



## Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Bay Ridge Eco Dock Concludes its First Full Season with a Fall Festival on October 26, 2014**

*Come aboard the tall ship Clearwater, learn about underwater creatures,  
Participate in maritime arts and crafts, enjoy live music –  
it's all free and open to the public!*

New York, NY – The Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance (MWA) invites the public to a **Fall Festival** at the **Bay Ridge Community Eco Dock** on Sunday, October 26, 2014. The Eco Dock is located at the 69<sup>th</sup> Street Pier in Brooklyn, and the **Fall Festival** – the last public event of the season – will take place between 2pm and 6pm.

The first of its kind, the Eco Dock is a project of the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation with support from New York City Council Member Vincent J. Gentile and community programming coordinated by MWA. In partnership with NYC Parks and other organizations, MWA is spearheading work to construct a network of Community Eco Docks in all five NYC boroughs.

“We’ve had an exceptional first full season at the Bay Ridge Community Eco Dock,” said MWA President and CEO Roland Lewis. “Over the past six months, this Eco Dock has welcomed thousands of residents, students, educators, summer campers, local business people, boat operators, and kayakers. So, let’s celebrate the Bay Ridge Eco Community Dock with a great fall festival and make plans for next year!”

Visitors to the Bay Ridge Community Eco Dock on October 26 will be able to tour the sloop *Clearwater*, receive a free pumpkin just in time for Halloween, enjoy games, participate in arts and crafts, enjoy music by Bob Wright and Harbortown, view maritime exhibits, join oyster garden demonstrations led by local teachers participating in the Billion Oyster Project, and more. Maritime-themed costumes are encouraged. The event

is co-sponsored by BRACA (Bay Ridge Arts & Cultural Alliance) and the Scandinavian East Coast Museum, which will be exhibiting.

“I am pleased to be able to sponsor an event to bring together community members, educators, and students at the Bay Ridge Community Eco Dock, who have been part of the Billion Oyster Project and other educational programs,” said NYC Council Member Vincent Gentile.

Nearly 3,000 residents have enjoyed free public programming at the dock in 2014, which has included visits by historic and educational vessels, including the schooners *Shearwater* and *Pioneer*, the tug *Pegasus*, the fireboat *John J. Harvey*, the replica tall ship *Amistad*, the cruising vessel *American Princess*, and the yacht *Ventura*. Visitors have enjoyed fishing clinics, dockside environmental education, and, simply, an unobstructed harbor breeze. Human-powered boaters, summer campers, school groups, and educators have used the dock as a place to paddle, learn, teach, and play.

The **Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance** is an alliance of more than 800 civic organizations and businesses with ties to our regional waterways. MWA works to protect, transform, and revitalize our Harbor and waterfront. The Open Waters Initiative is an MWA program bridging community organizing, planning, and advocacy to unlock the waterways for recreation and education in communities where on-water access is limited. **[www.waterfrontalliance.org](http://www.waterfrontalliance.org)**

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