

Friends of Fish

Educating Youth About Fishing and Marine Conservation

By Colin Das, President | Coordinated by Robyn Stauffer



FRIENDS OF FISH

Upon catching his first fish at the age of four, my brother was quite literally hooked! Fishing became his passion, along with conserving the marine environment that surrounds us here in Huntington Harbour. Living in a coastal community, we were surprised to find how few of our fellow students had ever been out on the open seas. My brother and I share a deep connection to the ocean, so we founded Friends of Fish, a non-profit organization dedicated to sharing our passion with others.

Friends of Fish builds an invaluable connection between people and the ocean. Our mission is to assist youth and their families in experiencing catching their first fish and educating them about sustainable fishing practices and marine ecosystem conservation. We've taught hundreds of local students about the fish species that live in our local waters, taking dozens of them and their families on free charter fishing trips.



Partnering with EZ Sportfishing out of Huntington Harbor, we provide a hands-on outdoor educational experience. Friends of Fish has also taught pier-fishing lessons and sponsors an annual fishing derby at the Seal Beach pier with prizes, giveaways, and free bait and loaner rods for all participants.

Our non-profit has received federal and state grants through the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Vamos a Pescar Education Fund, allowing us to expand the number of free charter trips over the past two years. As my brother has now gone off

to college, I've taken over his mission. I've come to agree that seeing the expressions on kids' faces as they catch their first fish is priceless!

If you are interested in supporting us or learning more about our programs, please visit friendsoffish.org, contact us at friendsoffish.ca@gmail.com, or follow us on Instagram @friends_of_fish_ca, or You can also check out Landon's Lures (landonslures.com), our very own line of fully biodegradable fishing lures that support the marine environment by not releasing any toxic chemicals or microplastics into the water.



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