



The Stone Soup Leadership Institute's Blue Job Shadow Day was held in partnership with the College of Marin's Environmental Action Club on February 12, 2025. This immersive career-focused event brought together industry leaders from blue companies and educational institutions to enlighten students, educators, and academic leaders.

Guest Speaker: Bay Area entrepreneur **John Finger** founded **Hog Island** over 40 years ago and has grown to seven locations, from their Marshall farm to San Francisco's Ferry Building, Humboldt Bay, Napa, Larkspur, and Tony's Seafood--with \$30 million in revenues. Aquaculture is the fastest-growing form of food production on the planet, with revenues of \$330 billion in 2024. This industry will help to offset the impact of climate change on decreased fish supplies and the global demand that is expected to double by 2050. Meeting this demand depends on strengthening our sustainable fishing systems and investing in sustainable workforce development programs.

**The Stone Soup Leadership Institute's
Blue Job Shadow Day 2025**

"On behalf of our Board of Trustees, President Eldridge, I'm happy to welcome to College of Marin, the Stone Soup Leadership Institute. This is our first ever Job Shadow Day, so we are proud of being innovators and welcome this incredible leadership opportunity."

**Dr. Alina Varona, College of Marin's
Dean of Career Education and Workforce Development**






Business is part of the solution. This is the wave of the future. We realize that education is key. We need to educate people about why this is a great way to grow food. everybody needs to understand more about where their food comes from. This is a way we can grow animal protein super sustainably. Business helping solve environmental problems and setting the sail and rudder in the right position is what we're all about.

John Finger, Hog Island

Guest speaker: Perry Raso, Matunuck Oyster Farm received the Institute's **Cronkite Award for Ocean Champions** for his leadership in New England's aquaculture industry.


The Institute's **Blue Job Shadow Day** builds on three decades of hosting Job Shadow Days on Martha's Vineyard and in other communities around the world. We began working with New England leaders of the Blue Economy in 2018. The SustainWDN™ video features from business, government, universities and community colleges.

**The Stone Soup Leadership Institute
Blue Job Shadow Day
February 12, 2025**



Perry Raso
Matunuck Oyster Farm Rhode Island
Cronkite Ocean Champion

"Aquaculture is the fastest growing food producing industry in the world. It's growing the fastest in Africa, where there's great need for protein source and poverty alleviation. Aquaculture in China makes up two thirds of the world's total production of aquatically grown organisms. In the US it's just 7%."



The **Blue Economy** is one of the fastest growing economic sectors in California. From ocean exploration and regenerative aquaculture to underwater robotics and renewable energy, the blue economy is expected to create new jobs of every kind, bringing opportunities that [benefit diverse communities](#). The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development [projected the blue economy would reach \\$3 trillion in global value](#) by 2030. The OECD Report underscored the need for innovation in the blue economy with academic and business to help drive a new culture of education and skills in the workforce.



Guest Speaker: Dr. Carla Grandy, California Community Colleges Chancellor's Offices has championed the Blue Economy initiative with a [coalition of 17 community colleges in Southern California](#). We're honored she sent her representative to our event in hopes of sparking interest in creating a similar initiative in Northern California to develop workforce development training to grow the Blue Economy.



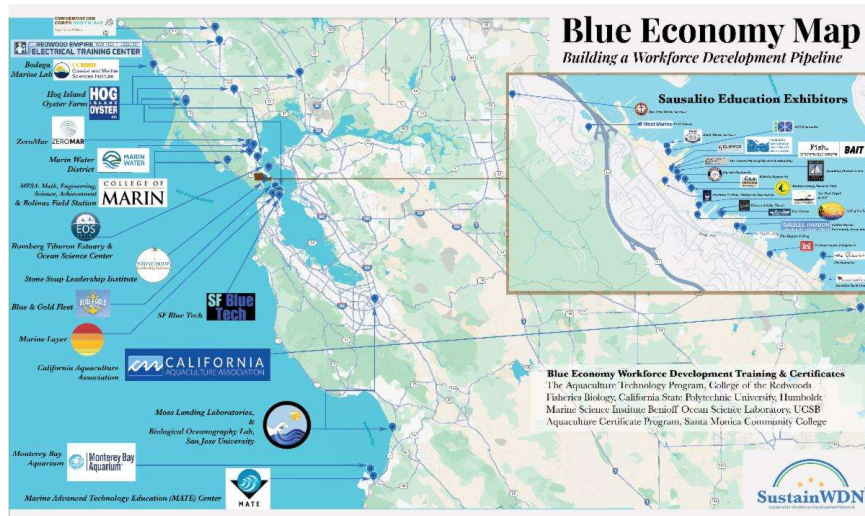
"The biggest issue facing the blue economy and certainly blue technology companies just aren't educating enough people around the world in the fields that are necessary to sustain this."

Dr. Toby Stapleton, Blue Venture Forum

The Governor's office estimates that there will be about 4 million new jobs in the green and blue economy in California within the next two decades. 75% of green/blue jobs won't require a 4-year degree. Dr. Sonia Christian, the Chancellor of California's Community College system has set an aggressive agenda on climate action for the community colleges – encouraging them to lead in climate action, and developing workforce opportunities for students to move into those green and blue economy jobs, identifying what are the jobs, what are the skills that are needed, and then working with colleges to develop those programs.

Dr. Carla Grandy, California Community Colleges Chancellor's Offices

How Might We Build a Blue Economy By Empowering Young People to Become Leaders of a Sustainable World?



The Blue Economy Map: Building A Workforce Development Pipeline

College of Marin students engaged with Blue Economy Education Exhibitors to learn about local opportunities in workforce development. [Over 40 organizations were nominated to be on the Blue Economy Map.](#)



"It was inspiring to see students seeking opportunities in the blue economy. It gives me confidence that our success to date in creating a Blue Economy will become magnified with their contributions."

Graham Balch, ZeroMar

"Congratulations on the great turnout at the event – it was great! Students felt heard and inspired to get involved."

**Amely Feiler, President,
Environmental Action Club**



There was a rich dialogue with students and Blue Economy leaders.

"How many of you want to find a sustainable job?" asked Reva Siu-Masset. All hands raised!

Blue Economy Education Exhibitors

California Aquaculture Association, Call of the Sea – Sail, Explore, Learn, Clipper Yacht Harbor, College of Marin, Galilee Harbor Community Association, MARE: The Marine Advanced Technology Education Center, Redwood Empire JATC • IBEW-NECA Local 551, San Francisco Blue Tech, Sausalito Sustainable Waterfront Association, Sausalito Working Waterfront Association, Spaulding Marine Center, SeaTrek Kayak and SUP, and ZeroMar.

**Thank you to our
Blue Job Shadow Day
Education Exhibitors!**

For sharing your workforce development opportunities, internships, jobs, certificates for students to explore and pursue in the Blue Economy in the Bay Area community.

COLLEGE OF MARIN
Dream • Learn • Achieve

SustainWDN

WWW.STONESOUPLEADERSHIP.ORG



Thanks to Environmental Action Club Members
for sharing your passion for sustainability
with your COM classmates.

@ The Institute's Blue Job Shadow Day 2025



Many thanks to Reva Siu-Masset for your leadership, your passion for sustainability and for building the partnership with the Institute and the College of Marin's Environmental Action Club.

COLLEGE OF MARIN
Dream • Learn • Achieve

SustainWDN

Following the Blue Job Shadow Day, some students will test the **SustainWDN™** to explore sustainable career pathways that can lead to good paying jobs. They will meet young people from 38 countries featured in the *Stone Soup Climate Education Curriculum* who developed sustainability innovations. They will discover **Sustainable Career Pathways** that offer real-world examples of careers in sustainability that they can explore and guide them toward jobs that will pay them to help protect, preserve and rebuild the planet.



The Institute has tested **SustainWDN™** with high schools and **Blue Economy** companies and community colleges in New England since 2018. This **College of Marin SustainWDN™** prototype is the first designed for community college students. Our goal is to scale this prototype to other community college students across the state and around the world.

The Institute's Blue Job Shadow Day sparked an ongoing exploration of the Blue Economy, including topics such as blue tech, blue finance, marine biology and research, clean water management, and sustainable fisheries. We invite potential supporters and funders to join us to invest in Marin and Bay Area young people and support this exciting sustainable economic initiative.

Dr. Jonathan Eldridge, President, College of Marin

"I enjoyed learning about the Blue Economy and most importantly, meeting the students and getting to experience their energy, passion and commitment to...well, the world. I loved the openness (literal and figurative) that the College of Marin presents. It was an amazing day!"

Ruth Yankoupe, MC



"I've seen how the Institute's work has changed the lives of young people like you. I'm excited to work with you on the Institute's Sustainable Career Pathways platform. Now more than ever, we need to work together to, you know, build a more equitable and sustainable world."

Kassandra Castillo, Brand Manager
The Institute's 4-Year Bilingual Demonstration Project, Vieques, PR



Many thanks to our Blue Job Shadow Day Team
Pei Chiang & Felicia Kwarta



About the Stone Soup Leadership Institute

The Institute's educational tools and professional development (PD) trainings empower educators to guide students towards building a sustainable world. The Blue Job Shadow Day builds on our [Cronkite Ocean Initiative](#) that was announced at the Institute's Cronkite Awards for Ocean Champions in New York City in September 2024.

- Ocean champions who fought for the historic High Seas Treaty to protect marine life ratified by 60 nations.
- The U.N. Goal #14 • Life Below Water
- U.N. Ocean Decade – The Science We Need for the Ocean We Want.

With the Institute's Cronkite Oceans Initiative, we are gearing up to scale our educational tools and trainings with the Stone Soup Climate Education Platform so that educators on these islands and then around the world will have FREE access, so they can in turn prepare all young people to build a more just, equitable, and sustainable world.

