

**PRESS RELEASE:**

June 15, 2009

**Underwater Images 2009  
Photo/Video Competition-Final Results**

**BEST OF SHOW**

Sponsored by The Walindi Plantation, and The *MV FeBrina*, PNG  
Keri Wilk, Mississauga, Canada- Flying Fish

**CONSERVATION CATEGORY**

**First:** Csaba Tokolyi, Budapest, Hungary- Death of a Shark  
**Second:** Jose Alvarez, Santa Domingo, Dominican Republic- Death of the Shark  
**Third:** Muljadi Pinneng Sulungbudi, Bandung, Jawa Barat, Indonesia- We Live with the Nature  
**Honorable Mention:** Jose Alvarez, Santa Domingo, Dominican Republic- Killing the Future

**VIDEO CATEGORY**

**First:** Istvan Nemeth, Szombathely, Hungary- Tempo-Formula Underwater  
**Second:** F. Allan Vogel, Manasquan, NJ- Blue Crab Blues  
**Third:** Barb Buchanan, Wilmington, NC- Visions of the Red Sea

**VIDEO DOCUMENTARY CATEGORY**

**First:** Englock Ng, Singapore, Singapore- How A Mandarinfish Chooses Her Mate  
**Second:** Charlie Oldfield, Nottingham, England- Vigia  
**Third:** William Goodwin, Birmingham, AL- Scales and Feathers

**WIDE ANGLE NOVICE CATEGORY**

**First Place:** Steffen Binke, Moorooloolo Cairns, Australia- Minke Whale  
**Second Place:** Lazaro Ruda, Lake Park, FL- Alligator Split Shot  
**Third Place:** James T. McKnight, Leominster, MA- Manatee Mouth  
**Honorable Mention:** Tobias Friedrich, Wiesbaden, Germany- History  
Matt Grace, Encinitas, CA- Tahitian Reflections  
Rockford K. Draper, Plano, TX- Mangrove Soft Coral

**WIDE ANGLE OPEN CATEGORY**

**First Place:** Linda Cline, Forest Grove, OR- Sunladen  
**Second Place:** Mark Thomas, Cheshire, UK- Fish Overhead  
**Third Place:** Fredrik Ehrenstrom, Gunnilse, Sweden- Water Lilly Plant  
**Honorable Mention:** Rogerio Silva, Leiria, Portugal- Dondola Island  
Keri Wilk, Mississauga, Canada- Pup  
Jose Alvarez, Santa Domingo, Dominican Republic- In the Face

**MACRO/CLOSE-UP NOVICE CATEGORY**

**First Place:** Rockford K. Draper, Plano, TX- Bon Appetite  
**Second Place:** Goos van der Heide, Gronigen, Netherland- Juvenile Squid  
**Third Place:** Andrew McCleod, Manilla, Philippines- Here's Looking at You, Kid  
**Honorable Mention:** Claudio Zori, Portunaggiore, Italy- Trachinus

**MACRO/CLOSE-UP OPEN CATEGORY**

**First Place:** Lazaro Ruda, Lake Park, FL- Seahorse Babies  
**Second Place:** Marchione Giacomo, La Loggia, Italy- Together  
**Third Place:** Joao Paulo Krajewski, Sao Paulo, Brazil- Pipefish  
**Honorable Mention:** Goos van der Heide, Gronigen, Netherland- Yellow Boxfish  
Jim Chambers, Tucker, GA- Jawfish

### MAJESTIC CATEGORY

**First Place:** Giordano Cipriani, Rome, Italy- Citizens of the Sea  
**Second:** Alexander Safonov, Tokyo, Japan- Diving Cape Gannet  
**Third:** Anatoly Beloschin, Moscow, Russia- Longimanus  
**Honorable Mention:** Jose Alvarez, Santa Domingo, Dominican Republic- Whale Shark  
Hoarau Galice, Gronigen, Netherlands- Humpback Whale 3  
Alexander Safonov, Tokyo, Japan- Sailfish & Baitball  
Lazaro Ruda, Lake Park, FL- Wild Dolphins

### TOGETHERNESS CATEGORY

**First:** Dany Weinberg, Eilat, Israel- Male Fight  
**Second:** Bruce Yates, Medina, WA- Mating Mandarinfish with Eggs  
**Third:** Amaury Cruz, Miami Beach, FL- Dolphins  
**Honorable Mention:** Christine Kelbe, Kwazulu Natal, S. Africa- Roomates  
Luc Rooman, Kieldrecht, Belgium- Sepia Love  
Uwe Schmolke, Hessen, Germany- Is There Anyone More Out There, Dad?

### DIVERS & MARINE LIFE

**First:** Parvin Dabas, Mumbat, India- The Model  
**Second:** Viora Alessio, Borgomanero, Italy- Beauty & Beast  
**Third:** Marina Kochetova, Moscow, Russia- Acquaintance to the Giant  
**Honorable Mention:** Daniel Selmeczi, Szolnok, Hungary- Around  
Jean-Louis Danan, Palaiseau, France- Cave in Red Sea  
Jose Alvarez, Santa Domingo, Dominican Republic- Whale Shark

From the Director:

Thanks to all entrants, judges, and sponsors! Your participation is an integral part of this competition, and is greatly appreciated. We received entries from 16 different states in the United States and 28 different countries. Competitions of this type share divers' own visions of the underwater world, and serve to promote good conservation practices. They also highlight some of the world's best diving destinations.

Prizes were set before the judging according to their values and the number of entries in the respective categories. Proceeds go to marine conservation, educational and scholarship purposes. This past year we again sponsored former sea turtle fishermen from Baja, Mexico to attend the National and International Sea Turtle Symposia through ProPeninsula [www.ProPeninsula.org](http://www.ProPeninsula.org) where they learned about the conservation of this endangered animal and took that information home to spread the word with their neighbors.

We are also continuing to support Mahonia Na Dari, a Nature Conservancy program for students in Papua New Guinea, where they learn true conservation and preservation principles with hands-on experiences. [www.Mahonia.org](http://www.Mahonia.org) Some former Mahonia students have since become scientists who are still diligently working to conserve the world's natural resources.

Last year we added Diveheart to our list of beneficiaries whose purpose is to provide and support educational SCUBA diving and snorkeling experience programs that are open to any physically impaired child or adult, including injured soldiers in the hope of providing both physical and psychological therapeutic value to that person. [www.Diveheart.com](http://www.Diveheart.com)

As we are all volunteers in these contests and they are just for fun, we hope everyone enjoyed our friendly competition this year. I'll be looking forward to your entries next year. Safe Diving and Shooting.  
*Sea Ya!*

**Roger Roth, Founder/ Director**