

# Holiday Season

## Adopt a Drifter Program Alumni Newsletter

Hello Educators and Valued Adopt a Drifter Program (ADP) Alumni!

Welcome back for another ADP Alumni newsletter! **As you prepare for Thanksgiving Break, we would like to extend a gracious thank you to our teachers and classrooms for your continued support.** Our latest newsletter highlights recent achievements and activities since the beginning of the school year.

### ADP NEWS AND UPDATES

The ADP team is pleased to announce the addition of our newest team member, Dr. Heather Heenehan, who joins [NOAA's Global Ocean Monitoring & Observing Program \(GOMO\)](#) as an Education and Outreach Program Specialist. With Heather's expertise and personal experience as a high school science teacher and college instructor, we are confident that this year will be the best yet for the ADP and participating classrooms!

We encourage you to please continue to check the ADP website, as we strive to add new and exciting resources. Also, please don't forget that you can now adopt a drifter **EVERY YEAR**, making the ADP part of your annual lesson plans!



Dr. Jim Happell and University of Miami students deploying their signed drifter

## Newsletter Highlights

ADP News and Updates

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Welcome Aboard

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Featured ADP Activity

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Drifter News

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Teacher at Sea Application

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The ADP Team

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Contact Us and Resources

## WELCOME ABOARD!

Along with Dr. Heenehan joining the ADP team, we want to highlight the newest educators to join the ADP Alumni Group during the first half of the 2024-2025 school year!

Please join us in welcoming the following teachers/classes to the ADP family:

[Megan Wood, Ranger High Tech Academy](#)

[Dr. Jim Happell and Philip Tuchen, University of Miami RSMAS](#)

[Alice Ward, Henry S. West Laboratory School](#)

[Dr. Heather Heenehan, University of Connecticut Stamford](#)

## FEATURED ACTIVITY

In an effort to positively impact more classrooms and encourage sharing resources we will be featuring a lesson, activity or resource with each newsletter. This month we are excited to share:

### **Environmental Cleanups**

Following the release of our educational web game, [Ocean Odyssey: Tracking Marine Debris](#), the ADP would like to provide you with a few ideas and resources for you to take action to prevent pollution in our oceans. There are so many organizations that organize cleanups, including The Great Global Cleanup,

International Coastal Cleanup and others, that dedicate themselves to fighting plastic pollution by organizing cleanup events along watersheds, beaches, lakes and more! You don't need to live near the ocean to join these efforts! Find a cleanup [near you](#) or consider organizing your own and learn more about plastic pollution and marine debris from [NOAA's Marine Debris Program](#).

Please let us know if you have a new or favorite resource to share with the ADP family. By sharing, we hope to highlight your efforts and encourage other educators to follow your lead!

## DRIFTER NEWS

[NOAA's Global Drifter Program](#) (GDP), an affiliate program of the ADP, reached a significant milestone: 30,000 drifter deployments since the start of the program in 1979! The drifter was one of ten deployed during the recent RAMA Tropical Moored Buoy cruise in the Indian Ocean along 67°E. The RAMA cruise was conducted aboard the

Research Vessel Isabu, in close collaboration between the Korean Institute of Ocean Science & Technology (KIOST) and NOAA. This partnership between NOAA and KIOST is an example of how the GDP collaborates with numerous national and international partners to achieve its mission of maintaining a [global 5° x 5° array](#).

# TEACHER AT SEA APPLICATION - CLOSING SOON

Are you interested in setting sail with NOAA scientists and gaining hands-on experience with ocean-related research? NOAA's [Teacher at Sea Program](#) is a wonderful opportunity available to formal and informal educators. Educators from non-science backgrounds are also encouraged to apply; teachers with art, literature, math and other backgrounds have previously participated!

This year's application deadline is right around the corner, with the online application due **December 2, 2024**. To apply, please click [here](#).



## THE ADP TEAM



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## CONTACT US

You can contact the ADP team at [aoml.adp@noaa.gov](mailto:aoml.adp@noaa.gov)

## ADP WEBSITE

You can always find additional resources and the latest information on our website.

<https://www.adp.noaa.gov>

## PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS

Missed one of our newsletters? You can find all of them here.

[Volume I Summer 2024](#)