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## **Friends of Harbor Branch to Host Free Summer Movie Series**

**FORT PIERCE, Fla. (May 17, 2013)** – The Friends of Harbor Branch program at FAU’s Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute (HBOI) will host a 12-part summer movie series titled “Passport to Science” on Wednesdays from June 12 to Aug. 28 at 1 p.m., at the HBOI Johnson Education Center, 5600 U.S. 1 North, in Fort Pierce.

The series, hosted by Jim Masterson, Ph.D., scientist and director of the Ocean Discovery Center at HBOI, will feature 12, one-hour episodes of “Journey to Planet Earth.” The films depict environmental issues including urban sprawl, air and water pollution, climate change, and ocean health. The films will include a question and answer session that will relate each weekly topic to a local environmental issue and the correlating research at HBOI.

Participants will receive a passport that will be stamped with each movie attended. Those completing the summer with six or more stamps will be invited to attend an interactive Saturday Science Celebration at HBOI on Sept. 14, which will include exploration along the Indian River Lagoon, a pontoon boat excursion, and a guided HBOI campus tour.

The series is free and open to the public. For more information, call the Friends of Harbor Branch at 772-242-2559 or visit [www.fau.edu/hboi/Events.php](http://www.fau.edu/hboi/Events.php).

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### **About Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute:**

*Founded in 1971, FAU’s Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute is a research community of marine scientists, engineers, educators and other professionals focused on Ocean Science for a Better World. The institute drives innovation in ocean engineering, at-sea operations, drug discovery and biotechnology from the oceans, coastal ecology and conservation, marine mammal research and conservation, aquaculture, ocean observing systems and marine education. For more information, visit [www.hboi.fau.edu](http://www.hboi.fau.edu).*

### **About Florida Atlantic University:**

*Florida Atlantic University, established in 1961, officially opened its doors in 1964 as the fifth public university in Florida. Today, the University, with an annual economic impact of \$6.3 billion, serves more than 30,000 undergraduate and graduate students at sites throughout its six-county service region in southeast Florida. FAU’s world-class teaching and research faculty serves students through 10 colleges: the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters, the College of Business, the College for Design and Social Inquiry, the College of Education, the College of Engineering and Computer Science, the Graduate College, the Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College, the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine, the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing and the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science. FAU is ranked as a High Research Activity institution by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. The University is placing special focus on the rapid development of three signature themes – marine and coastal issues, biotechnology and contemporary societal challenges – which provide*

*opportunities for faculty and students to build upon FAU's existing strengths in research and scholarship.*  
For more information, visit [www.fau.edu](http://www.fau.edu).