BILLION OYSTER PROJECT (BOP) long-term, large-scale plan is to restore a sustainable oyster population and to reconnect New Yorkers to NY Harbor by engaging them directly in the work of restoring one billion oysters. In the process, BOP will educate hundreds of thousands of young people in the Metropolitan area about the ecology and economy of their local marine environment. Today, oysters are functionally extinct in the Harbor as a result of over-harvesting, dredging and pollution. Restoring oysters and reefs will restore the local marine ecosystem’s natural mechanisms for maintaining itself, resulting in cleaner water and greater biodiversity.

THE URBAN ASSEMBLY NEW YORK HARBOR SCHOOL, also called the Harbor School, is a public high school located on Governors Island. This school is unique in New York City in that it attempts to relate every aspect of its curriculum to the water. New York Harbor School students are instrumental to the work of the Billion Oyster Project. As sophomores, Harbor School students enroll in one of seven career and technical education (CTE) programs of study including Aquaculture, Vessel Operations, Marine Biology Research, Professional Diving, Ocean Engineering, Maritime Policy, and Marine Systems Technology. Each CTE program has a role within the Billion Oyster Project that extends students’ education from the classroom into a real world context.

Our team will work with you to design the perfect outing for your group, including a tour of our oyster hatchery, picnic lunch, and hands-on restoration activities.

Corporate Volunteer Event Packages

$5,000: Up to 40 participants including lunch and freshly shucked oysters

$3,000: Up to 20 participants including lunch

Contributions are tax-deductible less the value of goods received, in accordance with NY State law

Volunteer Checklist

• We work rain or shine, so bring your foul weather gear if appropriate

• Oyster Restoration is dirty work, so dress accordingly

• All employees, friends and family members participating must be registered

• We’re family friendly! Children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian

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