For immediate release: October 7, 2016, SANTA CRUZ, CA

Ken Norris Memorial Lecture—Thursday, October 20: “UNDERSTANDING CORAL REEFS THROUGH MARINE SCIENCE AND WOOLLY SCULPTURES”

A diverse panel will provide a unique perspective on corals, conservation, and crochet craftwork during the annual Ken Norris Memorial Lecture at the Seymour Marine Discovery Center on Thursday, October 20, from 7 to 8:30 PM. Seating is limited; doors open at 6:00 PM.

This event titled, “Understanding Coral Reefs through Marine Science and Woolly Sculptures,” is free and open to the public. Michelle Williams, executive director of the Arts Council Santa Cruz County, will moderate this unique conversation.

The panel consist of two scientists who study coral, and a science communicator/curator whose Crochet Coral Reef project has been exhibited across the globe, in both art and science museums, and is now one of the largest participatory science and art endeavors in the world.

THE PANEL
Matt McCarthy is a professor of ocean sciences at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Matt studies hidden worlds far below the ocean’s surface, including deep-sea corals that feed on material falling from upper regions of the ocean. These fascinating corals record long-term changes in the open ocean that can’t be seen in other ways.

Curt Storlazzi is a research oceanographer with the US Geological Survey’s Pacific Coastal and Marine Science Center, leading coral reef studies in the Pacific. His efforts are focused on protecting shallow-water coral reefs from both human- and climate-caused stress.

Margaret Wertheim is an Australian-born science communicator and curator who focuses on the relation between science and the wider cultural landscape. She is one of the founders of the Institute For Figuring in Los Angeles, an organization dedicated to the aesthetic and poetic
dimensions of science and mathematics, including the *Crochet Coral Reef*—the biggest participatory art/science project in the world.

THE MODERATOR
Michelle Williams is the executive director of the Arts Council Santa Cruz County. Michelle was raised in the arts, studying cello, piano, bass, and voice, earning a BFA in musical theater. She’s worked in theaters and recording studios around the globe. Her career has been fueled by passion for radical partnerships, workplace culture, and harnessing the power of the arts to ignite community.

The Ken Norris Memorial Lecture is named after acclaimed scientist, naturalist, teacher, and conservationist, Kenneth S. Norris. Norris was a professor of natural history at UC Santa Cruz for 18 years. His legacy includes helping to found UC Santa Cruz’s Long Marine Laboratory and the campus's Institute of Marine Sciences. He is nationally known for his pioneering research with dolphins and his efforts to establish the University of California’s Natural Reserve System. He was a key author of the federal Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972.

The lecture is sponsored by Naomi Kirschenbaum. For more information about this event, please call the Seymour Center at (831) 459-3800.

Overlooking the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, the Seymour Center is a "living classroom" featuring exhibits, aquariums, touch pools, whale skeletons, full-scale elephant seal models, the Ocean Discovery Shop, and unsurpassed ocean vistas. The aquariums and exhibits feature the everyday tools of ocean exploration and focus on research conducted by scientists locally and around the world. Interactive stations provide hands-on learning experiences, and docents lead tours and bring marine science to life. The Seymour Center is located at the end of Delaware Avenue in Santa Cruz.

WHAT: Ken Norris Memorial Lecture at the Seymour Marine Discovery Center: “Understanding Coral Reefs through Marine Science and Woolly Sculptures—a unique perspective on corals, conservation, and crochet craftwork”

WHEN: Thursday, October 20, 2016, 7 to 8:30 PM

WHERE: Seymour Marine Discovery Center at Long Marine Lab, End of Delaware Avenue Santa Cruz, CA 95060

ADMISSION and SEATING: The Ken Norris Memorial Lecture is free. Recommended for ages 12 and older. Seating is limited and first-come, first-served.

- No late seating (no entry after 7 PM)
- Doors open to the lecture hall at 6:30 PM
- Seymour Center opens to the public with lecture passes available at 6 PM

INFORMATION: (831) 459-3800 or http://seymourcenter.ucsc.edu