



## **WINGS WorldQuest Awards Flag Carrier Grant to Marine Scientist and Filmmaker**

### ***Gaelin Rosenwaks To Study How Coral Reefs Adapt in the Face of Climate Change***

New York, NY (April 15, 2018) — Marine scientist, explorer and filmmaker Gaelin Rosenwaks will travel to the Republic of Palau, an island nation in Oceania, to study how local coral reefs and their symbiotic algae have adapted to conditions that are similar to the global ocean conditions the entire region is expected to face in the future.

She and a team will study the relationship between corals and their algae in two distinct reef systems, with the hope of revealing how some corals have adapted to increasing and unstable water temperatures.

Rosenwaks' goal is to understand the broad impacts of climate change on our ocean ecosystems and how nature is responding to these rapid changes to our planet.

### **About Gaelin Rosenwaks**

Gaelin Rosenwaks is a marine scientist, explorer, photographer, and filmmaker. Always fascinated by the marine world, Gaelin began diving at 14 and has since continued exploring ocean ecosystems. She began her career at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution where she researched over-wintering patterns of Southern Ocean zooplankton. Gaelin earned her Master's Degree in Coastal Environmental Management from Duke University, working with the Tag-A-Giant program and conducting research on the migratory movements of Giant Bluefin Tunas. She has conducted fieldwork throughout the world from the Antarctic to the Arctic on icebreakers to both the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans on fishing vessels. To Gaelin, there is nothing better than being in the open ocean surrounded by endless blue water and passing wildlife. Alarmed by the changes happening in the oceans, Gaelin founded Global Ocean Exploration (GOE) to share her passion for ocean exploration, marine conservation and photography. GOE is a company devoted to bringing cutting-edge expedition science to the

public through photography, writing, and film. She now participates and conducts expeditions in every ocean to alert the public not only to the challenges facing the oceans, but also to what science is doing to understand these changes.

### **About WINGS WorldQuest's Flag Carrier Program**

WINGS WorldQuest Flag Carriers are women leading original field research or documentation that focuses on investigating questions about the nature of our world and advancing conservation efforts on land, air and water through science and advocacy. As part of their expeditions, all accepted Flag Carriers plan to write reports, make films, or otherwise formally share information about the findings and discoveries with the scientific community and the public. WINGS WorldQuest Flag Carriers are not associated with tourist trips or paying participants on tours. WINGS Flag Carriers publish an expedition report with WINGS so that the expedition findings can be shared with the greater public. Since 2005, more than 50 women have flown the WINGS WorldQuest flag during expeditions across over 35 countries and all of the world's continents as they pursue groundbreaking discoveries. The WINGS WorldQuest flag is recognized as a symbol of excellence in discovery and knowledge, and certifies the significance of its carriers' endeavors.

### **About WINGS WorldQuest™**

WINGS WorldQuest™ is a registered nonprofit organization founded in 2003 to recognize and support extraordinary women in science and exploration. It is the only organization of its kind, awarding unrestricted funding to women in scientific field endeavors. WINGS' support knows no boundaries—women of all races, nationalities, ages, and cultures who show initiative, passion, and promise toward future scientific advancement have been granted funds that are often critical to seeing their ambitious ideas through. In return, they have become part of the WINGS community, and strengthen the organization's mission to inspire the next generation of intrepid explorers and global problem-solvers through various outreach programs. For more information, visit [www.wingsworldquest.org](http://www.wingsworldquest.org).

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