

## Paul A. Anderson

Education Coordinator and Lead Aquarist, The Pier Aquarium St. Petersburg, Florida

Bachelor of Science Degree, Marine Biology Eckerd College

Paul Anderson grew up in a small suburb outside Boston, Massachusetts. He graduated from Eckerd College in 1997 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Marine Biology with a minor in Chemistry. Paul's research focused on the effect of food upon nitrogen cycling in recently established aquaria, turtle grass stress and monitoring, dolphin photo-identification and behavior, and the study of a relationship between mysids and damselfish in Belize, Central America. Paul decided to expand his skills as an aquarist and became the aquarium supervisor of the Galbraith Marine Science Laboratory.

After graduating, Paul focused on his interests in aquarium management and accepted a position as an aquarist and mobile exhibit coordinator at Mote Marine Laboratory in Sarasota, FL.

Paul joined the Pier Aquarium in 1999 as the Education coordinator and Lead Aquarist. He is responsible for weekly maintenance of several exhibit aquaria. As the education coordinator, he has had the opportunity to develop unique "hands-on" marine educational programs. The programs are presented, in conjunction with many local environmental organizations, to the Tampa Bay community.