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Oceans of Possibilities with Camp SeaPort

(Port Arthur, Texas) - Summer is the ideal time for kids to get up, get out and explore. But for some, especially in Port Arthur, summer means no access to structured recreational and educational activities to help them learn, grow, and thrive. For most at the end of the summer, families want to hear their child had "the best summer ever." To help make that happen the Port of Port Arthur hosted its annual youth community outreach program, Camp SeaPort!

Camp Seaport was held Monday, July 10th through Friday, July 14th. It provided 33 local students from Port Arthur and surrounding areas with the opportunity to keep their minds and bodies active through fun and unique educational experiences. Campers explore the maritime industry, meet new friends, discover new interests, and create memories that last a lifetime. Camp SeaPort had a record number of students participating this year. "At Camp SeaPort, youth are in a welcoming environment where they can belong, they're building relationships, developing character, and discovering their potential. We really encourage parents to give their kids the gift of signing them up for Camp SeaPort and introducing them to the maritime industry." says Port Commissioner Linda Spears.

As a 501c3 non-profit, Camp SeaPort is supported by and through incredible volunteers, local industry leaders, individual donors and the Port of Port Arthur. This camp is FREE for all participants; therefore a fundraiser is held once a year to support most of the program's endeavors. This year our partners consisted of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Services, Texas General Land Office, Beaumont Reserve Fleet MARAD, MOTIVA, Officer Ricky Antoine — PAPD, US Coast Guard, Sabine Pilots, Port of Beaumont, Lamar State College Port Arthur, Lamar State College Orange, Mobiloil Credit Union, Dr. Barabara Polk, and Laura Welch — PAISD. The port sees great possibilities with the continuous growth of this program and the increase in community engagement surrounding Camp SeaPort!

Congratulations to our 2023 Camp SeaPort Graduates:

Alejandro Martinez Ivan Villareyna Lynnetra Taylor **Anyla Freeman** Jaden Nguyen Maliyah Wolf **Ashaun Hill** Jairo Bustamante Marlen Vides **Ashton Tyree Jasmin Watler** Michael Tran **Aura Martinez Jordan Green Nathaniel Leija Breeann Saunders** Julia Nguyen **Roselyn Vides Bryan Saunders Royal Iles** Kayla Hope **Cayden Orta** Kenneth Morgan III Ryan Kirk **Charlie Alfred Khyrie Joseph** Sarai Estrada **Derion Charles** La'Damien West **Tori Chance Lonnie Richardson Eric Torres**

Producing leaders of change through maritime industry exposure, education, and encouragement.

- Larry Kelley, Port Director & CEO

