

# A CREATIVE COLORING COMPANION TO HELP SAVE OUR SEAS

Volume One



pangeaseed.org | seawalls.org A Drop of Paint Can Create an Ocean of Change

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# **ALOHA!**

Welcome to Volume One of the Sea Walls: Artists for Oceans coloring activity book. Did you know the oceans are the life support system of the planet? At PangeaSeed Foundation, we believe a drop of paint can create an ocean of change, so we'd like to think that this booklet goes above and beyond being "just" a coloring book and is rather a companion to help you learn about the importance of our oceans and the pressing issues impacting them.

As the basis of the coloring pages, we featured existing artworks that PangeaSeed Foundation supporting ARTivists have created for past Sea Walls: Artists for Oceans projects across the globe. Be sure to read about these inspiring public murals and practice some of the action steps we've suggested. Harness your creativity and together, we can help save our seas!

Happy creative learning and let's paint for a purpose!



# ABOUT PANGEASEED FOUNDATION

PangeaSeed Foundation is Hawaii-based, internationally engaged nonprofit organization working at the intersection of culture and environmentalism to further the conservation of our oceans. Our mission is to empower individuals and communities to create meaningful environmental change for oceans through science, education, and ARTivism (S.E.A.).

Visit **pangeaseed.org** to learn more.

## ABOUT SEA WALLS: ARTISTS FOR OCEANS

Sea Walls: Artists for Oceans is PangeaSeed Foundation's groundbreaking public art program that brings the oceans into the streets around the world. By collaborating with the world's most renowned contemporary artists, we create large-scale public murals that address pressing environmental issues our oceans are facing.

Visit **seawalls.org** to learn more.







### "THE LAST BLOOM" by Gina Kiel (New Zealand)



Mural by Gina Kiel in Cozumel, Mexico (Photograph by Tre' Packard)

#### What is this mural about? Coral Bleaching

When corals are stressed by changes in conditions such as temperature, light, or nutrients, they expel the symbiotic algae living in their tissues, causing them to turn completely white. Warmer water temperatures can result in coral bleaching. When water is too warm, corals expel the algae (zooxanthellae) living in their tissues causing the coral to turn completely white. This is called coral bleaching. When a coral bleaches, it is not dead. Corals can survive a bleaching event, but they are under more stress and are subject to mortality.

#### **Take action!**

- Download and complete these activities to learn more:
  - NOAA Coral Reef Ecosystems Education Resources
- Use reef friendly sunscreen
- Only consuming sustainably caught sea life.
- Reduce your and your family's carbon footprint by:
  - ~ Eating less meat. Try meatless Mondays!
  - ~ Using less electricity at home
  - ~ Saving water
  - ~ Using less plastic, and reusing and recycling what you do use

#### Artist statement

"Cozumel has become primarily a tourist area with hundreds of people coming onto the Island from cruise ships daily, to go diving or snorkeling, to see the coral, which as I experienced first hand is fast becoming an underwater desert. Coral is commonly mistaken for rocks or plants and are unaware of these delicate creatures growing like little mothers providing a nursery for thousands of species of fish.

Coral is a living creature. In my mural I have personified coral in the form of the face of Mother Nature, a relatable image for humans to connect to illustrating that coral is a living entity and to tread carefully in the water. Just like us, once it is gone, it is gone. So, be careful not to stand on or touch her and not to use sunscreen in the ocean as it creates a barrier stopping nutrients from the sunlight reaching through the water to the coral.

The black and white splitting and melting of the form in the mural represents the rapidly declining and dying coral reefs. This is due to many human impact/global warming factors including rising water temperatures that cause non-reversible coral bleaching and an increase in smothering sponges & algae, sunscreen, and sediments upturned by ships. The large scale of the coral mother in comparison to the tiny diver represents the large scale of the issue we are facing and the beauty we are losing before our eyes." - Gina Kiel





# "THE REAPER'S NEW WEAPON"

by Tread (New Zealand)



*1ural by Tread in Gisborne, New Zealand (Photograph by Tre' Packard)* 

### What is this mural about? Plastic Pollution

Today, the oceans and marine life are facing the threat of permanent alteration from a number of sources of pollution, and plastic is among the most significant. Plastic accounts for 60-80% of marine garbage, and in high-density areas, reaches up to 95%. The reality is that every piece of plastic that has ever been made still exists in one form or another. Even when burned, it breaks down into microscopic, toxic particles. Made from oil, plastic is not a material that our planet can digest. It is estimated that by 2050, plastic will outweigh fish by weight in our oceans.

### Take action!

Reduce your own plastic footprint by:

- Using a reusable water bottle and avoiding drinks bottled in plastic
- Bringing your own bag, cup, utensils, straw, etc.
- Shopping in bulk, reducing packaging waste
- Choosing reusable and compostable goods over less sustainable materials

#### Artist statement

"The theme I have decided to bring awareness to and focus my mural on is the grim future of our oceans due to plastic pollution. Plastic pollution is a global issue and one that will affect every living organism on earth. An estimate of 500million plastic straws are used daily in America and scientists believe by mid century there will be more plastic in the ocean than fish.

My mural features the international angel of death, The Grim Reaper, sitting waist deep in murky, dark waters with his new weapon of choice.... a plastic straw. A rather straightforward depiction of what our future holds but a statement that needs to be made." - Tread



# **"TIBURÓN BALLENA"**

by Tatiana Suarez (USA)



Mural by Tatiana Suarez in Isla Mujeres, Mexico (Photograph by Tre' Packard)

#### What is this mural about? Shark Conservation

The first sharks appeared in the world's oceans over 400 million years ago, more than 150 million years before the first dinosaurs took to the land. Most of the modern sharks we see today first appeared around 100 million years ago. By comparison the first humans evolved only around 200,000 every year, over 100 million sharks are killed across the world to satisfy the global trade in shark fins. While the demand for the fins comes primarily from Asian markets, virtually every country with coastline has a shark fishery that is feeding the supply. Overfishing has reduced many shark populations around the world to levels that threaten their continued existence. Shark numbers have fallen by more than 80% in many cases. Sharks now represent the greatest percentage of threatened marine species on the IUCN Red List.

#### **Take action!**

- Don't eat shark and encourage your family to choose sustainable seafood that doesn't lead to accidental shark catch. Check out these guides here!
- If you have a dog or a cat, make sure their food doesn't contain shark meat, which is often listed as 'white fish'.
- If your city, county or state still allows the importation, sale, and trade of shark fins, write your representatives a letter telling them to please help save our oceans' sharks.

#### Artist statement

"My mural aims to express the connection between humans and nature, focusing on charismatic marine life, highlighting whale sharks. These gentle giants, as well as other shark species, are fundamental for maintaining the balance of the delicate ocean ecosystem, and despite that, they are currently endangered, and continuously threatened by human activities. The mural reflects the symbiosis that exists between humans and marine life; shaping the invisible, but not the intangible link we have with these underwater worlds." - Tatiana Suarez





## "GAME OVER" by Spok Brillor (Spain)



Mural by Spok Brillor in Cancun, Mexico (Photograph by Tre' Packard)

### What is this mural about? Marine Mammal Captivity

Dolphins and whales are very intelligent. They have large, complex brains, are self-aware, and create complex languages. Their experience of the world is similar to our own. However, over 3,500 dolphins and small whales live in captivity around the world for the entertainment of us humans. Dolphins, orcas and belugas are caught from the wild and trained to perform tricks in order to get food. In the wild, these animals are constantly on the move, spanning our world's oceans. Life in captivity is very stressful and often leads to illness and premature death.

#### **Take action!**

- Don't buy a ticket to dolphin shows or swim-with-dolphins programs at aquariums or marine parks
- Support alternatives to captivity such as wild dolphin and whale watching/snorkeling tours, documentaries and educational exhibits without live dolphins.
- Tell your friends and family not to support dolphin and whale captivity
- Write a letter to your representatives telling them you don't support dolphin and whale captivity
- Support non-profit organizations such as Whale and Dolphin Conservation (WDC).

#### Artist statement

"My mural focuses on dolphin captivity. Thousands of dolphins around the world are still legally held captive for human entertainment. In the wild, bottlenose dolphins are known to swim over 100 miles a day. In captivity, they are confined to small tanks, and they are trained to do tricks for food. There are 29 captive dolphin facilities in Mexico, keeping a total of approximately 342 individual cetaceans. Of the Mexican dolphin parks, the state of Quintana Roo is, on the Yucatan Peninsula, is home to 67% of them all. Since 2008, 11 new facilities have opened and the number of dolphins has increased by around 36%. Dolphin parks can be found in shopping centers, marinas, hotel complexes, zoos, and theme parks. Support freedom, not captivity!" - Spok Brillor





# "MAKE WAVES NOT WASTE"

by Macallan Durkin (St. Croix, USVI)



Mural by Macallan Durkin in Frederiksted, St. Croix (Photograph by Tre' Packard)

#### What is this mural about? Plastic Pollution

The first sharks appeared in the world's oceans over 400 million years ago, more than 150 million years before the first dinosaurs took to the land. Most of the modern sharks we see today first appeared around 100 million years ago. By comparison the first humans evolved only around 200,000 years ago. As one of the top ocean predators, sharks play an important role in the food web and help ensure balance in the ocean's ecosystem. However, every year, over 100 million sharks are killed across the world to satisfy the global trade in shark fins. While the demand for the fins comes primarily from Asian markets, virtually every country with coastline has a shark fishery that is feeding the supply. Overfishing has reduced many shark populations around the world to levels that threaten their continued existence. Shark numbers have fallen by more than 80% in many cases. Sharks now represent the greatest percentage of threatened marine species on the IUCN Red List.

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### Artist statement

"This mural addresses the excessive waste and litter, especially plastics, humans produce and dispose of improperly. Because products end up in the ocean eventually, littering even on land can affect the oceans and those who inhabit them. Trash is broken apart and consumed by many marine species. This is either by microplastic food chain accumulation or by direct ingestion.

Because of plastic pollution, endangered species are in an uphill battle for recovery, in addition to many other factors that go into the decline of floral and faunal populations in the ocean.

In the mural, many creatures in the ocean are shown, including the threatened species, the green sea turtle. The animals and plants of the ocean are represented here made up of trash. This illustrated the consumption of plastic waste and the effect it can have on marine species. Especially with plastic accumulation through the food chain. While one fish can ingest, say, three small pieces and still survive, a turtle will eat five of those fish and may not survive with fifteen small pieces of plastic in its system.

It's time to make waves in conservation and renewable resources instead of making waste that fills Earth's oceans and hurts the beautiful life under the sea." - Macallan Durkin



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