



WOMEN DIVERS HALL OF FAME™

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The Women Divers Hall of Fame Welcomes Six New Members in 2018

Dedicated to recognizing and honoring the contributions of women divers, the Women Divers Hall of Fame™ (WDHOF) is an international non-profit professional honor society whose member contributions span a wide variety of fields including: The Arts, Science, Medicine, Sports, Exploration, Underwater Archaeology, Media, Service, Dive Training and Education, Safety, Business, Marine Environment and Conservation, Free Diving, Commercial Diving, and Military Diving.

The Hall is proud to announce the selection of six new Members who will constitute the Class of 2018:

- **Diana Hollingshead** – Eugene, Oregon, USA
Instructor, Scientific Diver, Marine Biologist
- **Nathalie Lasselin** – Montreal, Quebec, Canada
Explorer, Filmmaker, Speaker
- **Sharon Kwok Pong** – Hong Kong, China
Marine Conservationist, Wildlife Protection Activist, Environmental Advocate
- **Erin Quigley** – Los Angeles, California, USA
Photographer, Educator, Speaker
- **Patty Seery** – Durham, North Carolina, USA
Educator, Women's Advocate, Facilitator
- **Patricia Wuest** – Maitland, Florida, USA
Dive Magazine Journalist, Scuba Gear Tester, Ocean Conservationist

(See biographies of these women below.)

These extraordinary women will be officially inducted into WDHOF on March 25, 2018 at the Beneath the Sea (BTS) Awards Banquet in Secaucus, New Jersey (www.BeneathTheSea.org).

WDHOF, a 501(c)(3) corporation, was founded in 2000. WDHOF's mission is to recognize the contributions of outstanding women divers and to offer financial assistance and mentorship to women and men interested in pursuing diving careers. As such, WDHOF offers numerous scholarships and training grants each year. For more information about or to contribute to the WDHOF scholarship program, log on to www.wdhof.org/scholarships.

Recognizing the contributions of women pioneers, leaders and innovators in the many fields of diving; Promoting careers and opportunities for women in the dive community.

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WDHOF FOUNDERS

BENEATH THE SEA, INC.
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WOMEN'S SCUBA ASSOCIATION

WOMEN UNDERWATER

WOMEN DIVERS HALL OF FAME, CLASS OF 2018

The following summary provides a glimpse into the exciting and diverse backgrounds of the newest class of WDHOF members:



Diana Hollingshead – Eugene, Oregon, USA
Instructor, Scientific Diver, Marine Biologist

Diana Hollingshead, a PADI IDC Staff Instructor, a DAN Instructor, and AAUS Scientific Diver, and co-owner of Eugene Divers Supply, promotes the need to stay current to maintain and further safe diving practices. In 2008, she established Dive for a Cure to fund breast cancer research, and has raised over \$560,000.00 to date. She has completed over 6500 dives, with her favorite diving in the beautiful, cold waters of the Pacific Northwest. She is a frequent presenter to schools and community organizations and, as a volunteer for the Oregon Coast Aquarium with over 6000 volunteer hours, she educates the public and volunteer divers. She volunteers with the USFS and ODFW as a scientific diver.



Nathalie Lasselin – Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Explorer, Filmmaker, Speaker

Nathalie Lasselin is a multi-award-winning underwater cinematographer. As a technical diver and instructor, she has filmed and explored deep wrecks, caves, and bodies of water in more than 50 countries, including the Arctic. Nathalie pursues better understanding of our planet through documentation and shares her concern for our fresh water resources through her films, articles in international magazines, and with event lectures. Her drive is to bring people together and empower them through better relations with their own environment ultimately for a higher quality of life. Her latest project, Urban Water Odyssey, embraces all her goals and philosophy.



Sharon Kwok Pong – Hong Kong, China

Marine Conservationist, Wildlife Protection Activist, Environmental Advocate

Sharon Kwok Pong was born in Hong Kong where her father was a founder of Ocean Park. Her early years sparked a passion for ocean and wildlife protection that stayed with her, when she later became a successful actor and model: A celebrity in the Chinese community, Sharon shines a spotlight on shark finning and illegal wildlife trade at events, in media campaigns, in schools and through her artwork. Her on-camera conservation efforts and fluency in Mandarin and Cantonese have been pivotal in inspiring the next generation of Chinese to protect the ocean. Sharon is a Mission Blue and WildAid board member, and is Executive Director of the AquaMeridian Conservation & Education Foundation.



Erin Quigley – Los Angeles, California, USA

Photographer, Educator, Speaker

Erin Quigley is an award-winning photographer and the first Adobe A.C.E. certified expert to focus specifically on post-production techniques for underwater photographers. Erin has been shooting underwater since 1994, and teaching post-production to the dive community since 2007. She currently writes the Imaging Techniques column for *Scuba Diving* magazine. In 2010, Erin left her career as an award-winning costume designer and television producer to create GoAskErin.com, which provides resources and training for underwater photographers. She speaks at conferences, judges contests, leads trips, and teaches workshops worldwide, motivated by her strong belief that exceptional imaging inspires stewardship of the marine environment.



Patty Seery – Durham, North Carolina, USA

Educator, Women's Advocate, Facilitator

When she joined Divers Alert Network (DAN) in 2008, Patty Seery, MHS, brought with her more than 30 years of experience as a health care provider/educator and CPR instructor/instructor trainer in addition to being a scuba instructor/course director. Now as Director of Training at DAN, she is the architect behind the current DAN first-aid courses which are being utilized by divers of all varieties and internationally by multiple agencies. Her educational outreach has supported the leaders of tomorrow as they participated in various scuba-diving internships and scholarship programs. Encouraging and mentoring women of all ages in diving activities through training and travel has been a hallmark of her diving career.



Patricia Wuest – Maitland, Florida, USA

Dive Magazine Journalist, Scuba Gear Tester, Ocean Conservationist

As the editor-in-chief of *Scuba Diving* and *Sport Diver* magazines, Patricia has had a 25-year career in dive journalism. Certified as a diver in 1993, she began her career at *Scuba Diving* magazine, and today is the first female editor-in-chief on both magazines. As the leader of the Dive Group team at Bonnier Corporation, she is passionate about using the magazines' platform to support the dive industry's efforts on all fronts — training, gear, travel, and conservation — to spread the joy of scuba diving, to promote safe-diving practices and to reinforce the industry's commitment to protecting our water resources.

For more information about the Women Divers Hall of Fame, log on to www.wdhof.org.