# **Ocean Exchange Names Collegiate Finalists for 2024**

### Two \$10,000 prizes to be conferred:

## The Guy Harvey Foundation Award and the Ocean Exchange Award

**Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA –** Ocean Exchange, a leader in supporting the acceleration of innovative solutions for healthy oceans and the sustainable blue economy, announces the selection of 8 collegiate finalists who will be vying for two \$10,000 awards at the organization's upcoming event, which takes place October 27-29 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

This year's event marks the 9th anniversary of the Ocean Exchange Collegiate awards. Six of the finalists are from the USA, two from Canada. Solutions fall into the following categories: Water Treatment, Coastal & Reef Management, Underwater Monitoring, Plastic Management, Fisheries, and AI, ML, & Robotics.

Finalists include:

- Ceretune LLC, North Carolina State University
- ICARUS Coastal, Eckard College
- Ocean AM, University of Brunswick and Texas A&M University
- Ocean State Sensing, George Washington University
- OceanSpace Sensors, LLC, University of South Florida
- PhyCo Technologies, Simon Fraser University
- PiKARE Water & Energy Technology, Florida Institute of Technology
- Voyager Guides, University of South Florida

The two winners will be chosen—based on the impact, level of innovation, and the ability to execute the presented solution—by delegates representing business, academia, government, and nonprofits.

The Ocean Exchange Awards Program is made possible by the support of sponsors, partners and leading industry experts from around the globe. "An initiative such as this, which promotes the acceleration of technologies designed to help solve critical global issues, could not exist without their support and dedication and the participation of gifted entrepreneurs from all corners of the world," noted Millicent Pitts, Executive Director of Ocean Exchange. Ocean Exchange brings the finalists to Fort Lauderdale to pitch in front of and network with the leaders who gather in South Florida from around the world.

"Each year, it is so impressive to see how these bright minds come together with solutions to environmental challenges," said Guy Harvey Foundation CEO Jessica Harvey. "It is critical that we continue to encourage and support the next generation of leaders. That's why we continue to support the Collegiate Award and why our educational initiatives are designed to prepare students from kindergarten through post-graduate collegiate studies to lead the way in marine life and ocean conservation." For more information about the event and Ocean Exchange's mission, visit the <u>Ocean</u> <u>Exchange website</u>.

#### About Ocean Exchange

Ocean Exchange is a global ecosystem whose mission is to accelerate the adoption of innovative solutions for healthy oceans and the sustainable blue economy. A 501(c)(3), Ocean Exchange fulfills this mission through a rigorous, multi-level program that includes annual monetary awards, promoting registered Solutions Inspiring Action across multiple communication channels, and facilitating access to the global network comprising its Board of Directors, Delegates, Solutions Review Team, Executive Team and other experts from around the world. Ocean Exchange's mission is funded largely by private donations including those from Wallenius Wilhelmsen, Royal Caribbean, Schmidt Marine Technology Partners, Oceankind, Marine Research Hub of South Florida, Oceaneering, Angus Littlejohn, Jr. Family, and others who share the passion for healthy oceans. To learn more, visit <u>Oceanexchange.org.</u>

#### About the Guy Harvey Foundation

With a focused mission to better understand and conserve the ocean environment, the Guy Harvey Foundation (GHF) collaborates with local, national and international organizations to conduct scientific research and provides funding to affiliated researchers who share this objective. The GHF also develops and hosts cutting-edge educational programs that help educators to foster the next era of marine conservationists, ensuring that future generations can enjoy and benefit from a properly balanced ocean ecosystem. For more information, visit www.GuyHarveyFoundation.org.

Follow the GHF on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GuyHarveyOcean, on Twitter at www.twitter.com/GuyHarveyOcean, or connect on Instagram at www.instagram.com/GuyHarveyOcean.

#### Media Contact:

Susan Zellers, Ocean Exchange Program Director +1-267-844-2269 susan.zellers@oceanexchange.org