

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Loveland Living Planet Aquarium to receive opening day donation from new Whole Foods Market South Valley

Donation will help fuel the Aquarium's education program focusing on seafood and ocean sustainability

DRAPER, Utah (May 21, 2014) – The Loveland <u>Living Planet Aquarium</u>, dedicated to inspiring people to explore, discover and learn about Earth's diverse ecosystems, has been selected to receive a \$5,000 donation from the new <u>Whole Foods Market South Valley</u> store. The donation will be accepted by Aquarium CEO Brent Andersen at the new store's official grand opening ceremony on May 30 at 9:40 a.m. The donation will benefit the Loveland Living Planet Aquarium's education program, which provides resources for Utah students to visit the Aquarium.

"The Aquarium's commitment to ocean sustainability greatly aligns with Whole Foods Market's core values," said Lydia Martinez, Marketing Specialist and Community Relations Director for the new South Valley store. "At Whole Foods Market we're passionate about becoming a part of the local community and giving back. We look for community partners that best represent local causes that are important to our shoppers and neighbors."

In addition to hosting Utah students at the Aquarium, the Aquarium's education team also travels to 2nd and 4th grade classrooms in the state throughout the school year as part of its living "classroom" education series that focuses on addressing rainforest and ocean sustainability issues.

At 136,000 square feet, the Loveland Living Planet Aquarium is the ninth largest aquarium in the nation and allows guests to become fully immersed in the diverse ecosystems from around the world. It currently boasts 74 exhibits, with over 500,000 gallons of water and is home to Utah's first 4D theatre.

The new Whole Foods Market South Valley will serve as Utah's fifth store in the state. The store, located at 11479 S. State Street in Draper, will open on Friday, May 30, 2014 at 10 a.m.

WHAT: Donation to Loveland Living Planet Aquarium/Whole Foods Market South Valley grand opening

WHEN: Friday, May 30, at 9:40 a.m.

WHERE: Whole Foods Market South Valley, 11479 S. State Street, Draper, UT

About the Loveland Living Planet Aquarium

The Aquarium is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. The Aquarium's mission is to inspire people to explore, discover and learn about Earth's diverse ecosystems. Advance tickets and memberships may be purchased online at <u>www.thelivingplanet.com</u>. Ticket sales help support the Aquarium's mission. The Loveland Living Planet Aquarium is located at 12033 South Lone Peak Parkway in Draper, Utah.

