World Oceans Day Webinar May 16, 2019 6p, presented by National Marine Educators Association

The World Oceans Day preview webinar presented by Samantha Mackeiwicz and Baylee Ritter was a great introduction of the ways to connect to the organization to participate. The presenters were mindful to give the purpose of the organization and the history through which it had passed. World Oceans Day was recognized after extensive petitioning in 2002. There are now over 1500 events in 140 countries scheduled for the 2019 celebration on June 8th. The notoriety of the event is increasing as evidenced by an uptick in social media impressions in the past several months.

Among the purposes of the event is to connect people globally, provide awareness for conservation efforts, and platform opportunities to take action. One of the messages promoted through the event is the promotion of hope and confidence to restore the Ocean.

This year's event focuses on plastic pollution. It aims to provide a forum to share solutions, to inspire, and activate the community, including individuals, businesses, and institutions.

The Youth Advisory Council is a coalition which provides engagement to students and youth across the world. It was established 2016 and has three classes to date. The next round of applications for the YAC will be provided just after World Oceans Day. The YAC members have worked to produce several projects for youth engagement including lesson plans, plog (an activity which people engage in picking up litter and jogging) toolkit, and a cleanup guides for actionable events, which are available through their website. Also through the resources link on their website, the YAC provides posters and graphics, website with links to projects, events. A sponsor can register a World Oceans Day event, activate subscriptions for updates and news, and access the World Oceans Day children's book and ancillary library.

It is my intention to "nominate" students of mine who have initiated actionable steps aligned with the Youth Advisory Council's mission and values; they been working toward plastic pollution reduction and clean up.

(n.d.). Retrieved May 16, 2019, from https://www.worldoceansday.org/youth-advisory-council-resources