

The



# Sanibel Shell Show

## Scientific Application

**The Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club**

March 6-8, 2025

The Marriott Sanibel Harbour Resort





**2025 ANNUAL SANIBEL SHELL SHOW  
MARCH 6-8, 2025  
MARRIOTT SANIBEL HARBOUR RESORT**



Dear Exhibitor,

Exciting news! The 2025 Sanibel Shell Show returns to the Marriott Sanibel Harbour Resort as a **THREE DAY SHOW**, running from Thursday, March 6, through Saturday, March 8, 2025. Show hours are Thursday and Friday 9am-5pm and Saturday 9am-4pm.

As always, please read the rules carefully because there have been several changes and additions since last year. We want to ensure that your exhibit qualifies for the class you are entering and meets the size limitations and other requirements. Pay specific attention to page 1. If you have any questions, please contact the chairperson of the division you are entering.

Entry forms are accepted in the order the Artistic and Scientific Exhibit Chairpersons receive them. Their addresses can be found on the entry forms. **The Division Chairpersons reserve the right to limit the number of items per exhibitor if entries exceed the available space.** All entry forms must be received by **February 1, 2025**. Entries in both Divisions will no longer be accepted once the available exhibition space has been exceeded.

Exhibits must be brought to the Marriott Sanibel Harbour Resort, **Tuesday, March 4, between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM.**

Exhibits must be removed on Saturday, March 8th between **4:15 PM and no later than 6:00 PM.**

The judges for the 2025 Annual Sanibel Shell Show Scientific Division are as follows:

**Kevan Sunderland and John Slapcinsky**

The traditional Judges and Awards Reception will be held at the Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum on Thursday, March 6. The doors will open at 5:45 PM. Reservations are required to attend the reception. The reservation form can be found on the last page of this document.

The Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club is excited to continue its rich history of delivering a quality shell show for the public, exhibitors, vendors and club members. It is through the efforts of many dedicated volunteers that we achieve the show's success. In addition to being an exhibitor at the show, please consider volunteering your time during the set up or during show days. We have many different volunteer roles and time slots available to suit your interests and availability.

We sincerely thank you for entering your exhibit in the 2025 Annual Sanibel Shell Show and we look forward to your participation. If you have any questions, please contact:

*Kathy Kenley,*

**2025 Sanibel Shell Show Scientific Division Chair**  
609-442-8113  
DOLPHIN\_GAL2000@YAHOO.COM

## 2025 SANIBEL SHELL SHOW - SCIENTIFIC EXHIBITOR PACKET

### PLEASE NOTE THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

#### **\*\*\* EVENT HOTEL DISCOUNT \*\*\***

We are excited to announce that **Hampton Inn & Suites of Fort Myers Beach** is offering a discount off their regular room rate to our exhibitors and vendors for the 2025 Sanibel Shell Show. When booking, you have the option of flexible travel and may book 2 days before the 4th and up to 2 days after the 8th at the discounted rate.

Hampton Inn & Suites, 11281 Summerlin Square Dr, Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931. The booking link: <https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?ctyhocn=FMYHSHX&groupCode=CHHSSS&arrivaldate=2025-03-04&departuredate=2025-03-08&cid=OM,VW,HILTONLINK,EN,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT>

Reservations must be cancelled 48 hours before arrival date for full refund.

If you experience difficulty in booking, contact Adriana Jessup, Director of Sales, 239-437-8888

#### **\*\*\* NEW FAMILY CLASSES \*\*\***

We deleted Class 16 (family) and replaced it with **Class 16, Major Family**, and **Class 17, Minor Family**. Due to that change, all subsequent class numbers have changed. Please be mindful of class number when completing the entry form.

#### **\*\*\* NEW REQUIREMENT FOR "BEST OF THE BLUES" \*\*\***

The Best of the Blues, Class 30, is for exhibits that have previously won a Blue Ribbon at a Sanibel Shell Show and must be the same as was exhibited the year it won. **A photo must be taken of the exhibit and be provided when you enter Best of the Blues. Additionally, on the entry form, you must note the year and the class the ribbon was won.**

### APPLICATION

The deadline for receiving Scientific application is **February 1, 2025**.

### PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

To promote the highest quality at the Sanibel Shell Show, all awards, except "People's Choice," will only be given if the Judges determine an entry is deserving of a given award because of quality and content.

An exhibit entered as the sole contender within a given class must fulfill the parameters of a high-quality exhibit, in the Judges opinion, in order to win a First Place award in that class. Likewise, if there are only two exhibits within a class, it does not guarantee a First Place and Second Place winner.

### SCIENTIFIC DIVISION

**Applications accepted via email or traditional mail.**

**VERY IMPORTANT:** It is the exhibitor's responsibility to notify the Scientific Chair if the exhibit wins a major award elsewhere after the entry form is submitted.

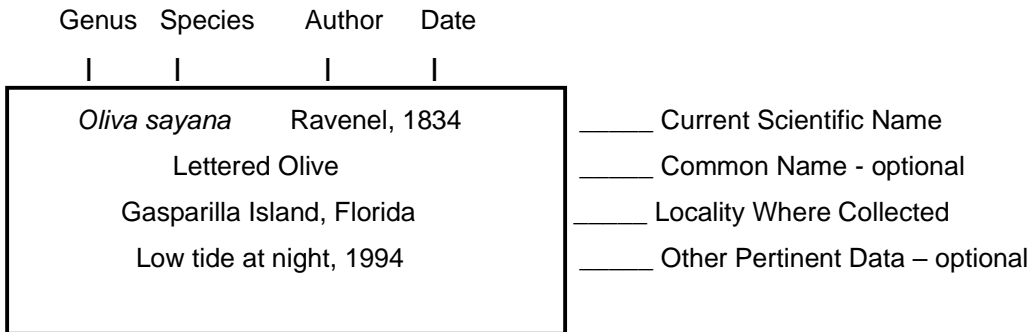
## 2025 SANIBEL SHELL SHOW RULES

### **GENERAL RULES – Applicable to both Scientific and Artistic Division Exhibits**

1. Exhibitor may enter more than one class, but no more than one entry per class.
2. Entry applications are accepted on a space-available basis. They will be accepted in the order in which they are received. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to select the appropriate entry class. Entry class may not be changed after the Application Due Date except with approval of the Division Chairperson.
3. The contents of each exhibit must be the property of the exhibitor – no borrowed specimens or art pieces. When an exhibit is a collaboration, the names of all exhibitors must appear on the entry form.
4. As judging is anonymous, the exhibitor's name or photos of themselves must not be visible on any exhibit until after judging is completed. This is especially pertinent to the artist's name or initials on individual artistic exhibit items.
5. Exhibitors shall check in and set up exhibits at the **Marriott Sanibel Harbour Resort at 17260 Harbour Pointe Drive Fort Myers only between the hours of 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM on Tuesday, March 4th, 2025**. Exhibitors must move their vehicle to the parking lot after unloading. **Diagrams for where to park will be distributed prior to the show. Each exhibitor is responsible for obtaining his/her own help for carrying in his/her exhibit(s)**. Immediately after setting up exhibits, exhibitors must exit the display room unless he/she is working with a Chairperson of the Shell Show. If an exhibitor cannot check in until after 4:00 PM, the exhibitor must make special arrangements with the Division Chairperson to check in later.
6. Arrangement and exact placement of exhibits will be determined by Shell Show officials and not by exhibitors. Accordingly, no exhibitor shall move or otherwise handle another's exhibit. Exhibitors may not handle their own exhibits while the show is open to the public without permission from the Shell Show Chairperson.
7. During the show, no exhibit or portion thereof may be removed. Anyone removing an exhibit prior to the show closing will be excluded from exhibiting in future shell shows.
8. Exhibitors must **remove all exhibits between the hours of 4:15 PM and 6:00 PM on Saturday, March 8th**. Please note the 4:15 PM time. We allow 15 minutes to clear the public and exhibitors for an orderly takedown **Exhibitors must inform Shell Show officials if someone other than the exhibitor is removing their exhibit**. Shell Show officials will remove exhibits not removed by 6:00 PM. Exhibitor will then be responsible for retrieval of his/her exhibit. **Exhibitor is responsible for obtaining his/her own help with carrying out his/her exhibit(s)**.
9. Evaluation of the merits of exhibits and the distribution of awards is solely the responsibility of the judges, whose decisions will be final. Awards in each class will be given only to the extent that the judges determine exhibits are of sufficient merit.
10. **Noncompetitive exhibits** may be entered in the show with permission of and at the sole discretion of the Division Chairperson. They will be allowed only on a space-available basis with priority always given to competitive exhibits.
11. Suggestions or complaints concerning the show must be directed to the Shell Show Chairperson only. Any unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of any exhibitor will be discussed at the next meeting of the Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club Board of Directors and appropriate action will be taken, including possible expulsion from future shows for a minimum of one year or perhaps longer.
12. **DISCLAIMER POLICY:** Exhibitor agrees and recognizes the Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club and the Marriott Sanibel Harbour Resort shall not, under any circumstances, be responsible for damage to or loss of the exhibitor's or vendor's property. This includes but is not limited to exhibits, items for sale, and personal property of the exhibitor or his/her staff or guests. It includes losses of every nature including but not limited to damage, destruction, and theft. Exhibitor acknowledges having been advised to obtain insurance to cover such potential losses.
13. Unsigned entry forms **will not** be processed.

**SCIENTIFIC DIVISION RULES** – **Applicable to Scientific Division Exhibits only.**

1. All scientific exhibit tables are **2 feet 6 inches (30 inches) deep**, front to back (depth).
2. **Total exhibit width is limited to 40 feet.** Every effort is made to avoid wrapping exhibits. **If the width of the exhibit changes** from what is stated on the entry form, the exhibitor is required to notify the Scientific Chair no later than two weeks prior to the shell show. Failure to do so may result in disqualification of the exhibit.
3. If an exhibit includes an upright poster or panel, its **height from tabletop shall not exceed 36 inches**, including stands or supports, and its back shall be plain and finished, preferably in a dark color, so as not to detract from exhibits on the other side of the back-to-back tables.
4. **The entire exhibit must be in enclosed cases except for the backboards.** These cases may or may not have the ability to be locked during show. They should be unlocked for judging so that judges can remove and examine individual specimens, as they deem necessary. If the exhibitor chooses to keep the exhibit cases locked during judging, he/she recognizes that his/her exhibit may receive a lesser award if judges wanted, but were unable, to remove specimens for examination. A single specimen within an exhibit in any class that is too large to be in an enclosed case may be entered with approval of the Scientific Chairperson.
5. Specimens must not be sprayed or coated with acrylic, lacquer or other artificial glazes.
6. An exhibit that received a First Place Award at a previous Sanibel Shell Show is ineligible as a competitive exhibit in the same category unless the exhibit has been changed more than fifty percent.
7. “Self-collected” means personally collected from the species’ natural habitat; personally retrieved on a boat from a trap, net or dredge; or personally retrieved on shore from beach drift or scallop dump. “Self-collected” does not include loaned, gifted, purchased or traded specimens. “Self-collected” specimens may be designated by a red star or dot on the label if they are not in a self-collected exhibit class.
8. All specimens must be labeled with full scientific name (genus, species or subspecies, author, date) and locality where collected. A diagrammatic chart, like the sample below may be used for labeling.



9. Genus & Species: The Latin or Latinized names are in italic. The genus name is capitalized. The species name is not capitalized. Leave space between genus and species name as shown above.
10. Author & Date: The person who first described and named the species and the year of authorship. When author and date are in parenthesis, it means that the species has been reclassified into a genus different from the one in which the author originally placed it.
11. Current scientific shell name: The WoRM website has the currently accepted name of the shell.  
Website: <http://www.marinespecies.org>

**NOTE: Remember to add a brief description of your exhibit(s) on the entry form in the space provided following the measurements of your exhibit. This helps us ensure that your exhibit is in the right class.**

## SCIENTIFIC JUDGING CRITERIA

All Scientific Exhibits at the Sanibel Shell Show will be judged by our Judges, in accordance with the recommended standards for judging, as outlined in the American Conchologist, March 2001 issue. Clear criteria are important for exhibitors, when creating an exhibit, and Judges during the judging process to provide a clear, systematic basis for judging. See criteria below.

### SCIENTIFIC / SPECIMENS MULTIPLE SHELLS EXHIBITS

#### Aesthetics

1. Attractiveness
2. Neatness

#### Specimen

1. Choice of Specimen
2. Completeness

#### Labels and Text

1. Correct spelling
2. Correct punctuation

#### Educational Value

1. Clarity
2. Scientific Accuracy
3. Interest / Originality

### SCIENTIFIC / SPECIMEN SINGLE SHELL EXHIBITS

#### Specimen

1. Quality and rarity

#### Label

1. Correct information

#### Display

1. Attractiveness and neatness

### INFORMATION ABOUT HOW TO CREATE A SHELL SHOW EXHIBIT:

If you have never created an exhibit for a shell show before or would like a refresher, check out this informative presentation with ideas about different ways to make a presentation. This is courtesy of John Timmerman of the North Carolina Shell Club and can be found at the following link.

<https://www.ncshellclub.com/Shell%20Exhibit%20JT1.htm>

## EXHIBIT CLASSES – SCIENTIFIC DIVISION

### 2025 SANIBEL SHELL SHOW



#### STUDENT CLASSES

1. GRADES K-6. Shells and/or sea life. Multiple or single shell. Worldwide. Any source
2. GRADES 7-12. Shells and/or sea life. Multiple or single shell. Worldwide. Any source

#### SINGLE SHELL CLASSES – One specimen only

3. SANIBEL-CAPTIVA – Self-collected
4. FLORIDA-CARIBBEAN – Self-collected
5. FLORIDA-CARIBBEAN – Any source
6. WORLDWIDE – Self-collected
7. WORLDWIDE – Any source
8. UNUSUAL VARIANTS (Albino, freak, etc.) – Any source
9. FOSSIL (Shells and/or other Sea Life) – Any source
10. SEA LIFE - OTHER THAN SHELLS – Coral, echinoderm, etc. – Any source

#### MULTIPLE SHELL CLASSES – Two or More Specimens

11. SANIBEL-CAPTIVA – Self-collected
12. FLORIDA-CARIBBEAN – Self-collected
13. FLORIDA-CARIBBEAN – Any source
14. WORLDWIDE – Self-Collected
15. WORLDWIDE – Any source
-  16. **ONE FAMILY, MAJOR** – Any source. All shells from one molluscan family including: Conidae, Cypraeidae, Muricidae, Pectinidae, Strombidae, Veneridae, and Volutidae.
-  **NEW** 17. **ONE FAMILY, MINOR:** All shells from one molluscan family not listed above in the major families in Class 16.
18. ONE GENUS – Any source
19. ONE SPECIES to show COLOR, FORM and/or GROWTH – Self-collected
20. ONE SPECIES to show COLOR, FORM and/or GROWTH – Any source
21. EDUCATIONAL. Shells intended primarily to teach. Any source
22. LAND or FRESH WATER SHELLS – Any source
23. UNUSUAL VARIANTS (Albino, freak, etc.) – Any source
24. FOSSILS (Shells and/or other Sea Life)– Any source
25. SEA LIFE - OTHER THAN SHELLS – Coral, echinoderm, etc. – Any source
26. SPECIAL – An exhibit that does not fit into any of the above classes
27. MINIATURES – Adult shells only, maximum size 1 inch. May be a general, regional, or specialized collection.
28. BEGINNING SCIENTIFIC EXHIBITOR: Any person over the age of 18 who has not exhibited in a recognized shell show prior to the current Shell Show season. This category applies to the first year of exhibiting only.
29. ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS - The objective of this class is to bring attention to how mollusks are impacted by issues including, but not limited to: pollution, ocean acidification, collecting practices pertaining to sustainability, climate change, and habitat destruction. Any source.  
Examples:
  - a. How invasive Apple snails devastate the native populations and how they affect the wetlands and marshes they live in
  - b. The effect warmer waters have on mollusks
  - c. The impact of microplastics on mollusks and marine life

#### SINGLE SHELL OR MULTIPLE SHELL CLASSES

30. BEST OF THE BLUES. Limited to any exhibit that has previously won a Blue Ribbon at any past Sanibel Shell Show and has not won a major award at any shell show. These exhibits are eligible for the du Pont Trophy and the Conchologists of America Award. **\*\*\*The exhibit MUST be the same as presented the year it won the Blue Ribbon. Please note the year and class the Ribbon was won on the entry form along with photo of the winning exhibit.\*\*\***
31. SANIBEL PLATINUM AWARD. Limited to exhibits that have previously won any major award, such as du Pont, C.O.A., Smithsonian or American Museum of Natural History Award, Masters, Superstar, Mote Gold, or Clench at any shell show. Exhibits in this class are not eligible for any additional award except “Shell of the Show” and the “People’s Choice Award.”

## SCIENTIFIC DIVISION SPECIAL AWARDS

### **DU PONT TROPHY**

This annual award is a plaque presented by the Delaware Museum of Natural History to the most outstanding exhibit of mollusks judged as contributing most to the success of the show and is most instructive and inspiring to visitors because of attractiveness, educational value and scientific accuracy. It may be given only to a blue-ribbon winning exhibit that has not been awarded another major award in the present show. The purpose of this award is to advance the cause of amateur Malacology by encouraging the entry of exhibits that will stimulate public interest and increase appreciation of the hobby and the scientific study of mollusks. It may be from Classes 1 – 29.

### **CONCHOLOGISTS OF AMERICA AWARD**

This award consists of a plaque and a pin presented by the Conchologists of America to the scientific exhibit that shows overall excellence and best furthers interest in shells and shell collecting. It may be given only to a blue-ribbon winning exhibit that has not been awarded another major award in the present show. It may be from Classes 1 - 29.

### **BEST SANIBEL-CAPTIVA SHELLS -- SELF-COLLECTED**

Best Sanibel-Captiva Shells in any class.

### **BEST FLORIDA-CARIBBEAN SHELLS – ANY SOURCE**

Best Florida-Caribbean Shells, any source, in Classes 12 and 13.

### **BEST WORLDWIDE SHELLS – ANY SOURCE**

Best Worldwide Exhibit, any source, in Classes 14 and 15.

### **BEST FOSSILS EXHIBIT – MULTIPLE SHELLS – ANY SOURCE**

Best Exhibit in Class 24.

### **SHELL OF SHOW -- SELF-COLLECTED**

The exhibit that, in the opinion of the Judges, is the best Self-collected Single Shell included in any exhibit. It is awarded for rarity and the condition of the specimen.

### **BEST SINGLE SOUTH PACIFIC SHELL AWARD**

Best Single South Pacific Shell in any exhibit.

### **SHELL OF SHOW: ANY SOURCE**

The exhibit that, in the opinion of the Judges, represents the best single shell from any source in any exhibit. It is awarded for rarity and the condition of the specimen.

### **SHELL OF SHOW: FOSSIL**

The exhibit that, in the opinion of the Judges, represents the best single shell fossil included in any exhibit.

### **BEST YOUNG SCIENTIST EXHIBIT AWARD**

Best Young Scientist Exhibit in Classes 1 and 2.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AWARD**

Best exhibit in Class 29.



## SCIENTIFIC DIVISION SPECIAL AWARDS

### **BEST OF THE BLUES**

This award is presented to the best Entry in Class 30. This is limited to any exhibit that has previously won a Blue Ribbon at any past Sanibel Shell Show and has not won a major award at any shell show. These exhibits are eligible for the du Pont Trophy and the Conchologists of America Award. The exhibit MUST be the same as presented the year it won the Blue Ribbon.

### **SANIBEL PLATINUM AWARD**

This award is presented to the best Entry in Class 31. It is limited to exhibits that have previously won any broad-category major award, such as the Masters, du Pont, C.O.A., Bosch, Mote, Clench, Masters Award, or other similar major award at any shell show. Entries for the Platinum Award compete only for this one award in the show with the exception of the People's Choice Award.

### **PEOPLES' CHOICE AWARD – SCIENTIFIC**

Presented to the Scientific exhibit voted most outstanding by the public.

### **JUDGE'S SPECIAL RIBBONS**

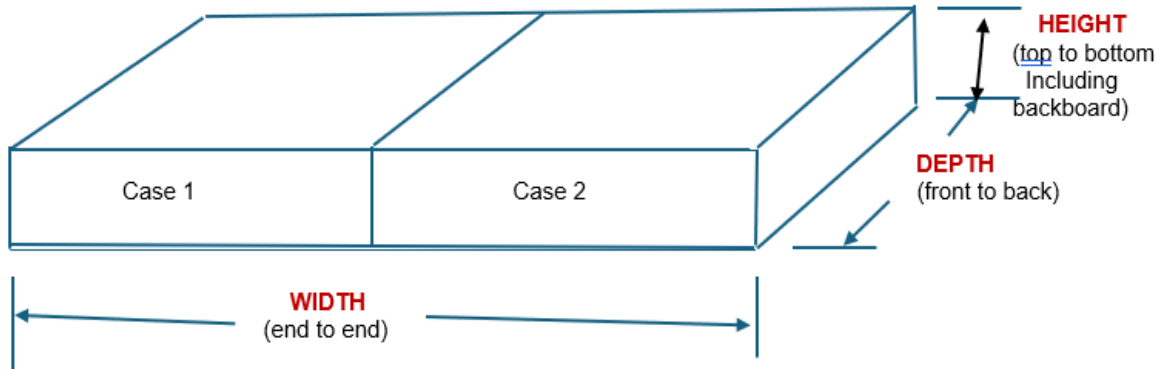
One award by each Scientific Judge to any Scientific Division exhibit.

### **JUDGES' MERIT RIBBON**

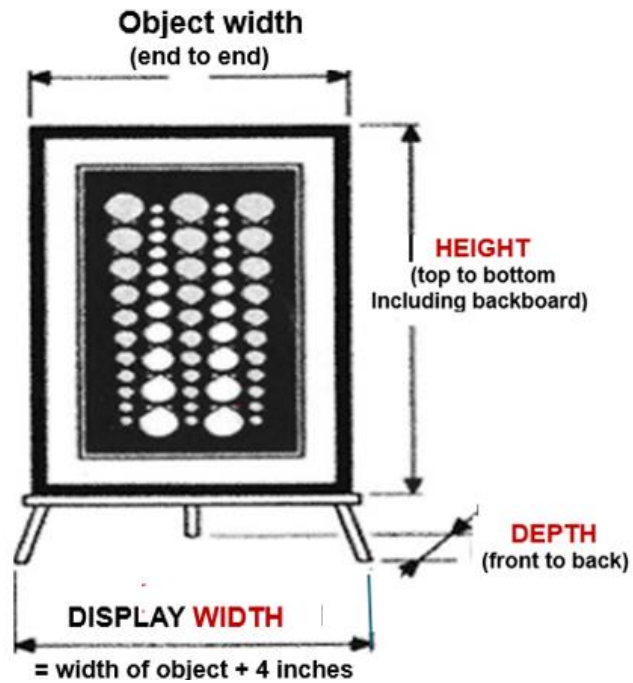
Awarded to a non-blue-ribbon scientific exhibit that both Judges agree was noteworthy of recognition.

## SCIENTIFIC DIVISION DIMENSIONS FOR ENTRY FORM

### DISPLAY CASES



### TABLE EASELS



**SCIENTIFIC DIVISION ENTRY FORM - 2025 SANIBEL SHELL SHOW**

*Please print and fill out completely*

**ENTRY MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 1, 2025**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

WINTER SEASON ADDRESS (IF ANY) \_\_\_\_\_

PRIMARY PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ ALTERNATE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

If you are age 17 or under, please indicate your age and grade: \_\_\_\_\_

LEAVE BLANK	CLASS NUMBER	# OF CASES	OVERALL EXHIBIT SIZE			DESCRIPTION OF EXHIBIT (with shell names) & MAJOR AWARDS WON FROM OTHER SHELL SHOWS, IF ANY
			HEIGHT Including Backboard	DEPTH	WIDTH	

If entering Class 30 indicate below the award (du Pont, COA, Smithsonian, etc.) that qualifies your exhibit for entry, and the name of the show and year in which the award was conferred. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to notify the Scientific Chair if the exhibit wins a major award after the entry form is submitted.

AWARD: \_\_\_\_\_ SHOW: \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR: \_\_\_\_\_

**DISCLAIMER POLICY:** Exhibitor agrees and recognizes the Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club and the Marriott Sanibel Harbour Resort shall not under any circumstances be responsible for damage to or the loss of the exhibitor's property. This includes, but is not limited to: exhibits, items for sale and personal property of the exhibitor or his/her staff or guests. It includes losses of every nature including but not limited to damage, destruction and theft. Exhibitor acknowledges having been advised to obtain insurance to cover such potential losses.

Is someone other than you bringing in or taking out your entry? \_\_\_ Who? \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNED:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

Would you commit to a 2-hour shift to help at the show? YES: \_\_\_ NO: \_\_\_

Is this your first time exhibiting at the Sanibel Shell Show? YES: \_\_\_ NO: \_\_\_

Are you willing to donate an exhibit to the Club for fundraising purposes? YES: \_\_\_ NO: \_\_\_

If so, please reach out to the Scientific Chair with a photo and description of the item. It can be an item that has been exhibited before or not at all. Thank you for your consideration!

**PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR COMPLETED ENTRY FORM TO KATHY KENLEY, SCIENTIFIC CHAIR**

ENTRIES CAN BE EMAILED TO: DOLPHIN\_GAL2000@YAHOO.COM Questions: 609-442-8113

ENTRIES CAN BE MAILED TO: KATHY KENLEY, P.O. Box # 3233, North Fort Myers, FL 33918



You are cordially invited to join the judges, members of the Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club and the Shell Show Committee at the

## *2025 Sanibel Shell Show Judges and Awards Reception*

**Wednesday, March 5th, 2025**

*at the*

**Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum**

*3075 Sanibel-Captiva Road, Sanibel Island*

- 5:45 p.m. *Social time*
- 6:30 p.m. *Hors d'oeuvres*
- 7:15 pm. *Introduction of Judges and Winners announced*
- 7:30 p.m. *Sneak Preview of the Shell Show at the Marriott Sanibel Harbour Resort **open only to those with a reception wristband***

**\$35 per person**

*Seating is limited. Make your reservation early.*

**No reservations accepted after maximum number of reservations is reached or after February 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Yes, I would love to join the festivities.**

Names of people attending \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone or email \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to:** Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club  
**Mail to:** Sanibel-Captiva Shell Club, P.O. Box 355, Sanibel, FL 33957

**(DO NOT send with Exhibit Form** because that will delay your reservation from reaching the proper person.)

**Your admission to the Sneak Preview requires the Name Tag you receive at the Reception.**