

**Application for**  
***Down Under, Out Yonder 2008***  
**Educator Workshop**  
**Sponsored by the Gulf of Mexico Foundation**  
**Friday, July 19 – Wednesday, July 23, 2008**

Submit to:  
[franklin@gulfmex.org](mailto:franklin@gulfmex.org)

or

Franklin Viola  
GMF DUOY 2008  
4702 Bland St  
Seabrook, TX 77586

**Applications Due ASAP**

Participants will be selected and notified by immediately.  
Workshop Fee of \$250 is due upon acceptance to the program.

**Questions?**

Contact Franklin Viola - DUOY and Media Projects Coordinator  
832.373.8393 or [franklin@gulfmex.org](mailto:franklin@gulfmex.org)

**PLEASE COMPLETE ALL BLANKS ON THIS APPLICATION.**

**1. PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Work Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

School (or organization): \_\_\_\_\_

City & State: \_\_\_\_\_

Grades/Audience & Subjects Taught: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Approx number of Students/Audience you teach Annually: \_\_\_\_\_ (For our records only)

## **2. THE SELECTION PROCESS:**

Applications will be reviewed (with applicant names blacked out) and rated by a committee of three people. Only one of them will be an educator by profession, so remember to limit buzzwords. Example, most non-educators won't know what "integrated classroom" means.

After the committee ranks all of the applications, the GMF dive team will review the full workshop applicants for dive experience beginning with the highest ranking. If the team determines an applicant's dive experience is insufficient to comfortably dive the Flower Garden Banks NMS the application will be removed from consideration.

The top 18 workshop candidates will be placed on the roster first. Candidates 19-22 will be listed as alternates and notified of their standing. All candidates will be notified of their selection ASAP.

*All candidates selected for the workshop will be required to submit a medical history form and a physical examination form, including mandatory electrocardiogram (ECG/EKG), chest x-ray and blood tests. All physical examinations and forms must be completed and signed by a physician between July 23, 2007 and July 19, 2007.*

Alternates may also wish to do this so they can be available in the event of last minute cancellations.

**The Gulf of Mexico Foundation reserves the right to disqualify any candidate based on the results of the physical, medical history and/or insufficient dive experience.**

### **3. REQUIRED ESSAY:**

**Briefly describe how you plan to incorporate the knowledge and skills you expect to gain from this field experience into your current curriculum.** *Please limit your description to one side of a letter size paper and type your response. We know it's hard to be specific when you have not yet had the course, but if you have ideas for specific activities or approaches, please list them.*

***Remember, this is the primary basis for selection.***

**At a minimum, you should address the following questions:**

- If you teach science, do you currently have a marine unit? If so, how will you use this experience to enhance your existing unit(s)? Be as specific as possible.
- If you teach a marine science/biology class, does it include coral reef ecosystems? If so, how will you use this experience to enhance your existing unit(s)?
- If you have no marine or coral reef unit(s), do you expect to develop one as a result of this experience? How long will the unit be?
- Will you be working with teachers of other subjects to incorporate your new knowledge into their programs as well?
- If you are NOT a science teacher, how will you incorporate this experience into the subject(s) you teach?
- Will you be working with science teachers to incorporate your knowledge into their units as well as your own?
- If you do not teach in a traditional classroom setting, how often will you use the knowledge of coral reef ecosystems and issues you gain through this experience? After gaining this knowledge, are you willing to commit to giving a specific number of Flower Garden Banks NMS programs at your facility, or in other schools/facilities? How many?

***Please attach a typed response to your application.***

#### **4. DIVE CONDITIONS WARNING--PLEASE READ CAREFULLY:**

Diving conditions at the Flower Garden Banks NMS range from fairly easy to quite difficult, primarily due to the unpredictability of weather, sea state and ocean currents. The standard entry from the dive vessel is to giant stride from 5-6 feet above the water's surface. Diving depths range from about 55 feet to 130 feet. Visibility ranges anywhere from 30 ft to 120 ft; average is about 70-90 ft. in July.

**You may experience currents moving in different directions and at varying strengths as you descend.** Local currents may change directions mid-way through your dive. This is not a drift dive; you will be required to get yourself back to the dive boat.

Wave action ranges from 1-8 ft seas. 2-4 ft seas are the norm.

**Exiting the water by climbing the ladder at the boat's stern can be difficult.**

Surface currents range from 0 to 3+ knots. On this trip, if wave height is greater than 6 ft or current velocity greater than 1.5 knots, diving will be postponed. All dives are optional (if you're not certain you can handle it, don't do it). The boat captain and GMF dive master reserve the right to cancel or postpone diving based on their assessment of diver skills and environmental conditions. **Their word is law!** (Not to mention the voices of experience!)

**5. DIVE EXPERIENCE:**

**Please list all current Diving Certifications including CPR, First Aid, Nitrox, etc.**

<b>Certification Type</b>	<b>Certifying Agency</b>	<b>Date</b>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

**Self Assessment:** (please circle the appropriate answer)

Have you ever run out of air during a dive? Yes / No

Have you ever been treated in a Hyperbaric Chamber for a dive related accident? Yes / No

Have you ever experienced symptoms of Decompression Sickness (DCS)? Yes / No

Have you ever experienced near-drowning, gas embolism or pulmonary barotraumas? Yes / No

If you answered *Yes*, to any of the previous four questions please provide details:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Total Number of Dives: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Last Dive: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Dives in Last 12 months: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Dives in Last 5 years: \_\_\_\_\_

How many of these were conducted in open/salt water? \_\_\_\_\_

If none, when was your last open/salt water dive? \_\_\_\_\_

Maximum Dive Depth: \_\_\_\_\_ Last 12 months: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please indicate approximate number of dives completed in all areas you have some diving experience:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Saltwater \_\_\_\_\_ Fresh water \_\_\_\_\_ Aquarium

\_\_\_\_\_ Coral Reef \_\_\_\_\_ Offshore (no land in sight) \_\_\_\_\_ Blue Water

\_\_\_\_\_ Large Boat (>70') \_\_\_\_\_ Small Boat (<70')

\_\_\_\_\_ Giant Stride Entry \_\_\_\_\_ Shore/Beach Entry \_\_\_\_\_ Pier/Dock Entry

\_\_\_\_\_ Visibility 0' \_\_\_\_\_ Visibility 1-20' \_\_\_\_\_ Visibility >20'

\_\_\_\_\_ Depth 0-60' \_\_\_\_\_ Depth 61-100'

\_\_\_\_\_ Depth 101-130' \_\_\_\_\_ Depth >130'

\_\_\_\_\_ Heavy Surf Entry \_\_\_\_\_ Strong Current \_\_\_\_\_ High Seas

\_\_\_\_\_ Night \_\_\_\_\_ Dive Computer \_\_\_\_\_ Nitrox

**Additional Dive Experience:**

(cold water, scientific, military, underwater photography, research, search & recovery, etc)

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How would you rate yourself in comfort and confidence when diving in strenuous conditions?

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Geographic Locations where you have been diving (Mexico, Bahamas, Hawaii, etc):

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