

An invitation . . . to the Sea Stories Project

www.seastories.org

Have you been touched by the beauty, power, and mystery of the world's oceans? Do you live or work by the sea, travel to the coast, take pleasure and sustenance from the sea's bounty, or otherwise feel a deep connection to the sea? Do you have stories of memorable experiences or special places that you want to share with the world?

Sea Stories, an international writing project sponsored by the Blue Ocean Institute, solicits first-person stories, poems, essays, and artwork about the sea, coast, and sea-life from people from all walks of life and all writing levels – scientists and beachcombers, students and vacationers, fishermen and seafood-eaters, coastal residents and inland ocean-lovers. If you've ever felt your feet sink into warm sand, or poked around the tidepools, or struggled against the powers of wind and wave, or stood transfixed by the reflections of sun and cloud on water, chances are you have a story to tell – and we want to help you tell it. In so doing, you'll join with Blue Ocean Institute and thousands of contributors worldwide to contribute to our shared goals of nurturing people's love of the sea, creating community, instilling hope, and helping restore living abundance in the ocean.

Memoir, poetry, and personal essays are all welcome, as are photographs, drawing, or other visual arts, as well as music recordings. Selected writing and artwork are published in our quarterly online journal *Sea Stories*, which constitutes an ever-changing report from humanity on the state of our relationship with the world's oceans. Please visit us at **www.seastories.org** to peruse our current issue and archives! If you need inspiration or help in your writing, click on "Further Information," where you'll find a link to a downloadable set of suggestions for writing about your experiences of the ocean; educators are encouraged to use these suggestions in the classroom. On the same page, another link gives more ideas for educators and organizations to participate in Sea Stories in ways that may help address your own particular needs.

Submissions should include no more than 6 poems, of any length, for a total of 10 pages maximum; essays should be short-to-medium length (3000 words max), no more than two per submission. Art images should be in .jpg format, music in .mp3. Submit electronically to **seastories@blueocean.org**; all written work (including contact info and brief bio) should be submitted together in *one* Word document, art or music in *separate* .jpg or .mp3 files (with contact info and bio in cover e-mail). For more detailed submission guidelines, go to our website and click on "Further Information." Questions? Write, call, or e-mail us!

Join us at www.seastories.org to celebrate all things oceanic!

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Blue Ocean Institute works to inspire a closer relationship with the sea through science, art, and literature. We develop conservation solutions that are compassionate to people as well as to ocean wildlife, and we share reliable information that enlightens personal choices, instills hope, and helps restore living abundance in the ocean.