy of women from South Florida, from diverse backgrounds and ethnicities, that are making waves in Florida and beyond.

Participating speakers:

Jamora Arroyo-Jefferson, Environmental Advocate, Miami Waterkeeper Junior Ambassador: Jamora Arroyo-Jefferson is a high school junior at the nationally ranked Ransom Everglades School in Miami, Florida, where she is an active student member of the Environmental Sustainability Counsel, the Black Students Association, and serves as the President of the Gender and Sexuality Association. As a multidisciplinary artist with a wide range of creative talents, she loves designing her own clothing and fashion accessories, developing new products as well as producing original multimedia content, which includes several Q&A styled interview series featured on her social media accounts. Additionally, Jamora is a 2023 History Miami Museum “Youth Photography Fellowship” member, and she represents the state of Florida as a 2023 Afterschool Alliance “National Youth Ambassador Program” member and 2023 STEM Next Opportunity Fund’s Million Girls Moonshot Program “National Flight Crew” member.

Linda Cheung, Artist and Founder / Creative Director, Before It’s Too Late: Linda Cheung is a multidisciplinary artist and environmental nonprofit leader based in Miami. She loves to bring local artists together to collaborate on creating public art projects that share the beauty and importance of our native species and natural world. In 2017, she founded the nonprofit Before

It's Too Late (BITL) to partner with schools and cities around South Florida to create murals and augmented reality experiences that educate and inspire the community to build a more sustainable world together. Linda is a self-taught painter who learned through all the artists she has collaborated with through her work with BITL.

Carlee Monique Jackson Bohannon, Director of Communications, Minorities in Shark Sciences: Carlee is a shark and sea turtle scientist with an M.S. in marine biology from Nova Southeastern University. She worked with the NSU shark tagging program tagging sharks along the coast of Broward County, and researched the effects of provisioning tourism on nurse sharks in Belize. Her interests lie in how different human activities and urban development affect sharks and their habitats. Carlee was the recipient of the 2022 Justice in Equity, Diversity & Inclusion award by the Florida Marine Science Educators Association. Previously, Carlee has worked as a Research Associate for the New College of Florida, assisting the Disney Conservation team, as a Marine Turtle Specialist at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, and as an environmental educator in south Florida. Carlee is very passionate about research and field work, striving to contribute to the conservation of sharks and sea turtles. She is eager to expose more minority students to the field of marine science and hopes to inspire more diversity in this field.

Jennifer Jacquet, NYU Visiting Professor, Department of Environmental Science and Policy - Rosenstiel School of Marine, Atmospheric & Earth Science: Jennifer Jacquet (<https://jenniferjacquet.com/>) is interested in globalized cooperation dilemmas, such as climate change and the exploitation of wild animals via fishing and the Internet wildlife trade. She is particularly interested in the role of social approval in encouraging cooperation, and is the author of *Is Shame Necessary? New Uses for an Old Tool* (2015) and *The Playbook: How To Deny Science, Sell Lies, and Make A Killing In The Corporate World* (2022). Dr. Jacquet earned a Ph.D. in Natural Resource Management and Environmental Studies from the University of British Columbia.

Rumya Sundaram, Director of Environmental Science and Operations Manager, Key Biscayne Community Foundation: Rumya Sundaram has a strong commitment to fisheries management, conservation, and toxicology research, and has specialized primarily in aquatic biology for the last ~15 years. She has substantial experience in management of marine science initiatives, project administration, ecosystem evaluation, and outreach. Rumya worked as a White House Intern for the National Ocean Council under the White House Council of Environmental Quality followed by research work for the Nature Conservancy. She has run the Key Biscayne Citizen Science Project for 7 years, has taught online classes at Denver University on the basic science of climate change, and also volunteers at Bill Baggs State Park as a sea turtle nest evaluator. She holds a BA in Studio Art and BS in Biological Sciences from Indiana University, and an MPS in Fisheries Management and Conservation and MA in Ecosystem, Science and Policy from University of Miami.

Moderated by **Ombretta Agró Andruff**, Founder and Executive Director, ARTSail Residency and Research Initiative: An Italian-born, Miami and Turin based freelance curator and ocean warrior, Ombretta brings more than twenty-five years of curatorial expertise with an international

practice across non-profit institutions, commercial galleries, and art advisory pursuits with private clients. An avid swimmer, diver and kiteboarder, since moving to Miami in 2013, Ombretta's passion for the Florida waterways inspired ARTSail, a nomadic residency and research initiative that instigate creative and climate change inquiry. Since founding ARTSail in 2016, Ombretta's interest and focus has shifted towards investigating how arts and culture can promote resilience and sustainability and move communities from climate awareness to climate action. She has completed a certification with the Cleo Climate Speakers Network, is a FL Rights of Nature Ambassador, and sits on the advisory board of visionary undertaking, Earth 300. Ombretta holds a BFA from the Universita` di Siena, Siena, Italy; and a degree in International Cultural Management from the Fitzcarraldo Foundation, Torino, Italy and the International Center for Cultural Management, Salzburg, Austria.