



Summer 2019 Edition

At New Jersey Sea Grant Consortium, the busy summer season officially comes to an end sometime in mid-August, when the sounds of lively banter and hasty footsteps slowly fade away from the bustling hallways.

But that doesn't mean we're slowing down anytime soon! "Fall back" into the swing of things with NJSGC in this latest edition of the *Coastodian* newsletter.

As well as following us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#), be sure to check out our "research" section on njseagrants.org for any updates on current projects and publications.



NJSGC "Feature" Photo

The colors of the sunset result from a phenomenon known as "scattering."

According to Professor Steven Ackerman, Director of Cooperative Institute for Meteorological Satellite Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, "Because the sun is low on the horizon, sunlight passes through more air at sunset and sunrise than during the day, when the sun is higher in the sky. More atmosphere means more molecules to scatter the violent and blue light away from your eyes. If the path is long enough, all of the blue and violet light scatters out of your line of sight. The other colors continue on their way to your eyes. This is why sunsets are often yellow, orange, and red."

Or in the case of this August sunset in Bradley Beach, NJ – pink!

Ocean City Hosts “Favorite Beaches” Ceremony



New Jersey Sea Grant Consortium kicked-off the 2019 summer season by announcing the official results of our annual “Favorite Beaches” contest.

Thousands of voters participated in this year’s poll following its 94.3 “The Point” radio debut over the Memorial Day Weekend. In anticipation of the July Fourth holiday, winners were honored during a gorgeous beachside ceremony held at Music Pier in Ocean City on June 28th. Once again, this popular Jersey Shore town was honored as top overall favorite – that’s 11 years of undefeated victory!



The survey – initially deemed “New Jersey’s Top Ten Beaches” – was created in 2008 to encourage some friendly competition and camaraderie amongst beloved shore communities throughout the state. The poll was later rebranded “Favorite Beaches” so that individual towns from all four coastal counties can have an opportunity to shine. So without further delay, here is the breakdown for 2019.

ATLANTIC:

1. Margate
2. Brigantine
3. Atlantic City
4. Longport
5. Ventnor

MONMOUTH:

1. Asbury Park
2. Spring Lake
3. Sandy Hook – Gateway National Recreation Area
4. Belmar
5. Ocean Grove

CAPE MAY:

1. Ocean City
2. Wildwood Crest
3. Sea Isle City
4. Cape May
5. Wildwood

OCEAN:

1. Seaside Heights
2. Point Pleasant Beach
3. Beach Haven
4. Island Beach State Park
5. Barnegat Light

Thanks to everyone who voted, and be sure to stay tuned for more updates at njseagrant.org!

Knauss Fellowship Program, Class of 2020



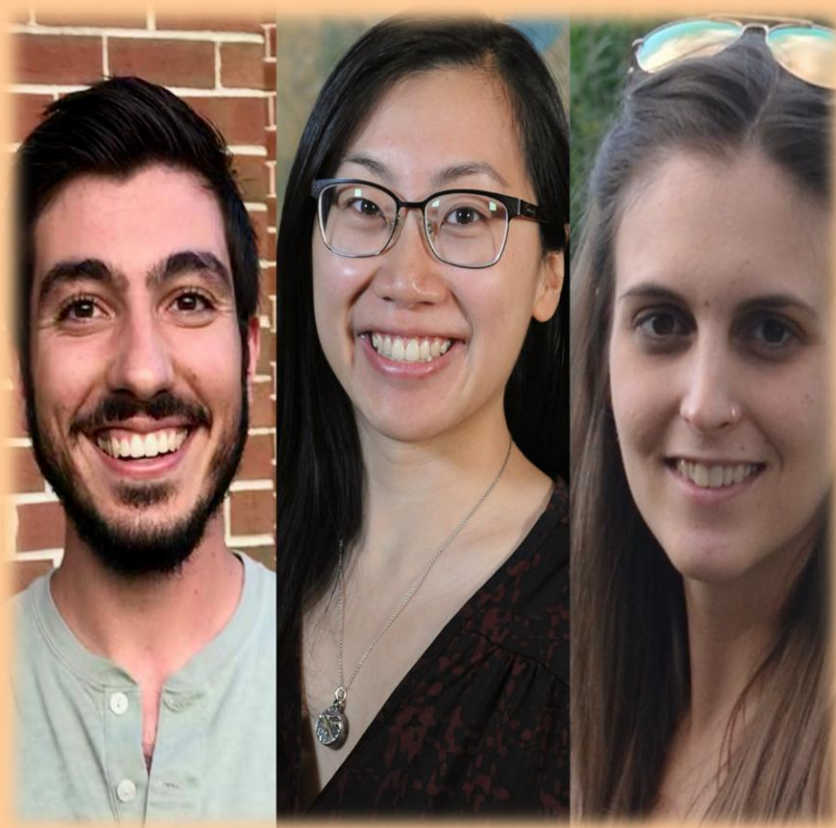
The National Sea Grant office, along with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), recently announced the finalists for the 2020 class of the John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship Program. Of the 69 inductees representing 27 of the 34 Sea Grant programs nationwide, we are proud to report that three of those individuals were accepted as representatives of New Jersey Sea Grant Consortium.

Congratulations to Michael Acquafredda (Rutgers University), Victoria Luu (Princeton University), and Brittany Schieler (Rutgers University).

According to National Sea Grant College Program Director Jonathan Pennock, “With each year and class, we continue to be more impressed with the sea Grant Knauss fellows. They bring fresh perspectives and experiences to the coastal and marine science and policy work happening in D.C., and they continue to raise the bar for us all.”

According to the official Knauss [announcement](#), the 2020 finalists will become the 41st class of the fellowship and will join a group of over 1,300 professionals who have received hands-on experiences transferring science to policy and management through one-year appointments with federal government offices in Washington, D.C.

To learn more about the fellows’ educational backgrounds and experiences, please visit NJSGC’s new interactive Knauss [webpage](#). Our current fellow [Omanjana Goswami](#) is busy working alongside a legislative cohort from Hawaii to expand her knowledge on Earth Sciences within the political realm.



Stay tuned for more updates as Acquafredda, Luu, and Schieler continue their journeys as Knauss fellows. We wish them all the best with their future placements!

NJSGC Revamps “Jersey Shore” Photo Contest



New Jersey boasts some of the most picturesque beaches along the East Coast. Earlier this year, we asked photographers (amateur, professional, or otherwise) to submit snapshots that celebrate and embrace natural elements of the Garden State’s beautiful coastline as part of New Jersey Sea Grant Consortium’s revived “Jersey Shore” photo contest. After receiving dozens of breathtaking entries, our graphic design team narrowed the competition down to just 26 finalists.

The official online contest finally launched in early June. Thousands of voters participated, and now NJSGC will use the Top 12 images to create our 2020 downloadable desktop calendar.

Congratulations to our winners, and please stay tuned for more updates regarding the calendar.



“Light of Day” / Frank Slezak



“Not Gonna Bail” / Kelly Hunt



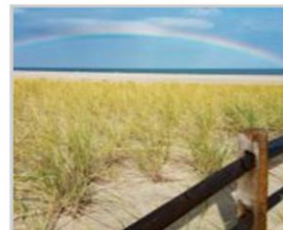
“Path to Perfection” / Kate Booth



“Silvery Sands & Sky” / Paula Moore



“White Out” / Mac Birch



“Over the Rainbow” / Joanna Cellary



“Gulls on Jetty” / Virginia Rice



“Rise & Shine” / Paula Dameika



“Bliss” / Christopher Amabile



“Up & Away” / Ray Bogan



“Seal Bathing” / Paul Bagdanov



“December Chill” / Patrick Lynham

Register for Individual Scout Merit Badge Programs



NEW JERSEY SEA GRANT CONSORTIUM **SCOUT PROGRAMS!**



Environmental Science Merit Badge

Saturday, September 28, 2019 10:00-3:00

Earn the Environmental Science Badge with this interactive program. Examine ecology, tidal pollution, ocean acidification, seining fishing, microplastics and much more, both at the beach and in the laboratory.

Oceanography Merit Badge

Sunday, September 22, 2019 10:00-2:00

Explore the ocean with this hands-on experience in our lab and outdoors. Study waves and currents, observe worldwide sand samples under the microscope, collect plankton, go seine fishing, and investigate beach chemistry.

REGISTRATION MANDATORY

Register online at njseagrants.org
\$45/Scout; Adults are free

For more information or to schedule a program contact
Jody Sackett at 732-872-1300 ext. 20 or
jsackett@njseagrants.org

Visit our Scout Webpage
njseagrants.org/education/scout-programs



Book a Scouts Program [now](#), or contact our coordinator [Jody Sackett](#) for more information.

Meet NJSGC's Summer Intern



Julianne Sackett is a 19-year-old Jersey Shore native currently studying Business Administration at Northeastern University in Boston, MA. Throughout July and August, Julianne spent time working and exchanging ideas with our Communications Specialist, Danica Bellini.

What was one thing you learned while working at Sea Grant?

"It was fun and insightful to create digital content using online tools such as Canva and Adobe Spark."

What was your most "stand out" moment?

"Getting to sit in on a rip current program in LBI was great. I not only got the chance to get cool footage for social media, but I got to learn a lot [about ocean hazards] myself."



Add us on

SNAPCHAT

BY USERNAME OR SNAPCODE!



What were some of your responsibilities or accomplishments, and how will you better use these skills in your future studies?

"Managing social media requires a lot more numbers than I expected! It's important to track the data in order to improve and advance such skills."

What's your favorite Jersey Shore memory?

"Riding waves right before a storm."

Julianne spearheaded several useful projects during her short time at NJSGC, including the launch of our very own Snapchat account! Be sure to now follow us @njseagrant.

What's Happening at NJSGC?



NJSGC held five sessions of Marine Science Summer Day Camp during the 2019 season for students entering grades 3rd–9th. From exploring the vast shores of Sandy Hook to conducting interactive lab experiments to building remotely operated vehicles (ROVs), campers got to enjoy the beach while learning about diverse, age-appropriate STEM topics. To learn more about this program, please visit the [NJSGC website](#). Dates for 2020 will be announced soon.

NJSGC teamed-up with New Jersey Natural Gas and 94.3 “The Point” for another exciting year of fun-in-the-sun Summer Fridays at the Jersey Shore! Executive Director Claire Antonucci covered a wide range of ocean-friendly topics alongside beloved deejays Liz Jeressi, Lou Russo, and Matt Ryan during live radio broadcasts from the Asbury Park Boardwalk. Discussions on bioluminescence, cownose rays, and salps truly enticed listeners (among other marine science-related subjects). Visit [“The Point” blog](#) for more fun facts brought to you by NJSGC!



NJSGC’s Rip Current Awareness program aims to educate the public on beach safety and ocean hazards. Several students took time out of their busy summer schedules to learn more about these ongoing safety issues with our Coastal Ecosystems extension agent, Dr. Amy Williams. Stay tuned for more updates on how you can participate in NJSGC’s “Sharks vs. Rip Currents” trivia game this upcoming season!