

Greetings,

I'm writing on behalf of PETA and our more than 6.5 million members and supporters worldwide regarding the recent announcement that you plan to perform at [SeaWorld's Seven Seas Food Festival](#). Many of our members have contacted us with concerns about your support of the controversial park despite its lengthy and well-documented record of treating animals inhumanely. It has faced a wave of [public backlash](#) and has been under tremendous scrutiny for its [inability to care for marine mammals](#).

At the end of January, 30-year-old [Kayla became the 42<sup>nd</sup> orca to die](#) on SeaWorld's watch. After being hauled from park to park, performing tricks in chemically treated water for a reward of dead fish, miscarrying a calf and losing another, and enduring forced artificial insemination, she died well shy of her normal life expectancy, stuck in a tiny tank. Before her, three orcas died at SeaWorld in 2017, including 3-month-old Kyara, her grandmother Kasatka, and her grandfather Tilikum, who's featured in the documentary *Blackfish*. According to reports, Kasatka had been suffering from a bacterial lung infection since at least 2008, and her ailing body was covered with lesions. Even during her illness, SeaWorld San Diego subjected her to rape via artificial insemination and forced her to carry a baby to full term, something the parks continue to do to other dolphins and whales, sometimes after they've been drugged and removed from the water so that they can't fight back.

While free-roaming male orcas live an average of 30 years and up to 60 and females live an average of 50 years and up to more than 100, [41 orcas have died at SeaWorld at an average age of 14](#)—and not one reached the maximum life expectancy of an orca in the wild. More than 300 other dolphins and whales and approximately 450 seals, sea lions, and walruses—along with countless smaller animals—have also died on the company's watch.

As more members of the public have learned about SeaWorld's cruel treatment of animals, its reputation has declined significantly. The company and a former CEO recently agreed to pay \$5 million to settle the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission's charges that the business misled investors about the negative impact that *Blackfish* was having on it. It is facing shareholder and consumer lawsuits and lost more than 1,100 positions since the 2013 release of the film.

**We hope that after considering this information, you'll choose to distance yourself from this abuse and cancel your performance at SeaWorld. If you do, you'll undoubtedly be celebrated by fans for taking a stand against cruelty.**

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards,  
Rachel Stotts  
PETA