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LOOK OUT BELOW! SPLASH! 2003 HIGHLIGHTS CONSTRUCTION AT THE NATIONAL AQUARIUM IN BALTIMORE

Tickets Now On Sale for 11th Annual Fundraiser

Baltimore, Md. (August 15, 2003)—Splash!, the annual fundraiser for the National Aquarium in Baltimore, tunnels its way into the Inner Harbor on Saturday, October 25, 2003, with the theme “Down Under Construction.” Splash!’s proceeds this year will support the dramatic new exhibits on Australian wildlife that are currently under construction.

Guests may loosen their tool belts while partying from 8:00 – 11:30 p.m. at one of the hottest events in Baltimore. Tickets are \$100 per person or \$150 for a VIP ticket, which allows access to the exclusive “Blueprints” party that starts at 6:30 p.m.

At Splash!, guests feast on exquisite food from more than 30 Maryland restaurants and sip spirits at open bars as they stroll around the aquatic exhibits. The atrium is transformed into a dance floor with live music from The Mustangs.

At the Silent Auction, items up for bid include golf packages, fishing trips, wine tastings and even a Les Paul limited edition guitar. In the spirit of construction, a “Honey-do” category offers a variety home improvement services.

Proceeds from the gala will benefit the Aquarium’s expansion. The project will add 65,000 square feet of additional space in a glass-enclosed building. New permanent features include the Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Waterfront Park that provides an interpretation of the entire Chesapeake watershed region; a 35-foot waterfall pouring into a freshwater pond to represent Maryland’s western-most region, the Allegheny Cascades; and an Australian “immersion” exhibit that gives visitors a multi-sensory experience of being in the land of fire, flood and drought of Australia’s Northern Territory.

Don’t be left in the sawdust – this event sells out each year. For information and tickets, call the Aquarium at 410-727-FISH.

The title sponsor for *Splash! 2003* is Northrop Grumman. Media sponsors for the event are WBAL, Mix 106.5, *Baltimore Magazine* and the *Baltimore Business Journal*.

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