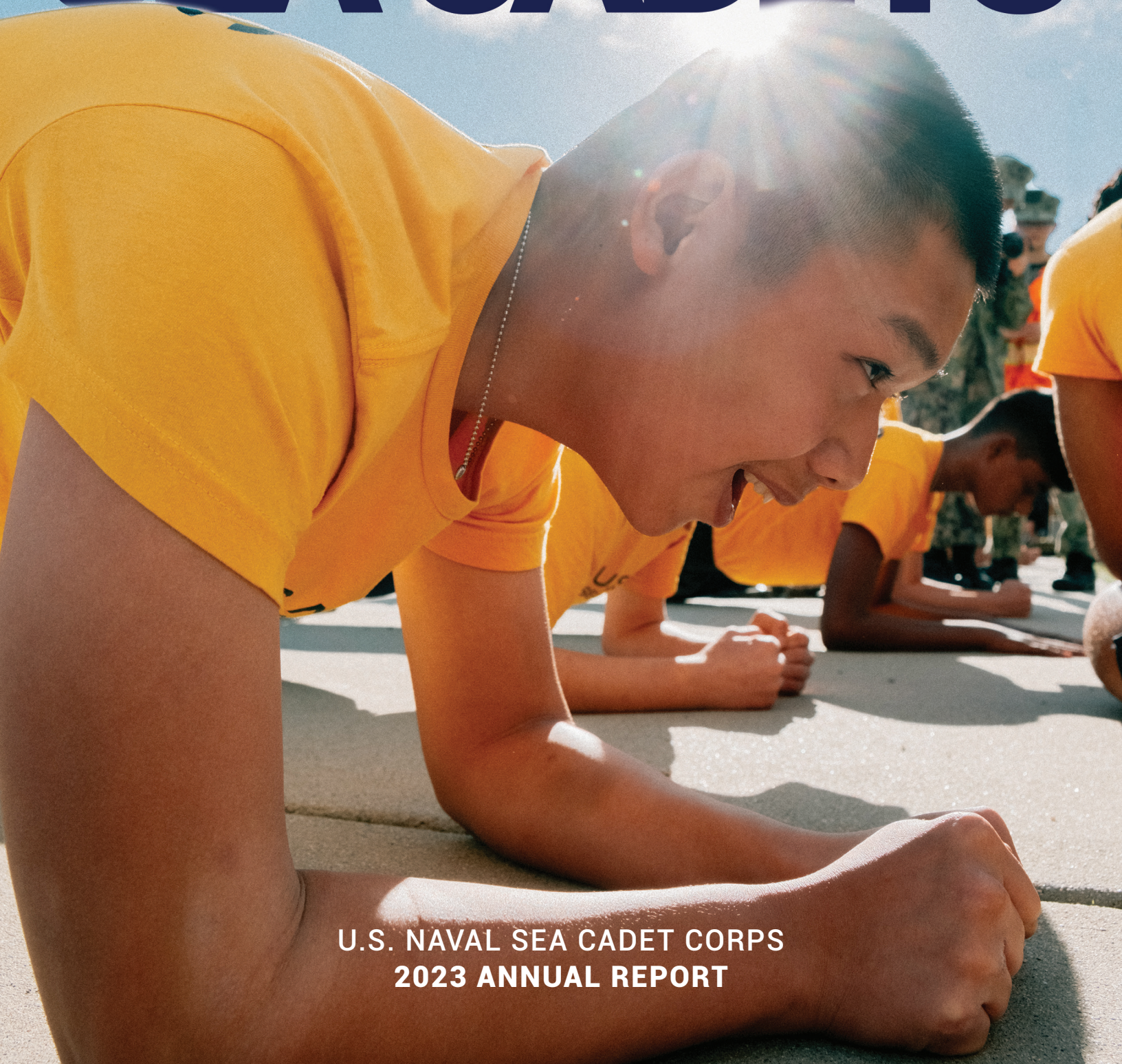


UNIQUELY  
**PREPARED**

# **SEA CADETS**



U.S. NAVAL SEA CADET CORPS  
**2023 ANNUAL REPORT**

# ABOUT SEA CADETS

The U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps (Sea Cadets) is the U.S. Navy's youth development program. Sea Cadets gives middle and high school students a competitive edge by providing world-class leadership development, training opportunities, and mentorship.

We **uniquely prepare** today's youth with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to become productive, responsible citizens who appreciate America's maritime services. Our cadets develop life skills

and self-confidence while learning discipline, accountability, and teamwork.

With support from the U.S. Navy, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Marine Corps, and U.S. Merchant Marine, our diverse program includes seamanship, aviation, robotics, medical, culinary, special forces, submarines, photojournalism, trades, security, and an International Exchange Program.

## OUR MISSION

TO BUILD LEADERS  
OF CHARACTER

## OUR CORE VALUES

HONOR, RESPECT,  
COMMITMENT, SERVICE



UNIQUELY PREPARED

# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

The theme of our 2023 annual report is **“Uniquely Prepared.”** Just as our U.S. Naval Sea Cadets are uniquely prepared to serve in a wide range of military and civilian roles, we believe our organization excels in enriching and helping transform the lives of these young men and women. There is a crisis in recruiting for the armed services, with a greater need than ever for qualified and willing candidates. American industry needs well-trained employees with strong work ethics. The Sea Cadets experience paves pathways to successful careers and lives for all cadets.

U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps is dedicated to building on – not resting on – our proud heritage and iconic 61-year history. This past year brought new initiatives to offer even more training and career possibilities, especially in the sea services and maritime industries. We are working to increase awareness of the Sea Cadets nationally to help grow enrollment beyond the nearly 8,000 cadets we now serve annually through 340 units.

Join us on our journey – as the family of a new cadet, as a volunteer or as a donor – to help us prepare and support the Sea Cadets of today and tomorrow.

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# A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In 2023, I traveled around the country and observed young men and women striving, learning, working together, and having fun.

In Kentucky, during medical training for some of our youngest cadets, two eager future medics tried to take my blood pressure. It was quite entertaining watching how serious these two were as they affixed the blood pressure cuff around my arm and listened on a multi-headset stethoscope.

Our fittest cadets really gave their all during a special forces training I visited in western Massachusetts. I did the SEAL physical fitness test with our cadets, and I'm proud to say that I kept pace during pushups, crunches and the swim. I do not mind admitting (in fact, I'm quite glad) that our cadets can definitely outrun me!

None of this happens without dedicated volunteers. I'm energized, and a bit humbled, when I witness adults giving up their vacation time to spend it with teenagers. These are true saints!

Thanks for your support to Sea Cadets. With your help, we will continue to ensure that young Americans are uniquely prepared for life's challenges.

Very respectfully,



**Rear Adm. Andrew Lennon, USN (Ret.)**  
*Executive Director, U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps*



**UNIQUELY PREPARED**

# OUR HEADQUARTERS TEAM

## Executive Director

Rear Admiral Andrew Lennon, USN (Ret.)

## Chief of Staff

Vicki Powell

## Area Commanders

Captain Edward Callahan, USN (Ret.)

Captain James Jones, USN (Ret.)

Captain Thurraya Kent, USN (Ret.)

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Randolph Mann, USMC (Ret.)

Chief Petty Officer Vahan Manoogian, USN (Ret.)

Captain William Radomski, USN (Ret.)

## Program Director

Karen Montagne

## Information Technology Director

Sunitha Thazethe

## Public Affairs/Communications

Brittany DiPippo & Linda Wright

## Training Coordinators

JoAnn Taft & Sue Dunn

## Cadet Training Specialist

Joe Weggen

## Training Assistant

Rene' Kretovics

## Executive Assistant

Erin Evans

## Office Administrator

Venus Irwin

## Uniform Thrift Store

Nicolas Rivera

## Training Programs & International Exchange

Jennifer Weggen & Dolly Stevens

## Legislative Affairs

Doug Denny

## Curriculum Writer

Sarah Calderado

## Development Consultant

Jennifer Gregg

## Marketing

Anecdotal Media

Our Headquarters Staff (HQ) works hard to keep the Sea Cadets on course by providing safe and rewarding opportunities for our cadets and adult volunteers. Based in Arlington, Virginia, our fantastic team is dedicated to excellence, professionalism, and providing outstanding service for our members and supporters!

# UNIQUELY PREPARED TO BE A MARINE RAIDER

SGT. MITCH\*  
Critical Skills Operator  
U.S. Marine Corps Special Operations

When Sgt. Mitch\* was growing up in Virginia, he said he “was always outside in the woods running around, putting on camo, and that kind of life just kind of stuck out to me.

“I also probably watched too many war movies with my dad growing up,” he said, chuckling fondly at those memories. But whatever it was, he knew he wanted to go into the military, to serve others.

So when a friend told him about a new unit of the U.S. Naval Sea Cadets that had formed near him, a program with activities like shooting at a range and

getting to wear a uniform, the high-school sophomore said, “Yeah, sign me up.”

Today, he credits his time in the Sea Cadets with not only solidifying his goal of being a U.S. Marine, but also with giving him the tremendous experiences, training, and solid moral code that jump-started his military career and kept him at the top of his class to this day.

Mitch graduated from the Individual Training Course of the Marine Special Operations School last May and became a Critical Skills Operator in the U.S.

**\*This Marine Raider's last name is withheld for operational security reasons.**

## | ALUMNI PROFILE |

Marine Corps Special Operations, a Raider. Based on measurements of everything from test scores to physical performance, as well as peer reviews during the intensive 10-month training, he had the highest overall average in his class and was named the honor graduate.

### FORMATIVE EXPERIENCES IN SEA CADETS

Back when he joined the Sea Cadets, Mitch very quickly sought out trainings such as Master at Arms, served as master of arms for his unit, and was instrumental in starting the unit's color guard team. He later organized fire teams patterned after those in his target service, the Marines.

"I chose all courses that were very military in nature and probably aligned with what I wanted to do," Mitch says, but he points out that other cadets did medical or paramedic training, computer and information technology training and graphic design. "So the ability to find something you enjoy ... and then keep doing it, that makes the program just incredible."

**"HAVING A SOLID AND RELIABLE MORAL COMPASS IS ONE OF THE GREATEST LESSONS THAT THEY'VE GIVEN TO US AS SEA CADETS."**

—SGT. MITCH\*

Travel to Sea Cadet trainings around the country was a plus, he said, and attending Seamanship/Small Boat Operations training on a southern Virginia lake was a turning point. He said driving the rigid inflatable boats around the lake and conducting missions such as a simulated one at night in the dark helped set him on the path he's on now.

"I met about 10 guys that I still talk to every day," he said of the course. "Most of them are in the Army or the Marine Corps doing similar things. So I always look back at that course as being very impactful on my Sea Cadet career and my life now. That was just incredible training."

Mitch's leadership skills were recognized and put to use in the Sea Cadets as he became a cadet trainer for recruit training and lead cadet instructor for a master at arms course.

"When it came time to finally put what I learned into a course, the results were just outstanding. To impact other kids' lives and teach was a really great experience. And it certainly helped me for my Marine Corps career."

### CHOOSING THE MARINES

As a top high school student with straight A's and taking advanced placement classes, Mitch said his mother had high hopes for him going to college.

"When I decided that I knew I was going to join the Marine Corps, I said, 'That's what I'm doing. I'm not worried about college,'" he remarks. His mother made him apply to a couple of colleges that did accept him, with Virginia Tech offering him a full academic scholarship.

While he said he was proud and excited to get the scholarship, especially since a lot of family and friends had gone to Virginia Tech, "I knew that joining the Marine Corps was what I wanted to do, and there was nothing that was going to turn me away."

"I think that was very difficult for Mom as a mother to see someone choosing to pass up something like that, which was eye-opening to me," Mitch confided. His mother signed for him when he enlisted at age 17, and he said she fully supports his career choice and takes understandable pride in his accomplishments.

From the very start of Marine boot camp, Mitch said his Sea Cadet training made a difference.

"I could march. I knew how to stand up at attention. I could say 'Yes, sir. No, sir,' and I was quick, disciplined," he said. His instructors took note, and he graduated as a private first class from bootcamp. After that, he

## | ALUMNI PROFILE |

said, "I was a fire team leader very early on, and at the end of my first deployment, I became the squad leader," which he remained until he changed units.

And while Mitch passed up Virginia Tech, he is in college majoring in international relations and global security at American Military University. He said he hopes to complete his bachelor's degree in the next two years as time permits. He envisions a future career working in intelligence or security programs for a government agency, pairing his degree with the skills learned as a Marine Raider.

### THE SEA CADETS' UNIQUE PREPARATION

When asked about the Sea Cadets, Mitch likes to paraphrase a quote from his unit commanding officer:

"Sea Cadets is a program that no matter where you join the service, you'll be the best as you can in the service, or if you go be a barista at Starbucks, you're

gonna be the best barista you could possibly be." That was so fitting, he said, because while many in his Sea Cadet unit went into the service, others chose civilian occupations.

"But no matter where anyone went, everyone has been successful," Mitch said. He believes it comes down to "the Sea Cadet values, our courage, and commitment. The leadership, the professionalism, the self-discipline, the honesty – you know, all these different things, the teamwork. Every single one of us were able to take that with us, no matter what path we chose."

He concludes: "Having a solid and reliable moral compass is one of the greatest lessons that they've given to us as Sea Cadets. We learn values that you just can't put money on." 🏆



**"(SEA CADETS) SHOWS ME  
WHAT I AM TRULY CAPABLE  
OF DOING AND WHAT I NEED  
TO BECOME BETTER AT."**

Sea Cadet Seaman Recruit Azhael Serrano Agron, NSCC  
ADM Horacio Rivero Jr. Division in Puerto Rico



A young woman in a U.S. Navy Sea Cadet uniform is focused on writing in a spiral notebook at a wooden table. She is surrounded by other cadets in a classroom-like setting. The background is slightly blurred, showing other people and a window. The overall tone is professional and educational.

**“I HAVE LEARNED WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A LEADER WHO IS COMPASSIONATE, COMMITTED AND DRIVEN TO REACH A COMMON GOAL WITH FELLOW SHIPMATES IN THE PROGRAM.”**

Sea Cadet Petty Officer Third Class Mackenzie Nichols, NSCC  
Daytona Division in Florida

TRAINING

472

TRAINING EVENTS

5,970

CADET TRAINING WEEKS COMPLETED

852

STAFF CADET TRAINING WEEKS COMPLETED

RESULTS



**"SEA CADETS HAS GIVEN ME LIFE-LONG FRIENDS, EXTRAORDINARY TRAINING AND FURTHER THOUGHT INTO WHAT JOB I'D LIKE TO PURSUE WHEN I'M OLDER. MOST IMPORTANTLY, IT HAS MADE ME A BETTER PERSON, FRIEND AND LEADER!"**

Sea Cadet Seaman Sean Hogan, NSCC  
LT Michael Murphy Division in New York

# 51,240

**NUMBER OF HOURS CADETS VOLUNTEERED  
UP 47% FROM 2022**

We are proud of the accomplishments of our Sea Cadets across the country. In 2023, the number of cadets reaching these goals increased by several hundred in every single category:

**ACADEMICS, PHYSICAL FITNESS, AND COMMUNITY SERVICE.**

**ACADEMIC  
ACHIEVEMENT  
RIBBONS**

**1,673 EARNED  
IN 2023  
UP 53% FROM  
2022**



**PHYSICAL  
FITNESS  
RIBBONS**

**2,655 EARNED  
IN 2023  
UP 32% FROM  
2022**



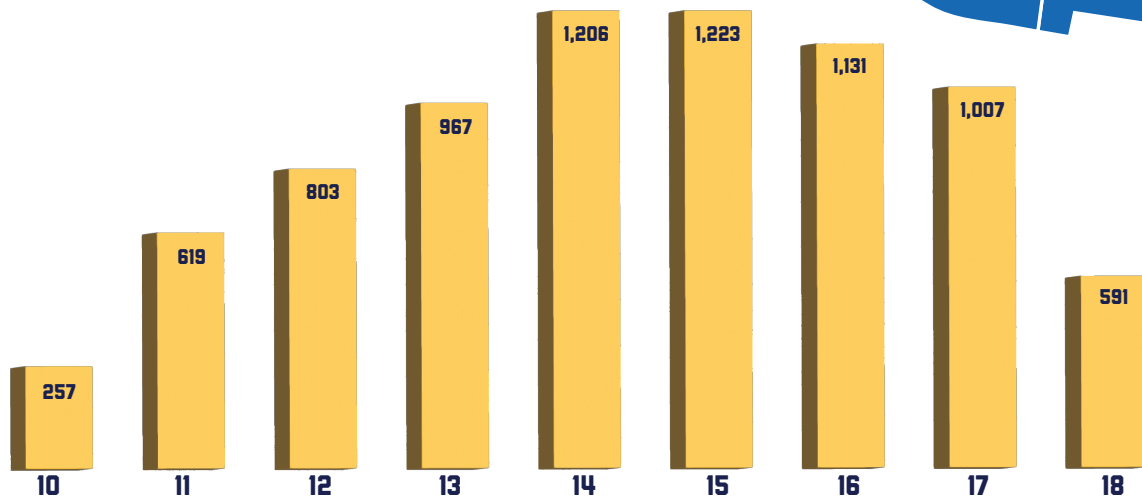
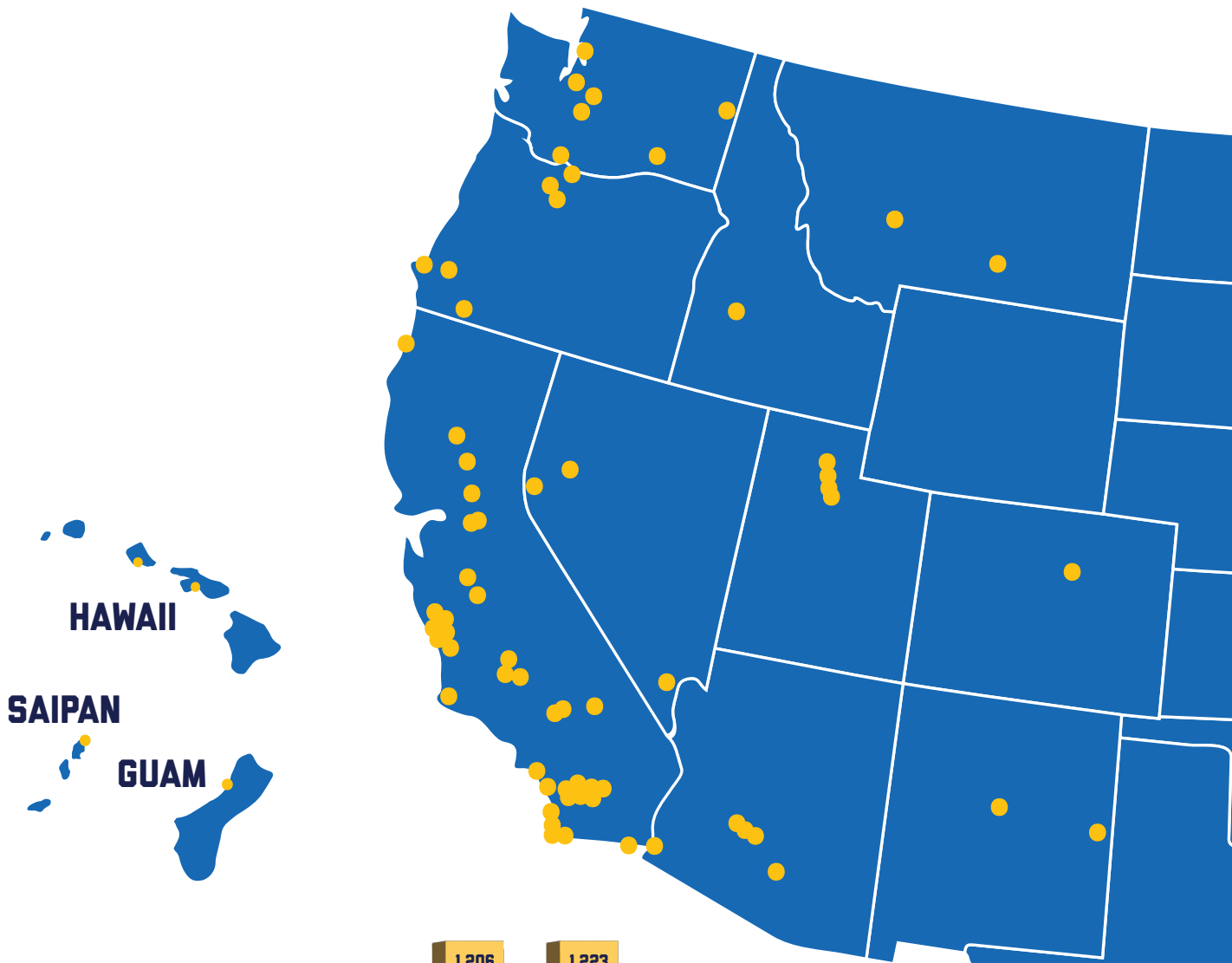
**COMMUNITY  
SERVICE  
RIBBONS**

**1,708 EARNED  
IN 2023  
UP 47% FROM  
2022**



# 2023 SEA CADETS BY THE NUMBERS

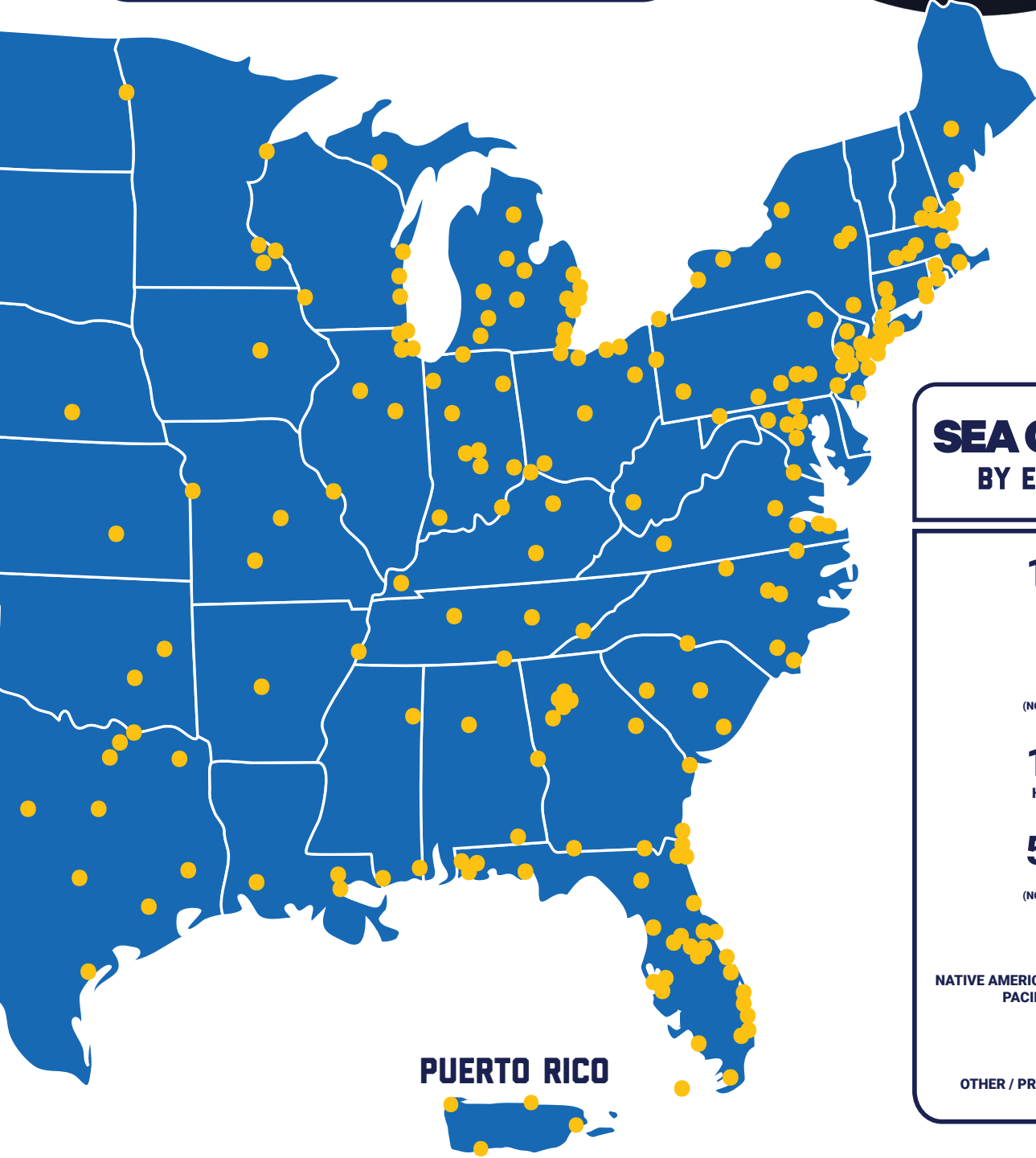
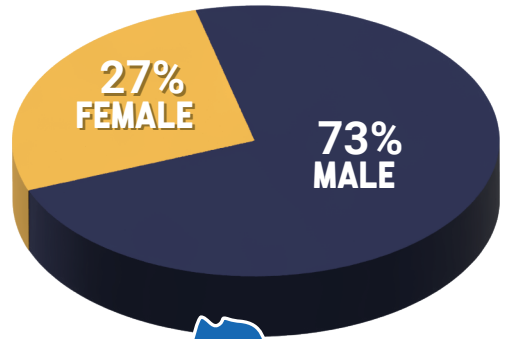
- 340 units in 46 states plus Guam, Saipan and Puerto Rico.  
Serving 7,804 cadets in 2023.



CADETS BY AGE IN 2023

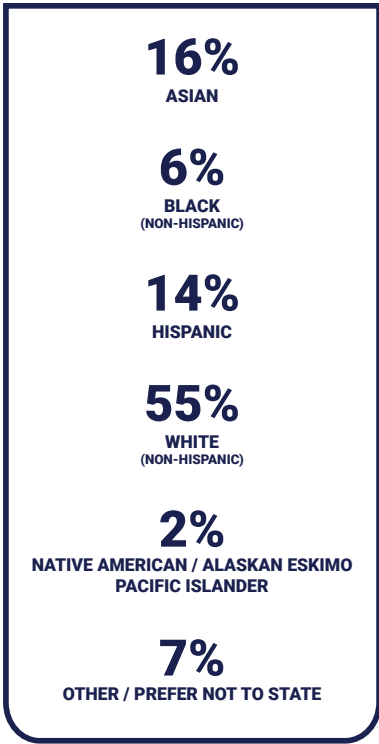
# COMMUNITY PROFILE

URBAN	25%
RURAL	16%
SUBURBAN	51%
OTHER/DECLINED TO STATE	8%

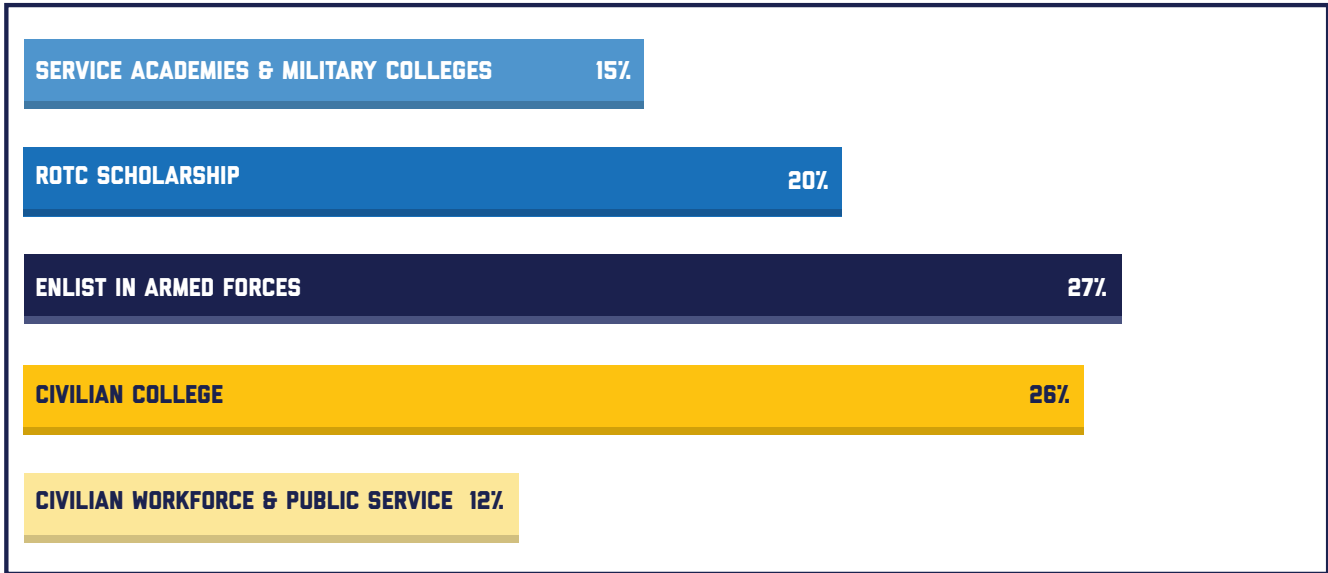


**PUERTO RICO**

# SEA CADETS BY ETHNICITY



# 2023 GRADUATING CADETS\*



SERVICE ACADEMIES & MILITARY COLLEGES	
U.S NAVAL ACADEMY	27
STATE MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY	12
U.S. COAST GUARD ACADEMY	9
U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY PREPARATORY SCHOOL	8
U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY	5
U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT	3
U.S. MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY	3
OTHER MILITARY OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL	2
ROTC SCHOLARSHIP	
NAVY ROTC	41
OTHER MILITARY OFFICER SCHOLARSHIP	30
ARMY ROTC	15
MARINE CORPS ROTC	7
AIR FORCE ROTC	2

ENLIST IN ARMED FORCES	
U.S NAVY	63
U.S. MARINE CORPS	23
U.S. COAST GUARD	16
U.S. ARMY	13
U.S. AIR FORCE	8
TWO-YEAR COLLEGE (THEN ENLIST)	4
U.S NATIONAL GUARD	2
CIVILIAN COLLEGE	
FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE/ UNIVERSITY	95
TWO-YEAR COLLEGE	27
CIVILIAN WORKFORCE & PUBLIC SERVICE	
CIVILIAN WORKFORCE	48
LAW ENFORCEMENT/FIREFIGHTING/EMT	4
PUBLIC SERVICE/GOVERNMENT	3

\* Voluntary self-reporting of where cadets went after high-school graduation in 2023.

# 2023 FINANCIALS

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2023)

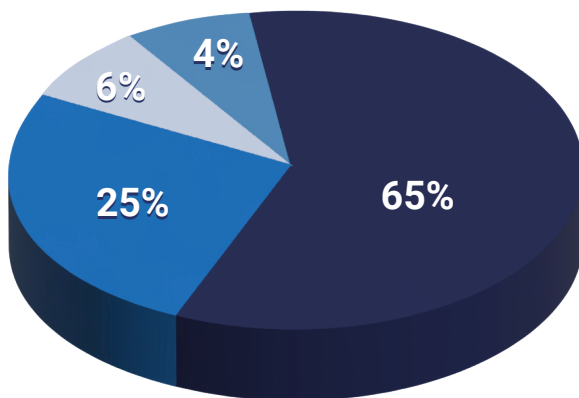
### ASSETS

TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$6,939,718
TOTAL LONG-TERM FIXED ASSETS	\$496,792
ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION	(\$467,647)
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$6,968,863</b>

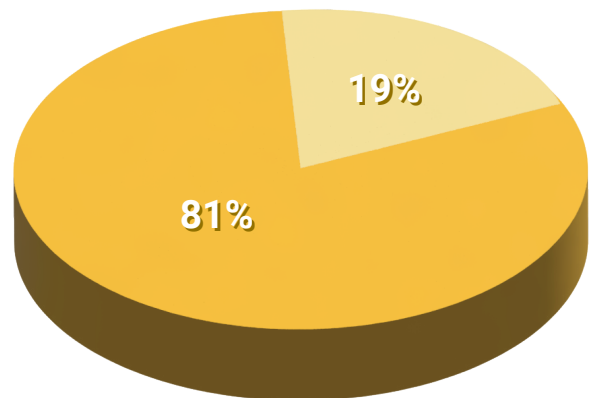
### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

TOTAL CURRENT AND LONG-TERM LIABILITIES	\$2,040,138
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$4,928,725
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$6,968,863</b>

### INCOME



### EXPENSES



- U.S. NAVY GRANT
- OTHER REVENUE
- NAVY LEAGUE OF THE U.S. CONTRIBUTION
- GENERAL CONTRIBUTIONS

- PROGRAMMATIC EXPENSES
- OPERATING EXPENSES

# UNIQUELY PREPARED FOR EVERY UNDERTAKING

**KATHLEEN GILPIN, PH.D.**

Director of Discovery and Engagement for  
Parallax Advanced Research

*Kathleen Gilpin, Ph.D., is director of discovery and engagement for Parallax Advanced Research. An accomplished neuroscientist, she describes herself as "a research scientist with a passion for bridging the gap between academic research and government applications." Concurrently, she is a commander in the Navy Reserve with five command tours and 18 years of leadership experience. Cmdr. Gilpin is an alumna of the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps. The following is her account of what the Sea Cadets has meant to her.*

## **"AN ORGANIZATION UNLIKE ANY OTHER"**

Sea Cadets is uniquely prepared to teach young Americans because of the Corps' excellent and experienced cadre and unfettered access to world-class training opportunities.

One example from my own experience is when I sailed on a Navy oiler from New Jersey to Ireland as a 16-year-old cadet. While onboard, the signalmen let me communicate with other ships via semaphore during underway replenishments, the enginemen let me take oil soundings, the quartermasters let me plot positions and dead reckon, the boatswain's mates let me give commands via sound-powered telephones, and the journalists let me take pictures of the ship's activities.

There was no prouder moment in my life than manning the rails in my dress white Sea Cadet uniform as we pulled into Cobh, Ireland, for a port visit. To say I loved every minute of this training would

be an understatement because the learning opportunities were seemingly endless, and the crew welcomed us with open arms. Not only did this training solidify my desire to serve in the Navy, but it ultimately helped me be a better officer and more well-rounded leader.

Sea Cadets made me uniquely prepared for every undertaking in my adult life. From earning a commission through ROTC in college to earning a Ph.D. in neuroscience, the commitment to excellence, value of hard work and attention to detail that were instilled in me as a Sea Cadet are the underpinnings of any success I have had since then.

As a new Sea Cadet, one of the first requirements is to complete recruit training. Two weeks of physical training was quite daunting for an overweight teenager! However, the camaraderie I found in those barracks in Fort Stewart, Georgia, was life changing. Those who were able to make hospital corners on their racks fine-tuned other racks so all would pass inspection. Those who were good at PT encouraged others to not give up. Those who excelled at academics spent their free time tutoring others on basic military requirements. When you consider none of the 25 cadets knew each other before recruit training, this type of teamwork is a testament to the character of cadets the program attracts and the lead-by-example integrity of its cadre.



Sea Cadets is an organization unlike any other. Nowhere else in the world can a young man or woman who is thinking about joining the military get underway on U.S. Navy ships, conduct hands-on training regarding aviation maintenance, learn field medical operations or participate in a dozen other military-oriented training opportunities.

**"THE COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE, VALUE OF HARD WORK AND ATTENTION TO DETAIL, THAT WERE INSTILLED IN ME AS A SEA CADET ARE THE UNDERPINNINGS OF ANY SUCCESS I HAVE HAD SINCE THEN."**

— CMDR. KATHLEEN GILPIN, PH.D.

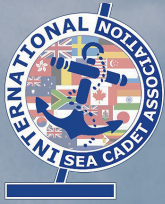
Perhaps more importantly than all these action-packed adventures, though, are the values Sea Cadets instills in the next generation of Americans who will step up to defend our country. I am immensely proud that I was a Sea Cadet, and I highly encourage anyone wondering if the program is for them to sign up and give it a shot. 🙏



Cmdr. Kathleen Gilpin and her husband, Air Force Lt. Col. Seth Gilpin, and their children, Myron and Brigid.

**"ONE SKILL THAT SEA CADETS HAS TAUGHT ME IS LEADERSHIP. THROUGHOUT MY JOURNEY, I HAVE LEARNED HOW TO BE A LEADER AND HOW TO DEAL WITH DIFFICULT SITUATIONS."**

Sea Cadet Seaman Apprentice Michael Maguire, NSCC  
New York (LPD-21) Division in New York



# INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM BACK IN ACTION

For the first time since 2019, the U.S. Naval Sea Cadets hosted visiting cadets from other countries in 2023 through the International Exchange Program, and U.S. Sea Cadets traveled to two of those countries, Canada and New Zealand, as well.

During the hiatus in the international program, no cadets earned an IEP ribbon for three years, and all U.S. cadets with exchange experience had graduated, said Jennifer Weggen. She and Dolly Stevens had some rebuilding to do as they managed the IEP exchanges for the first time, in addition to their other duties with the Sea Cadets. And they did it in a new location: Washington, D.C., rather than Newport, Rhode Island, the U.S. host site in years past.

"We are uniquely preparing our cadets to be global citizens," said Weggen. To align with this vision, she and Stevens developed the 2023 exchange curriculum in Washington, D.C., focusing on equipping cadets with essential skills for global citizenship. Moving the exchange to the nation's capital was a strategic and sensible choice that unlocked numerous opportunities.

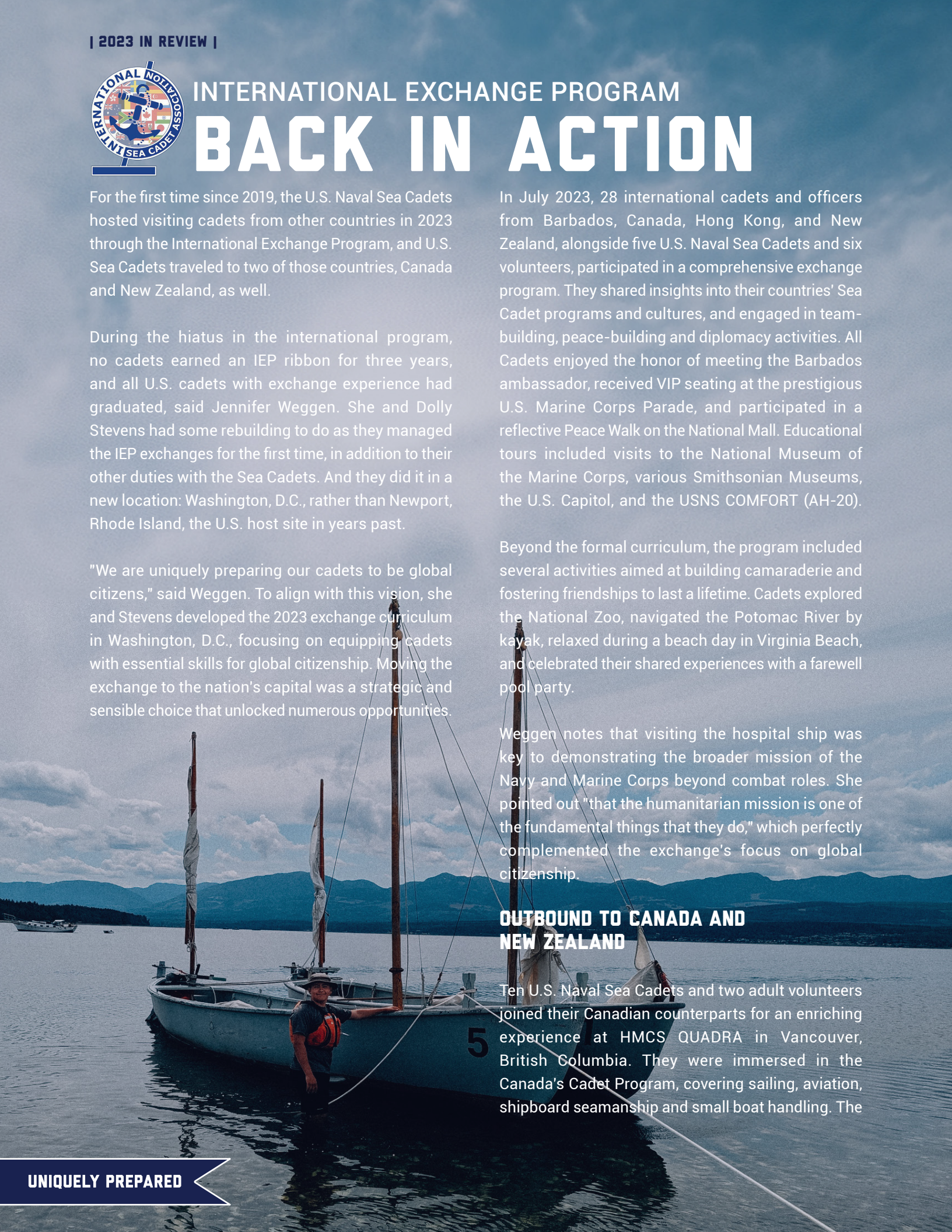
In July 2023, 28 international cadets and officers from Barbados, Canada, Hong Kong, and New Zealand, alongside five U.S. Naval Sea Cadets and six volunteers, participated in a comprehensive exchange program. They shared insights into their countries' Sea Cadet programs and cultures, and engaged in team-building, peace-building and diplomacy activities. All Cadets enjoyed the honor of meeting the Barbados ambassador, received VIP seating at the prestigious U.S. Marine Corps Parade, and participated in a reflective Peace Walk on the National Mall. Educational tours included visits to the National Museum of the Marine Corps, various Smithsonian Museums, the U.S. Capitol, and the USNS COMFORT (AH-20).

Beyond the formal curriculum, the program included several activities aimed at building camaraderie and fostering friendships to last a lifetime. Cadets explored the National Zoo, navigated the Potomac River by kayak, relaxed during a beach day in Virginia Beach, and celebrated their shared experiences with a farewell pool party.

Weggen notes that visiting the hospital ship was key to demonstrating the broader mission of the Navy and Marine Corps beyond combat roles. She pointed out "that the humanitarian mission is one of the fundamental things that they do," which perfectly complemented the exchange's focus on global citizenship.

## OUTBOUND TO CANADA AND NEW ZEALAND

Ten U.S. Naval Sea Cadets and two adult volunteers joined their Canadian counterparts for an enriching experience at HMCS QUADRA in Vancouver, British Columbia. They were immersed in the Canada's Cadet Program, covering sailing, aviation, shipboard seamanship and small boat handling. The



The U.S. cadets took charge of their vessels, navigating to nearby islands to enhance their leadership skills. The setting could not have been more beautiful; glaciers in the mountains above with cadets swimming and boating below. They explored the natural and cultural wonders of British Columbia, seeking wildlife on the water and discovering the city of Victoria.

The other 2023 outbound exchange sent four U.S. Sea Cadets and two adults to New Zealand in August. Stevens, one of the two adult participants, shared that their two-week journey stretched from Auckland to Wellington, featured stays at bases of the New Zealand Navy, Army, and Air Force. Their activities included sailing, sightseeing, marksmanship training, using a flight simulator, participating in a damage-control exercise, and visiting several museums. Additionally, they immersed themselves in New Zealand's cultural richness by participating in two pōwhiris (traditional Maori ceremonies) that welcome guests to a sacred place, thereby enhancing their understanding and appreciation of Maori customs and traditions.

After the exchanges, Stevens and Weggen represented the U.S. Naval Sea Cadets at the 2023 International Sea Cadet Association Annual Conference, hosted by South Africa Sea Cadets in Cape Town, South Africa. Only ISCA member countries take part in cadet exchanges, and the conference was full of critical discussions about exchange requirements, expectations, and fees among the members as the program comes to life again around the world. 🌍



# 2023 TRAINING EVENTS

## ALABAMA

Sailing, Basic

## ARIZONA

Marksmanship  
Recruiting Office Duty

## ARKANSAS

League Cadet Orientation, Basic  
Medical, EMT Services  
Police/Master-At-Arms  
Sea Cadet Recruit Training  
Vehicle Maintenance

## CALIFORNIA

Aviation, Basic/Advanced  
Aviation, FAA Ground School  
Ceremonial/Honor Guard  
Chief Petty Officer Academy  
Field Operations  
Flagship  
Food Service, Culinary Arts  
League Cadet Orientation, Basic  
Marksmanship  
Medical, Basic  
Petty Officer Leadership Academy  
Photojournalism  
Police/Master-At-Arms  
Port Operations  
Recruiting Office Duty  
Sailing, Basic/Advanced  
SCUBA Certification, Basic  
Sea Cadet Recruit Training  
SEAL Orientation/Challenge  
STEM/Seaperch/Robotic/CyberPatriot  
U.S. Coast Guard, Shore/Boat Station  
U.S. Navy, Shipboard  
Vehicle Maintenance

## COLORADO

Leadership, USAFA Summer Seminar

## CONNECTICUT

Special Operations, SEAL  
Submarine School, Basic  
U.S. Coast Guard, Cutter Operations  
USCG Academy Introduction Mission (AIM)

## DELAWARE

Locally Arranged Unit Events

## FLORIDA

Aviation, Basic  
Aviation, Flight Training  
Ceremonial/Honor Guard  
Chief Petty Officer Academy  
Construction, Seabee, Basic  
Drug Education/DEFY/DARE  
Field Operations  
Fire Fighting  
Flagship  
Food Service, Culinary Arts  
History And Heritage  
JAG/Legal  
League Cadet Orientation, Basic  
Medical, Basic/Advanced  
Medical, Field Operations  
Petty Officer Leadership Academy  
Photojournalism  
Police/Master-At-Arms  
Sailing, Basic  
SCUBA Certification, Basic  
Sea Cadet Recruit Training  
Special Operations, SEAL  
STEM/Seaperch/Robotic/CyberPatriot  
U.S. Coast Guard, Cutter Operations  
U.S. Coast Guard, Safe Boating Course

## GEORGIA

Locally Arranged Unit Events

## GUAM/SAIPAN

Food Service, Culinary Arts  
League Cadet Orientation, Basic  
Sea Cadet Recruit Training  
Seamanship, Basic  
Vehicle Maintenance

## HAWAII

League Cadet Orientation, Basic  
Medical, EMT Services  
Photojournalism  
SCUBA Certification, Basic  
Sea Cadet Recruit Training  
Submarine School, Basic

## IDAHO

Locally Arranged Unit Events

## ILLINOIS

Ceremonial/Honor Guard  
Medical, Basic  
Petty Officer Leadership Academy  
Sea Cadet Recruit Training

## INDIANA

Locally Arranged Unit Events

## KANSAS

Locally Arranged Unit Events

## KENTUCKY

Music/Band, Basic  
Aviation, Flight Training  
Ceremonial/Honor Guard  
Food Service, Culinary Arts  
League Cadet Orientation, Basic  
Medical, Basic  
Petty Officer Leadership Academy  
Photojournalism  
Police/Master-At-Arms  
STEM/Seaperch/Robotic/CyberPatriot

## LOUISIANA

Chief Petty Officer Academy  
Food Service, Culinary Arts  
League Cadet Orientation, Basic  
Medical, Advanced  
Petty Officer Leadership Academy  
Sea Cadet Recruit Training

## MAINE

Sailing, Basic  
SCUBA Certification, Basic/Advanced  
U.S. Coast Guard, Shore/Boat Station

## MARYLAND

Aviation, Basic  
Seamanship, Basic  
STEM/Seaperch/Robotic/CyberPatriot  
U.S. Naval Academy STEM  
U.S. Naval Academy Summer Seminar (NASS)  
U.S. Navy, Shipboard

## MASSACHUSETTS

Chief Petty Officer Academy  
Marksmanship  
Petty Officer Leadership Academy  
Photojournalism  
Sea Cadet Recruit Training  
U.S. Coast Guard, Shore/Boat Station

## MICHIGAN

Food Service, Culinary Arts  
History And Heritage  
League Cadet Orientation, Basic/Advanced  
Police/Master-At-Arms  
Sailing, Basic  
SCUBA Certification, Basic/Advanced  
Sea Cadet Recruit Training  
STEM/Seaperch/Robotic/CyberPatriot  
U.S. Navy, Shipboard  
Vehicle Maintenance

## MINNESOTA

Locally Arranged Unit Events

## MISSISSIPPI

Locally Arranged Unit Events

## MISSOURI

Field Operations  
Food Service, Culinary Arts  
Sea Cadet Recruit Training

## MONTANA

Locally Arranged Unit Events

## NEBRASKA

Locally Arranged Unit Events

## NEVADA

Locally Arranged Unit Events

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

Field Operations  
Police/Master-At-Arms

## NEW JERSEY

Ceremonial/Honor Guard  
Food Service, Culinary Arts  
History And Heritage  
League Cadet Orientation, Basic

## NEW MEXICO

Locally Arranged Unit Events

## NEW YORK

Ceremonial/Honor Guard  
League Cadet Orientation, Basic  
Petty Officer Leadership Academy  
Police/Master-At-Arms  
Recruiting Office Duty  
Sailing, Basic  
Sea Cadet Recruit Training  
Special Operations, Winter Survival  
STEM/Seaperch/Robotic/CyberPatriot  
USMA (West Point) Summer Leaders Experience (SLE)

## NORTH CAROLINA

Locally Arranged Unit Events

## NORTH DAKOTA

Locally Arranged Unit Events

## OHIO

Food Service, Culinary Arts  
Marksmanship  
Medical, EMT Services  
Petty Officer Leadership Academy  
Sea Cadet Recruit Training

## OKLAHOMA

Locally Arranged Unit Events

## OREGON

Ceremonial/Honor Guard  
Communication/Electronics/Radio  
Field Operations  
Food Service, Culinary Arts  
League Cadet Orientation, Basic  
Medical, Field Operations  
Petty Officer Leadership Academy  
Photojournalism  
Police/Master-At-Arms  
Sea Cadet Recruit Training  
Vehicle Maintenance

## PENNSYLVANIA

History And Heritage  
League Cadet Orientation, Basic  
Petty Officer Leadership Academy  
Recruiting Office Duty  
Sea Cadet Recruit Training

## PUERTO RICO

Maritime Industrial Arts

## RHODE ISLAND

Medical, EMT Services  
Petty Officer Leadership Academy

## SOUTH CAROLINA

League Cadet Orientation, Basic  
Petty Officer Leadership Academy  
Photojournalism  
Sea Cadet Recruit Training  
U.S. Coast Guard, Locally Arranged  
U.S. Coast Guard, Safe Boating Course

## TENNESSEE

Food Service, Culinary Arts  
League Cadet Orientation, Basic  
Medical, Basic/Advanced  
Petty Officer Leadership Academy  
SCUBA Certification, Basic  
Sea Cadet Recruit Training  
Special Operations, Rope Rescue

## TEXAS

Aviation, Basic  
Construction, Seabee, Basic  
League Cadet Orientation, Basic  
Medical, Basic  
Petty Officer Leadership Academy  
Police/Master-At-Arms  
Recruiting Office Duty  
Sea Cadet Recruit Training  
U.S. Coast Guard, Cutter Operations

## UTAH

Aviation, Basic  
Ceremonial/Honor Guard  
Food Service, Culinary Arts  
League Cadet Orientation, Basic  
Medical, Basic  
Petty Officer Leadership Academy  
Photojournalism  
Recruiting Office Duty  
Sea Cadet Recruit Training

## VIRGINIA

Aviation, Basic  
Marine Mammal Research  
Sea Cadet Recruit Training  
Seamanship, Basic  
Small Boat Operations  
U.S. Navy, Shipboard

## WASHINGTON

Aviation, Basic  
Ceremonial/Honor Guard  
Flagship  
League Cadet Orientation, Basic  
Medical, Basic  
Petty Officer Leadership Academy  
Sea Cadet Recruit Training  
Submarine School, Basic/Advanced

## WASHINGTON, D.C.

International Exchange, New Zealand  
International Exchange, US  
Ceremonial/Honor Guard  
Naval Intelligence  
STEM/Seaperch/Robotic/CyberPatriot  
International Exchange, Canada

## WEST VIRGINIA

Locally Arranged Unit Events

## WISCONSIN

Construction, Seabee, Basic  
Field Operations  
Food Service, Culinary Arts  
League Cadet Orientation, Basic  
Medical, EMT Services  
Petty Officer Leadership Academy  
Photojournalism  
Police/Master-At-Arms  
Sea Cadet Recruit Training  
STEM/Seaperch/Robotic/CyberPatriot  
U.S. Coast Guard, Locally Arranged  
U.S. Coast Guard, Maritime Interdiction  
U.S. Coast Guard, Safe Boating Course  
U.S. Coast Guard, Shore/Boat Station



# UNIQUELY PREPARED TO PURSUE A DIFFERENT DREAM

## ISIAH JONES

Systems and Component Security Professional  
and Owner, iCubed Solutions LLC

Isiah Jones found the Sea Cadets at a crucial point during his rather rough start in life. After spending the first 13 years of his life bouncing around New Jersey and the Philadelphia area, Jones and his younger siblings settled with his mother in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

While Jones had worked selling newspapers in New Jersey ever since he was 11 to help his family, the legal age to work in Pennsylvania was 14, and he had to wait a year to get a job.

"My mom was worried about me getting into gangs and stuff and being idle," he said of that time. When a co-worker saw her crying one day and learned of her worries, she told Jones' mother about her son being in Sea Cadets.

"He took me to a drill weekend, and I thought it was kind of cool," Jones said. "We were the only Black cadets, but I decided it looked like fun." Since he couldn't work that year, he signed on, "and it turned out to be the best decision I ever made, because I'm 100% certain that if I didn't join Sea Cadets, I probably wouldn't have gone to college."

Jones gives his mother credit for helping him find Sea Cadets, "but after that, the rest was up to me. Sea Cadets gave me a purpose, because I didn't really have one before that other than helping to pay the bills and feed my siblings. But Sea Cadets was a positive outlet, and I saw it as a way out of my environment and to have the freedom to make my own life."

### FLYING HIGH AS A SEA CADET

As he was exposed to opportunities in Sea Cadets and the military, Jones' goal to be a fighter pilot became a driving motivation. He said Sea Cadets opened him up to pursuing a STEM career, choosing math and science classes in high school, and working hard enough to keep a 4.0 GPA and graduate in the top five of his class.

Jones continued to work all through high school; but if there was money left over after paying family bills, he spent it on Sea Cadet uniform components and trainings.

“Working gave me a sense of pride that I could pay for my own stuff,” he said also acknowledging that his Sea Cadet leaders helped him when they could knowing his means were limited. “I didn’t have other things to turn to, so I ended up becoming the Sea Cadet doing two or three trainings a year, trying to make chief.” Trainings included Petty Officer Leadership Academy, aviation ground school, and most memorable of all: a trip with the International Exchange Program.

“The first time I ever got to go flying in a plane was in a C-130 going from Norfolk to Nova Scotia,” Jones said. “The pilots actually let me be in the cockpit with them on the way back because everyone else was asleep. They knew that I’d never gotten to fly and I wanted to be a pilot; so I got to stand over the navigator’s shoulder the whole flight, which is something I’ll never forget.”

His drive paid off. Jones worked his way up from new recruit to Sea Cadet chief petty officer, the first Black cadet and only the second cadet overall to do so in Constellation Division history at the time. His senior year in high school, he was accepted into several colleges and academies, including the Virginia Military Institute and the U.S. Naval Academy.

Going to the Naval Academy to become a fighter pilot was his dream, he said. He turned down all the other schools with that single goal in mind, until he found out late in the process that he had several medical conditions that disqualified him from attending the academy.

Determined to stay on a path to the military, he found his way to the NAVY ROTC at Penn State. He was put in a non-scholarship option to try for a Marine Corps commission and still be an aviator. He started college, still working multiple jobs and taking out loans to try

to pay for school and help his family while trying to find a way back to his dream.

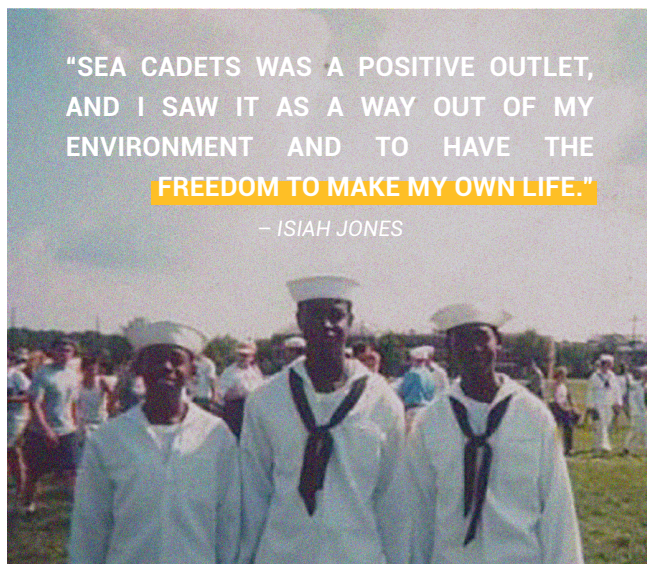
“What do I do with my life now?” he thought. “If I wasn’t trying to be an aviator, I would never even have gone to college.”

## FINDING A NEW DREAM AND MOTIVATION

It was a depressing time. As his medical conditions worsened, he considered dropping out and trying to find some way to enlist. He said when his Sea Cadet leaders, ROTC commanders, and naval science advisors got wind of his plans to quit school, a few of them intervened and convinced Jones to stay in college.

“You have a chance to receive a quality education. Nobody in your family has done that,” he was told. Not only did the network of support that began with the Sea Cadets keep him in school, but his outstanding record as a Sea Cadet prompted Navy veterans who were Penn State alumni to help Jones be hired by the Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) as an information technology intern his sophomore year in college.

*Continued on next page.*



Isiah Jones (right), with his younger brother, Terrence Jones (left), at Sea Cadet boot camp graduation.

## | ALUMNI PROFILE |

*Continued from previous page.*

For the next seven years, he advanced at NAVSUP into security analyst and information security positions as he completed his bachelor's degree in information science and technology: systems integration; and then a master's of professional studies in homeland security: infosec and forensics, both at Penn State. Several government contractor and commercial civilian jobs followed.

Looking back at where he started, Jones said he had no idea he would become a top specialist in cybersecurity, critical infrastructure, and national security, crossing six continents and working in or visiting 30-plus countries over the past 19 years.

"I did what I could to get as close to my dreams as possible," Jones said. He takes pride in serving his country by focusing on how to design, test, and assess

systems and components to be better, safer, and more secure.

"Security people aren't just trying to protect you from the things that are in the news, like hackers and ransomware," he said. "I'm also trying to protect people from mistakes in the systems that people don't know are there that help us have modern food, modern agriculture, modern medicine, manufacturing, energy, and utilities, etc."

Even that motivation goes back to Sea Cadets.

"The Sea Cadets gave me stability," he said. "It gives awareness that the world is bigger than you. It gives young people their first sense of 'Why am I here?' and it gives you courage to figure out what's broken and then what you want to do to fix it."👏



**"THE SEA CADETS HAVE TAUGHT ME THAT BEING A LEADER ISN'T ALWAYS ABOUT TELLING PEOPLE WHAT TO DO. IT IS ABOUT BEING THERE FOR OTHERS WHEN THEY NEED YOU, BEING RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE AND TRUSTWORTHY."**

Sea Cadet Seaman Apprentice Tayden Descoteaux, NSCC  
from the Barque Eagle Division in Connecticut



# THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

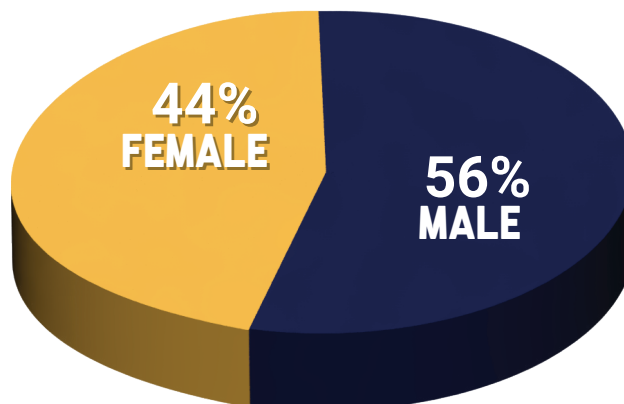
During 2023, our 2,209 dedicated adult volunteers devoted a total of 381,144 hours to working with and supporting our Sea Cadets across 340 units. We are pleased to recognize their service with the President's Volunteer Service Award given to each individual who contributed more than 100 hours of their valuable time during the year.

The number of adult volunteers who qualified for the award increased by 110 in 2023 to a total of 1,408. Recipients were honored in the spring of 2023 for their generous gift of time and talent.

## 2023 PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD



## VOLUNTEERS



# YOU HELP US **UNIQUELY PREPARE** FOR THE FUTURE

Thanks to the generosity of our dedicated donors like you, the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps is making a significant impact on the lives of thousands of young people annually. Each and every donation plays a vital role in sustaining our mission and fostering positive change in the lives of Sea Cadets. Your commitment helps us provide essential resources, enriching experiences, and transformative opportunities for the young men and women we serve.

Within an environment of discipline, and while instilling core values of honor, respect, commitment, and service, the Sea Cadets provides a broad and unique range of training and career experiences that are not only enriching but also vital for personal growth and development. You help make that possible.

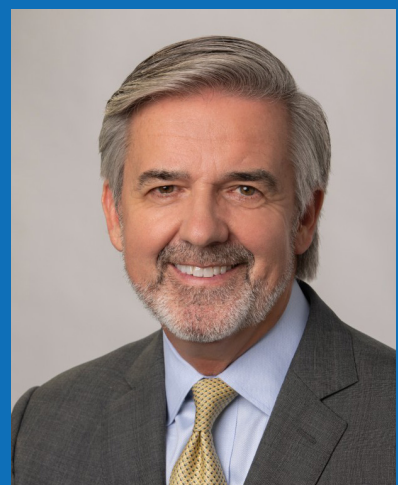
We honor our leadership society members for their 2023 generosity, leading the way to ensuring a strong, expanded future for the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps, and we are sincerely grateful.

Our commitment to excellence extends to the corporate sector through our newly established Sea Cadet National Corporate Partnership Program (p. 29). America confronts urgent manpower shortages in the trades and military recruitment. Our Sea Cadet maritime leadership program tackles these challenges by equipping middle and high-school-age cadets for diverse careers whether in business, industry, or military. Support from our valued corporate partners is instrumental in cultivating the next generation of skilled professionals in maritime operations, the trades, and beyond, strategically investing in the future workforce.

**Once again, we thank you – all of our generous donors and partners – for your invaluable contribution in steering the course toward opportunity and growth for the next generation.**

**“Since the founding of the Sea Cadets in 1958, at the request of the U.S. Navy, there has never been a more important time to encourage the youth of America to learn about the sea-going services. During my Navy career, I was fortunate enough to travel the world, explore the depths of the oceans, and develop friendships with people across the globe. What better way to “give back” in thanks for those great memories and opportunities than to encourage young people to join the Sea Cadets and ‘Choose Adventure.’”**

– Rear Adm. Michael J. Browne, USN (Ret.)  
Decision Lens Corporate Sponsor and  
Sea Cadets Leadership Society Member



# SEA CADETS LEADERSHIP SOCIETY

The Sea Cadets Leadership Society acknowledges individuals who generously donate \$1,000 or more within a calendar year. These contributors play a significant part in enabling us to extend our reach to new communities, enhance and broaden training possibilities, and grow our nationwide supporter network. Their support is instrumental in expanding our operations and driving strategic initiatives that shape the future of these young lives.

The extraordinary generosity of leadership society members enables our cadets to enjoy life-changing experiences and prepare for life as young adults.

## Thank you to our inaugural contingent of leadership society members!\*

Richard and Linda Ashbey	Anju Kettish
Lynn Atkinson, M.D.	Thomas Klomps
William Baas	George Kovatch
Benjamin Brown	Ms. Rene' Kretovics
Rear Adm. Michael Browne, USN (Ret.)	Keith Larson
Anthony Cowden	Dr. Christopher M. Lehman, Ph.D.
Thomas Fitzpatrick	The Lennon Family
John Fluke	Robert E. Love
Peter Gaudet	Vice Adm. Luke McCollum, USN (Ret.)
Michael Gill	Rear Adm. Timothy Moon, USN (Ret.)
Rear Adm. Robin Graf (Ret.)	Cmdr. Thomas O'Malley, USN (Ret.)
Jennifer Gregg	MCPOCG Vincent Patton, III, USCG (Ret.)
Rear Adm. J.R. Haley, USN (Ret.)	VMware
Scott Hamilton	Mike Quilty
Sarah Higgins	John Sutter
Ron Higgs	Kelsey Swerdfeger
Hirth Family Foundation	Karen Virtue
Steve Karoly	FORCM Ronney & Donna Wright, USN (Ret.)
Patrick Joseph Kearney	Anonymous (3)

\*Leadership society members as of December 31, 2023

To learn more about the leadership society, contact Jennifer Gregg at [development@seacadets.org](mailto:development@seacadets.org).

# THANK YOU TO OUR 2023 DONORS

## **\$50,000+**

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## **\$1,000+**

Richard and Linda Ashbey  
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 Domenico Discenza  
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*Continued on next page.*

## THANK YOU TO OUR 2023 DONORS, continued

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**We are grateful to more than 35 anonymous donors who collectively contributed over \$10,000.**

# NATIONAL CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

By supporting the Sea Cadets through this new program, our corporate partners are nurturing and developing the next generation of skilled professionals in the fields of naval and maritime operations, which is a strategic investment in the future workforce. It also

ensures that young individuals gain necessary skills, education, and core values that provide a pipeline of well-trained, talented individuals to serve in and out of uniform.

"The U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps is part of the fabric of our military community. Over the last 10 years, I have seen Sea Cadets grow into confident young adults, leading many to directly join military services, military academies, and/or ROTC programs. The Sea Cadet programs not only represent a wonderful "character-building" opportunity for our nation's youth, but also flow into the recruitment challenges that have been expressed by our entire U.S. military leadership."

David Vardeman  
Senior Vice President, Department Head  
Not for Profit and Global Business Development, Capital Bank, N.A.

## WE SALUTE OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS!\*



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NavAide



PANTHEON  
DATA



\*as of December 31, 2023

Becoming a corporate partner for Sea Cadets offers numerous benefits for social responsibility and business goals. Learn more about the corporate partnership program by emailing Jennifer Gregg at [development@seacadets.org](mailto:development@seacadets.org).



## CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

Dear Sea Cadets,

Congratulations on your many accomplishments in 2023! As members of the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps, you have taken a step toward answering our Nation's call to service and I thank you and your families for being part of our Navy team.

America's Navy offers a wide range of opportunities in exciting and innovative fields that range from the seabed to space, and in cyberspace, too. Through your continued participation, each of you are gaining unique experience that will carry you far forward in the future.

Now more than ever, our Navy needs strong, capable leaders like you that come from across the rich fabric of America. Your unique and diverse talents are critical to building the Navy our Nation needs.

I am proud of each of you for your interest in learning more about America's Navy – the most powerful in the world. Our Nation is better because of your willingness to engage and serve, within your community and as part of America's Sea Services. I wish you all continued success in 2024 and beyond and I hope to see you in the Fleet!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lisa M. Franchetti".

Lisa M. Franchetti  
Admiral, U.S. Navy

**"As members of the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps, you have taken a step toward answering our Nation's call to service and I thank you and your families for being part of our Navy team."**

– Lisa M. Franchetti  
Admiral, U.S. Navy







THE COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20593-7000

To the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps,

I extend my warmest congratulations to the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps on your 62nd anniversary! This remarkable milestone is a testament to the unwavering commitment and excellence that define the Sea Cadet Corps.

Over the past six decades, your organization has played a crucial role in shaping the future leaders of our nation. The Coast Guard recognizes the significant impact of your training programs in fostering a strong maritime ethos and preparing young individuals for service in the maritime industry and to our country. As we celebrate this anniversary, let us reflect on the achievements of the past and look forward to your continued success and growth. Your contributions to the maritime community are invaluable, and we are proud to stand alongside you in promoting a safer, more secure maritime environment.

Congratulations once again, and may the next 62 years be filled with even greater accomplishments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linda L. Fagan".

LINDA L. FAGAN  
Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard  
Commandant

**"Your contributions to the maritime community are invaluable,  
and we are proud to stand alongside you in promoting a safer,  
more secure maritime environment."**

– Linda L. Fagan, Admiral  
U.S. Coast Guard Commandant





## A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

On behalf of all Marines, I want to thank the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps for another outstanding year of raising up our Nation's future leaders. For over six decades, the Naval Sea Cadet Corps has provided young Americans with opportunities to develop the character traits necessary to become citizens and leaders of upstanding moral character, while also giving back to their communities.

The theme for this year, "Uniquely Prepared," captures an important aspect of this organization's mission - the Sea Cadet Corps is uniquely prepared to ready uniquely qualified individuals for maritime service. The Sea Cadet Corps' role in helping the Sea Services find and recruit our Nation's best candidates is critical. Marines are grateful for the ways in which the Cadet Corps ensures recruits are well prepared for Basic Training, military life, and leadership roles within our Sea Services.

Thank you again to the Sea Cadet Corps for another year of developing quality citizens, preparing our Nation's youth for military service, and raising up strong leaders of exceptional character.

Semper Fidelis,

C. J. Mahoney  
General, U.S. Marine Corps  
Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps

**"The Sea Cadet Corps' role in helping the Sea Services find and recruit our Nation's best candidates is critical."**

– C.J. Mahoney, General  
U.S. Marine Corps Assistant Commandant





U.S. Department of  
Transportation  
**Maritime Administration**

ADMINISTRATOR

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

To the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps:

On behalf of the Maritime Administration, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation and congratulations for your participation in the Naval Sea Cadet Program.

The valuable skills you develop as part of this program will not only serve you well personally, but if you so choose, will prepare you to support this nation's national and economic security in many ways, including as a member of United States Armed Forces or in the U.S. Merchant Marine.

I know that some of you are approaching your high school graduation. As you look forward to the next phase of your life, I encourage you to challenge yourselves, academically and professionally. When you start your career, take the most technically challenging job you can get and then work as hard as possible to do it well. Stretch your horizons. Challenging yourself will build your confidence, and help you do your best with any opportunity offered to you - which will create more options for you in the future. If that future includes a career as a merchant mariner, we will be glad to see you there!

I applaud all of you for a job well done, and I look forward to seeing you become leaders, among leaders.

Sincerely,

Ann C. Phillips

**"On behalf of the Maritime Administration, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation and congratulations for your participation in the Naval Sea Cadet Program."**

— Ann C. Phillips, Administrator  
Maritime Administration





A NOTE FROM MCPON MIKE STEVENS (Ret.)  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES

Dear Sea Cadets,

For over 60 years, the Navy League of the United States has been a strong advocate of the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps youth development program. We are honored to support the youth who choose to further develop their leadership skills, support their communities, and become productive members of society.

Building on the Sea Cadets' core values of honor, respect, commitment, and service, the program embraces the power of kindness, empathy, and compassion. Participation in the program strengthens the foundation and helps mold our youth into thoughtful leaders and upstanding U.S. citizens the world needs.

It takes special individuals, like our cadets, who aspire to experience life in new ways, so I applaud their willingness to break from the norm and further their education and honor the values of the United States. Additionally, the volunteers who devote their time and treasure to this program are to be commended for their dedication and passion. They are at the forefront of assisting these young people with this amazing journey which assists in building a strong and meaningful foundation as they discover their purpose in life.

The Navy League of the United States appreciates our Sea Cadet family and looks forward to continuing our collaboration and support for this worthy mission.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Stevens".

Mike Stevens  
CEO  
Navy League of the United States

**"Building on the Sea Cadets' core values of honor, respect, commitment, and service, the program embraces the power of kindness, empathy, and compassion."**

– Mike Stevens, CEO  
Navy League of the United States





## U.S. NAVAL SEA CADET CORPS

[www.seacadets.org](http://www.seacadets.org)

A Letter from our Chair, U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps Board of Directors

2023 was a banner year for Sea Cadets! While our armed services are suffering from a crisis in recruiting, Sea Cadets is in the right place at the right time to counter that crisis. We are here to educate America's youth about career opportunities in the military and the maritime industries. For 61 years we have been training young men and women about careers in the Sea Services, and America needs us now more than ever!

I am thrilled to say that Sea Cadets is thriving. We have increased enrollment by 4% this year. We are adding new training opportunities and adding new Sea Cadet units in underserved areas. We are collaborating with academia and the maritime industries to expose our Cadets to more potential careers. This past summer, we had new training opportunities at the Merchant Marine Academy and at Military Sea Lift Command. We are developing new collaborations with the Submarine Industrial Base and the Shipbuilding Industry, with the aim that Cadets can be trained in these disciplines.

The breadth of careers in the Sea Services and the Maritime Industries is vast. Our goal is to expose our Cadets to as many of these career options as possible. We offer training in Seamanship, Aviation, Robotics, STEM, Leadership, Scuba, Medical, Legal, Construction Brigade, Marksmanship, Field Operations, Ceremonial Honor Guard, and many other skills. We are expanding our Summer and Winter Training options, and trying to break down barriers to participation, so that as many Cadets as possible can attend. Our goals are to raise the number of enrolled Cadets and to raise national awareness about Sea Cadets.

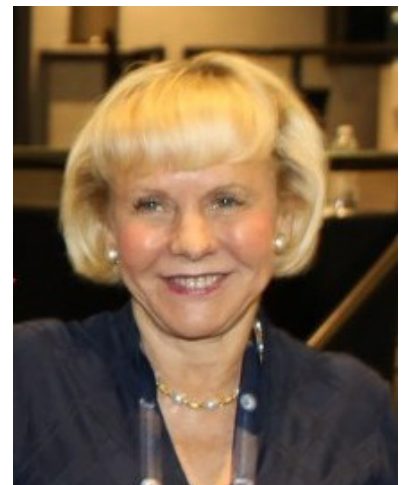
It is my honor and privilege to serve this outstanding youth leadership development program with my dedicated fellow board members. I am grateful for the opportunity to be a part of this amazing program. I get up every morning with a smile on my face knowing that what we are doing at Sea Cadets is making a difference in the lives of these young men and women. I know I speak for my fellow board members when I say that I am proud and fulfilled to be a part of it! America needs Sea Cadets more than ever right now. We are training the leaders of tomorrow, and we take that responsibility very seriously.

Warm Regards,

Lynn Atkinson, M. D.

**"I get up every morning with a smile on my face knowing that what we are doing at Sea Cadets is making a difference in the lives of these young men and women."**

— Lynn Atkinson, M.D.  
Chair, U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps Board of Directors



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OUR CORE VALUES

**HONOR.  
RESPECT.  
COMMITMENT.  
SERVICE.**



**SEA CADETS**



# SEA CADETS

U.S. NAVAL SEA CADET CORPS

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