



**ROUNDHOUSE AQUARIUM
TEACHING CENTER**
MANAGED BY OCEANOGRAPHIC TEACHING STATIONS, INC.

OUR OCEAN OUR COMMUNITY OUR FUTURE

2024: A YEAR IN REVIEW ANNUAL REPORT



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Nestled in the heart of beautiful downtown Manhattan Beach, California, the Roundhouse Aquarium serves as an immersive learning space for education and inspiration, welcoming visitors from all walks of life from around the globe. It is managed and operated by Oceanographic Teaching Stations, Inc. (OTS), a nonprofit oceanic and environmental organization established in 1979 with the mission of promoting the study of the oceans, tidelands, and beaches of Southern California.

Our programs are designed to engage visitors and students of all ages through hands-on, interactive experiences with marine life and habitats. As a free and accessible public learning center, we are committed to providing marine education and conservation opportunities to everyone in the community, stirring a deeper connection to the environment and inspiring a new generation of environmental stewards and ocean lovers.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we reflect on another year of dedication to ocean conservation and education, we are reminded of the powerful connection that binds us all—the ocean. The Roundhouse Aquarium has always been a place where the wonders of the marine world come to life, inspiring individuals and communities to come together in the stewardship of our planet's most precious resource. We welcomed over 220,000 guests in 2024 and provided direct education programs to nearly 22,000 students.

The ocean is a vast, interconnected system, and its health impacts us all, from the smallest tide pools to the deepest trenches. At the Roundhouse Aquarium, we believe that every small action, every educational opportunity, and every partnership we foster brings us one step closer to a future where our oceans thrive. This year, we've made strides in conservation, education, and community outreach, all while emphasizing that the ocean belongs to everyone—and the responsibility to protect it is shared by us all. In 2025, we are proud to continue this mission under the guiding theme: One Ocean, One Community, One Future.

From inspiring the next generation of ocean stewards to partnering with local organizations, we continue to grow as a hub for learning, advocacy, and collaboration. Through the power of community, we've created meaningful change and deepened our collective commitment to ensuring a healthy future for our oceans.

As we move forward, we know that the work we do today will shape the future of our planet. Together, we stand united in our mission to safeguard the ocean, strengthen our community, and create a sustainable future for all. Because, at the end of the day, we are one ocean, one community, and one future.

Thank you for being a part of this journey with us. We couldn't do the work we do without your support!

Grateful as ever,

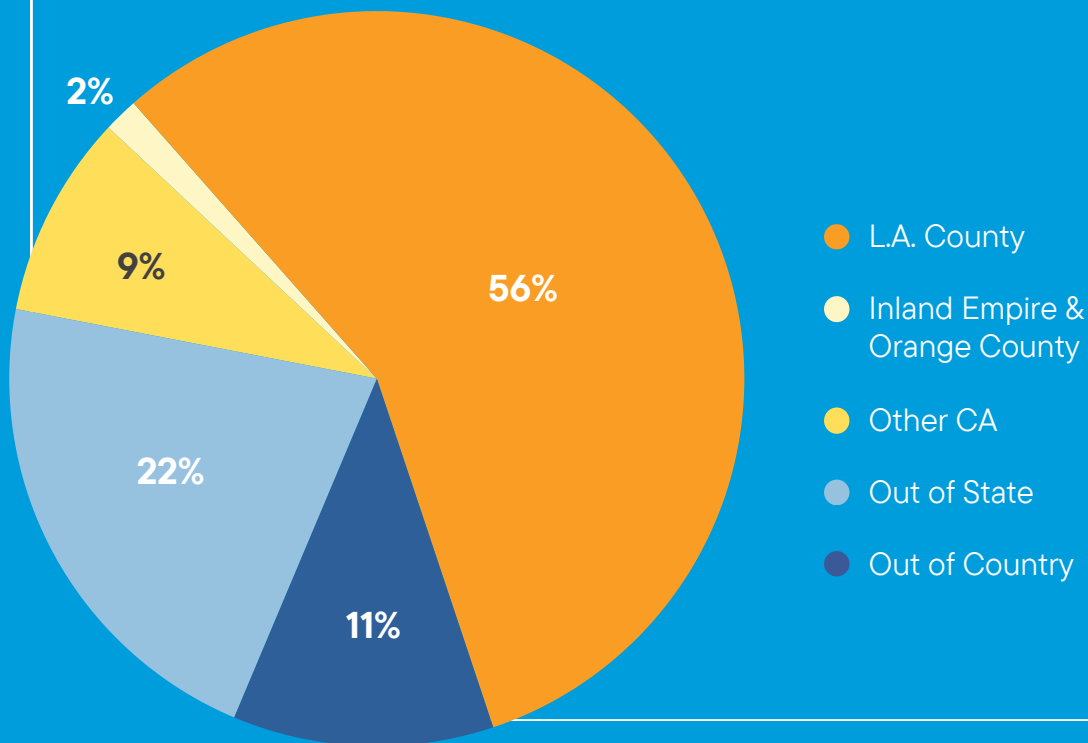


Grace Adams
Executive Director



GUESTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

The Roundhouse Aquarium Teaching Center welcomed **221,695** visitors from around the world, inspiring curiosity and ocean stewardship in guests of all ages. We also connected with more than **900,000** people through digital and social media, extending our reach far beyond our doors.



HOW WE SERVED YOU

We expanded our impact by inspiring ocean stewardship through conservation and community engagement, delivering STEM-based education programs, bringing science to life with hands-on learning, and engaging communities through diverse learning opportunities like expert talks, virtual lessons, and field experiences.



STEM-Based Education Programs: Providing interactive and educational programs through field trips based on science, technology, engineering, art, and math curricula.

Virtual Education Initiatives: Increasing accessibility by offering more flexible virtual classes while maintaining engagement and interest.

Traveling Aquarium: Bringing the ocean, animals, and education to the classroom and community.

Community Outreach: Connecting with the local community through interactive exhibits and presentations.

NGSS-Aligned Learning: Aligning curriculum to Next Generation Science Standards to allow students to master concepts and engage in real-world science learning.

Science Expert Series: Educating the public and the community on current and relevant environmental science data and trends.

Community Science: Encouraging community involvement in scientific exploration to nurture a commitment to ocean and environmental stewardship.

Hands-On Science Activities: Inspiring environmental curiosity through interactive, hands-on experiences.

Immersive Field Labs: Empowering students interested in science education by providing hands-on field experiences.

OTS Coastal Bottlenose Dolphin Project: Exploring dolphin behavior to enhance conservation efforts and deepen our understanding of marine life.

CONSERVATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Thousands of dedicated volunteers play a key role in supporting the Roundhouse Aquarium's conservation efforts, working to remove pollution and prevent waste from entering the oceans. In collaboration with community groups, scout organizations, and corporate partners, they help maintain clean and healthy waterways through beach cleanup initiatives.

For over a decade, the Aquarium has led community efforts to protect the environment. Our annual beach cleanups not only reduce pollution's immediate impact on marine life but also raise awareness about growing environmental challenges. Since 2012, over 3,400 volunteers have contributed more than 8,500 hours and removed over 2,500 pounds of trash.

Marine pollution, particularly plastic, threatens ocean life and ecosystems. The Roundhouse Aquarium's efforts demonstrate the power of collective action and the impact of community involvement in environmental change.

In 2024, 355 volunteers dedicated over 800 hours, removing 325 pounds of trash from the beach. These actions send a strong message about environmental responsibility and the importance of preserving our oceans for future generations.

The Aquarium's work is part of a larger movement to protect the planet's resources, inspiring others to become environmental stewards and create lasting change.



“SoCalGas is committed to protecting our environment. We are proud to support vital conservation work with the Roundhouse Aquarium.” - Sarita C. Figueroa, SoCalGas”



MAKING WAVES GLOBALLY

Our Local, National, and Global Impact

In 2024, the Roundhouse Aquarium welcomed visitors and educated students from Los Angeles County, across the U.S., and around the world. Through in-person experiences and virtual programs, we brought marine science education to diverse communities—fostering curiosity, environmental responsibility, and a passion for ocean conservation.

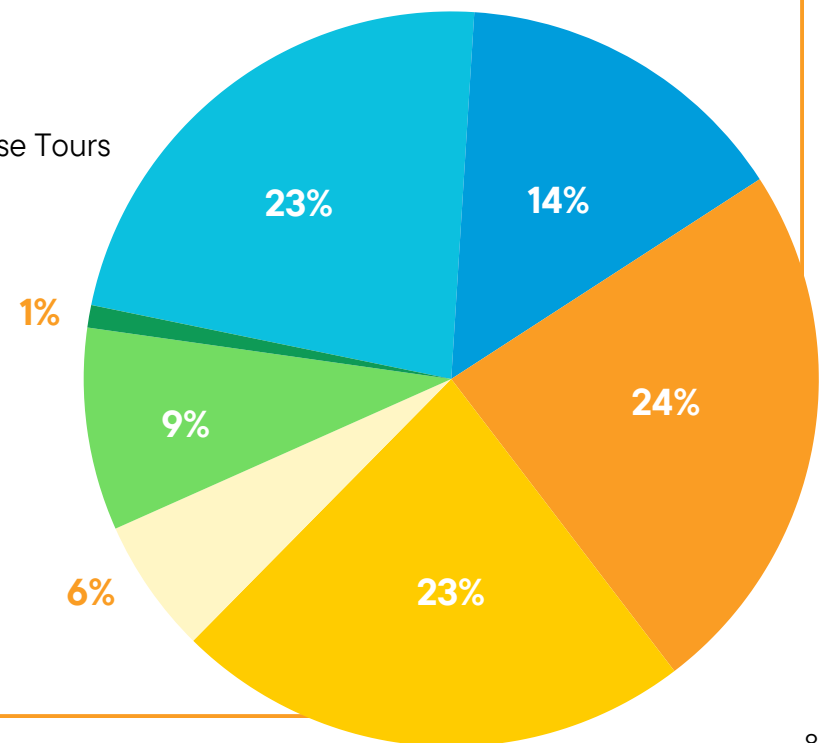




BRINGING MARINE SCIENCE TO LIFE

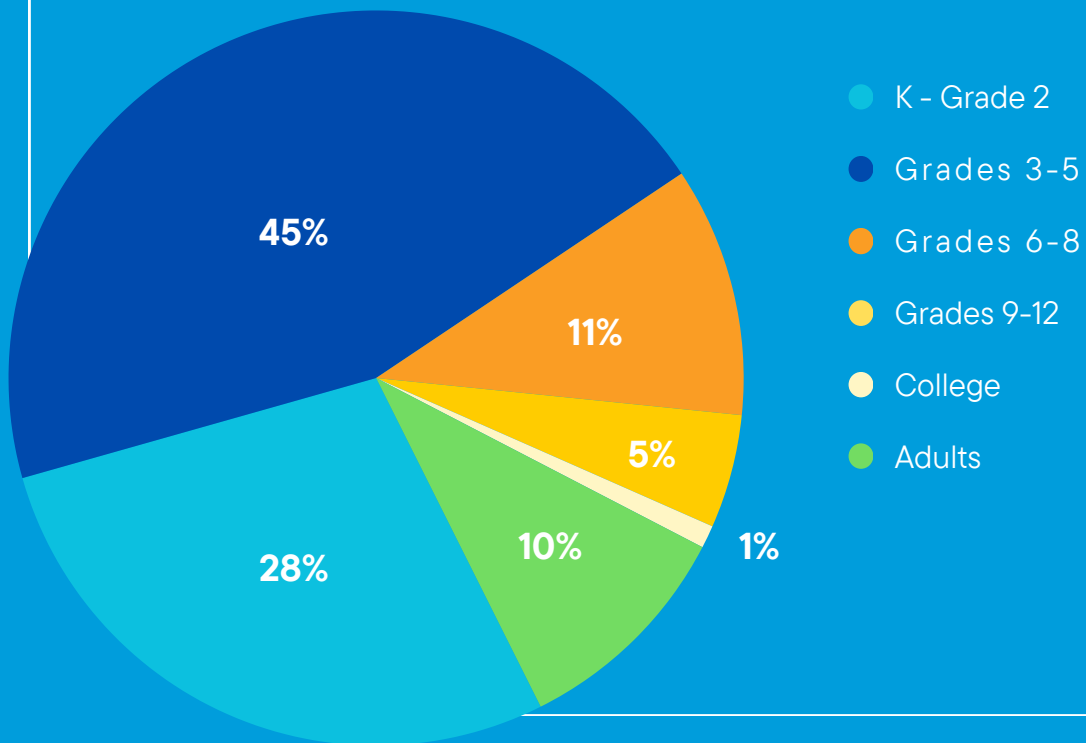
In 2024, we conducted **431** marine science classes, inspiring students of all ages through hands-on learning. Of these, **159** were field trips to the Roundhouse Aquarium, with bus transportation provided for **133** classes. Thanks to your support, we delivered ocean education through in-person field trips, school visits, virtual learning experiences, and community outreach—bringing the wonders of the ocean to classrooms and communities everywhere.

- Outreach
- Field Trips
- West Basin Tour
- West Basin Roundhouse Tours
- West Basin STEAM
- Fairs and Events
- Virtual



YOUR IMPACT ACROSS EVERY GRADE

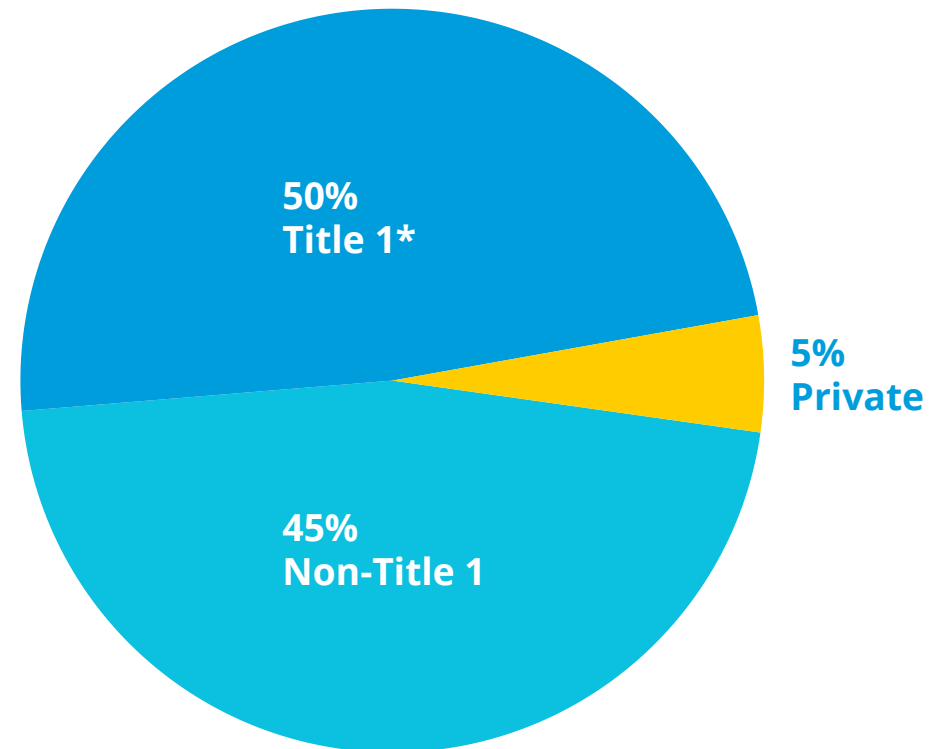
We provided **22,027** students with engaging marine science education through both virtual and in-person programs. From early learners to high school students and adults, our interactive lessons sparked curiosity, deepened understanding, and fostered a love for the ocean at every grade level.





YOUR SUPPORT, THEIR EDUCATION

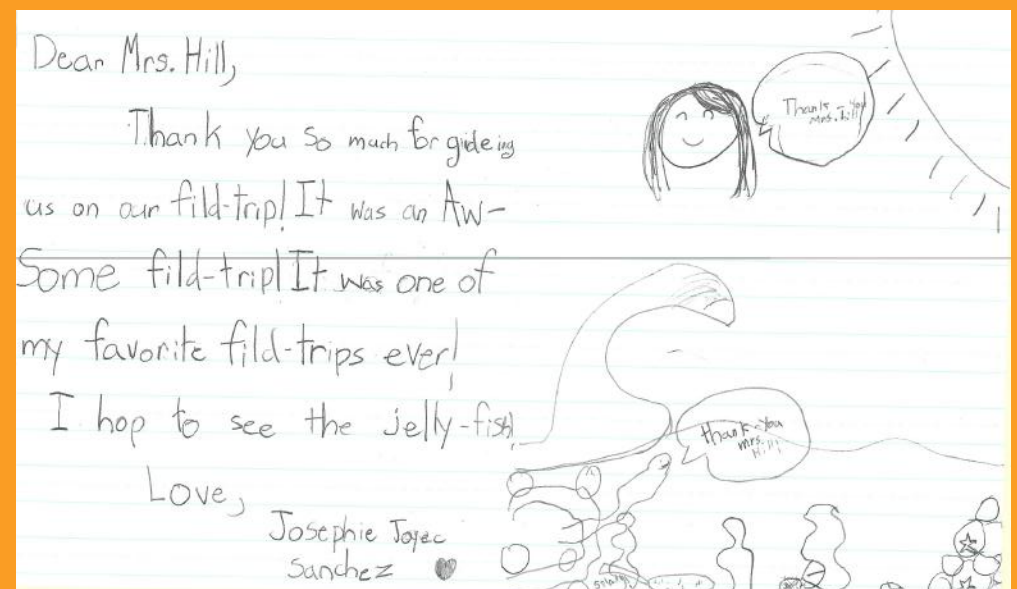
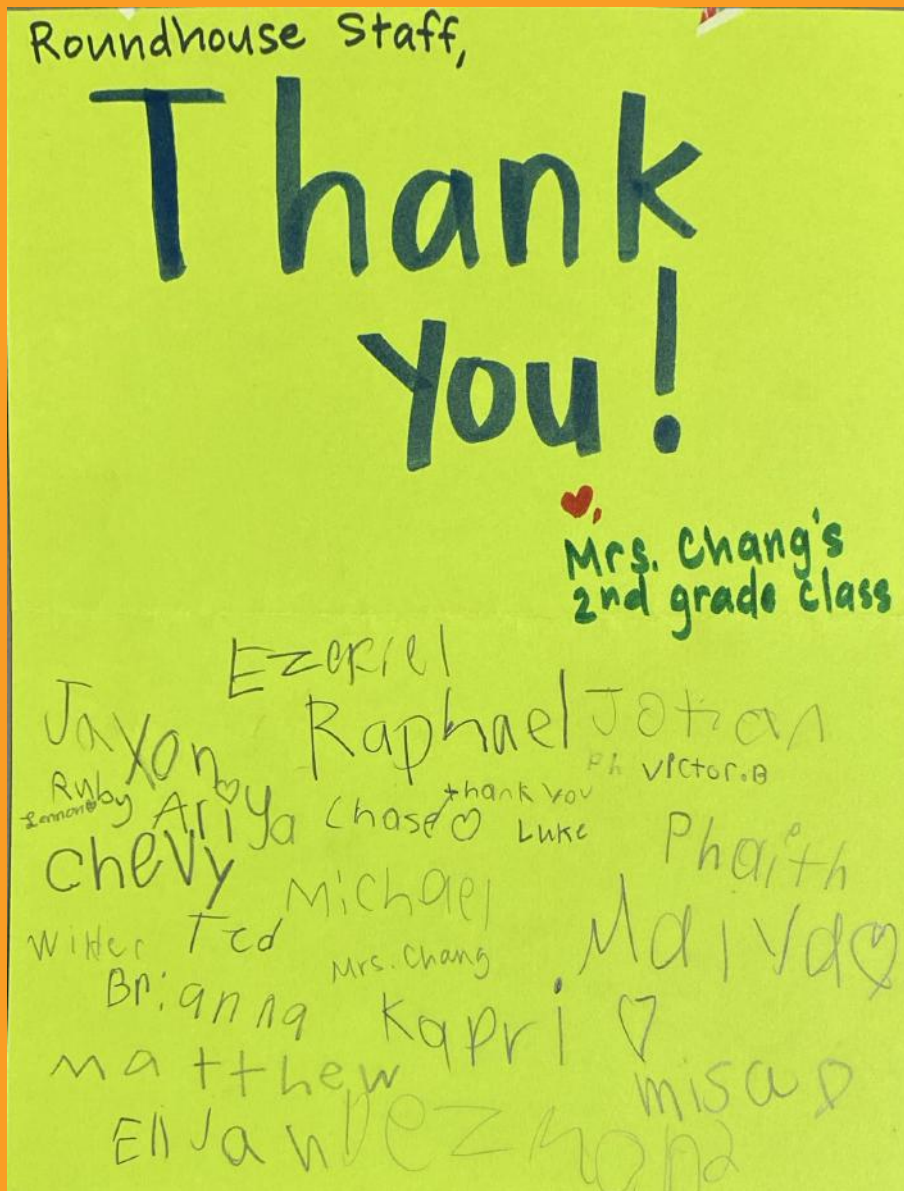
Thanks to your support, we educated **10,562** students from low-income and vulnerable communities, representing half of the students we reached in 2024. Your support ensures that all students have the opportunity to become the next generation of ocean stewards.



**Title 1 is a federal education program that supports low-income students and helps them meet state academic content and performance standards by supplementing the general education experience.*

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Hear directly from the students whose lives you've impacted.



OUR VOLUNTEERS: THE HEART OF THE AQUARIUM

Our dedicated volunteers are the heart of the Roundhouse Aquarium, giving their time and passion to support marine science education and conservation. Their commitment helps us inspire visitors, engage students, and protect our ocean resources for future generations.

108 volunteers completed a combined total of

5,280

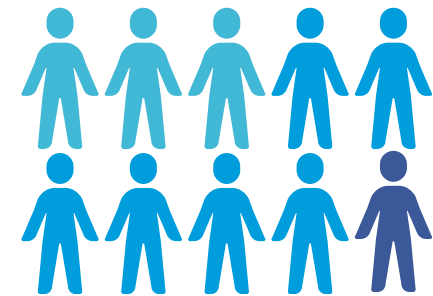
hours at the Roundhouse Aquarium Teaching Center



9% Adult

14%
College or
Young Adult

77%
Grades 9-12



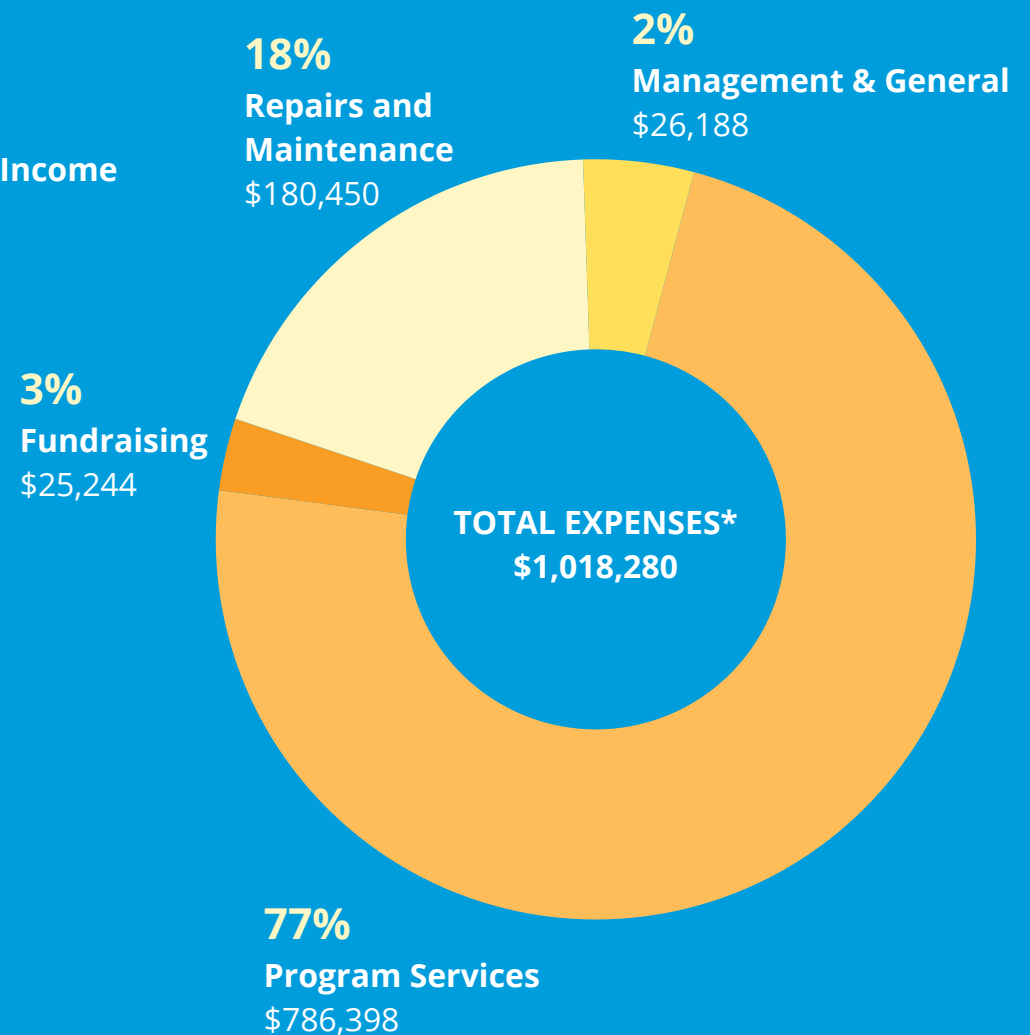
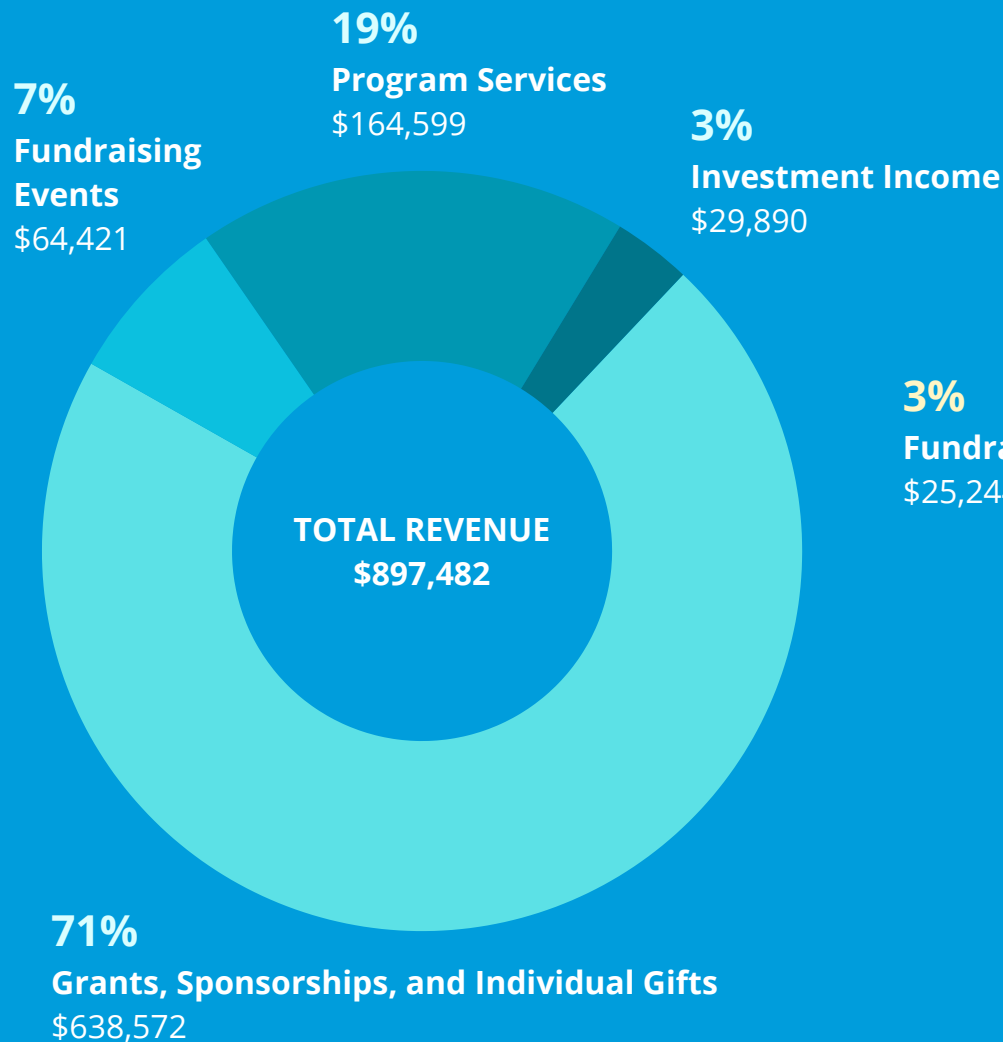
30% Male

64% Female

6% Non-Binary/Prefer not to say

2024 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Each year, OTS endeavors to deliver services and carry out its mission with flexibility, creativity, and resolve.
The fiscal year is from September 2023 to August 2024.



**OTS invested in equipment and insulation upgrades to the aquarium.*

Our heartfelt gratitude for the leadership and generosity of the founding donors of the Roundhouse Aquarium Beautification Project.

In honor of Harrison Greenberg, a Manhattan Beach resident whose love for the ocean drove his interests, the Harrison Greenberg Memorial Foundation (HGF) mobilized the community in 2015 to revitalize the Roundhouse Aquarium into an experiential marine learning center. In partnership with the City of Manhattan Beach and the Oceanographic Teaching Stations, Inc., HGF led the transformation of the Aquarium, a historic, civic gem in the heart of Southern California, into a state-of-the-art destination and center for learning about the ocean.

Committed to inspiring the conservation of our marine environment and preserving the Roundhouse Aquarium's legacy for future generations, HGF is dedicated to engaging the community to ensure the Aquarium continues to thrive. HGF works to support the OTS's programs and initiatives at the Roundhouse Aquarium through philanthropy, community partnerships, and charitable giving.

The Hirshberg Family

The McGovern Family

The Greenberg Family

Kinecta Federal Credit Union

The Warren Lichtenstein Family

Ted Schwartz Family Foundation

The Harrison Greenberg
Memorial Foundation

The City of Manhattan Beach



BE THE RIPPLE OF CHANGE

The Roundhouse Aquarium is more than just a destination or an iconic community symbol—it's a catalyst for change, igniting a passion for ocean conservation that reaches far beyond its shores. It is a beloved gem that binds us. It defines us, brings us together, and inspires us.

To preserve this treasured space and expand its impact as a beacon of marine and environmental education, we invite you to join our mission to protect our oceans and empower future generations.

One of the most powerful ways you can help is by **supporting bus transportation and marine science education** for students from **underserved and marginalized communities**. Many of these students have never seen the ocean—yet it plays a vital role in their futures and the health of our planet. With your support, we can bring them to the Roundhouse Aquarium and the beach, giving them access to life-changing educational experiences and a deeper connection to the natural world.

Be the reason a child feels the sand for the first time. Be the ripple of change.

Consider making a gift today to keep the Roundhouse Aquarium shining brightly, and to ensure every student—no matter where they come from—has the chance to learn from and care for our beautiful ocean and its delicate ecosystems.

Your Support Makes a Difference!

Join our global community of supporters and change makers.

Grace Adams

Executive Director

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