

The Daphnia

A Floating Observatory – A Journey into the Heart of Lake Tahoe

In the presence of Lake Tahoe's majestic beauty, Al Gore posed a crucial question: "Will the future wonder why we didn't act or marvel at how we transformed this place?" We stand at a crossroads, with the opportunity to make political collaboration a renewable resource and forge a legacy of preservation. Imagine a future where we not only protect Lake Tahoe but become custodians of its profound spirit.

Lake Tahoe, known as the 'womb of their mother' by the Washoe, holds stories of a relationship with land, water, wildlife, and air spanning 10,000 years. Their ability to leave no trace was rooted in an intimate connection, an understanding that resonates with the very essence of this national treasure. It's time for us to take the first step – to connect with Tahoe, to listen to its whispers carried by the wind and the songs sung by its waters.

In this pursuit, we propose the creation of a Floating Observatory, a vessel designed not just to host events but to serve as a sanctuary for connection. A floating science center that beckons you closer to the heart of the water, where the lines between observer and observed blur, and you become a part of the lake's inner circle.

As you step onto this floating haven, imagine feeling the gentle embrace of Tahoe's soul, transcending the boundaries of land and water. Our observatory is not merely a structure; it's a portal into the heart of a natural wonder. Here, amidst panoramic views, you'll be invited to listen, to feel, and to be receptive to the wisdom carried by the winds and waters.

This isn't just a venue; it's an experience that transforms visitors into stewards. Through the immersive science center, we aim to educate and inspire, fostering a sense of responsibility and mindfulness. Imagine a space where conferences are not just about business but also about forging a deeper connection with the environment we inhabit.

With your support, we aspire to answer Al Gore's challenge by making political collaboration a renewable resource. The Floating Observatory is not just a structure on the lake; it's a promise, a commitment to safeguarding Lake Tahoe's legacy. Join us in this journey into the heart of Tahoe, where collaboration becomes second nature, and the future marvels at how we embraced the responsibility of being its guardians

PROPOSAL

Sustain Tahoe, in collaboration with UC Davis, proposes the creation of a 5,000 sq. ft. Floating Observatory Science, Conference Center on Lake Tahoe. This innovative project, funded by the Oracle Charitable Foundation, aims to provide a unique venue for conferences and events while educating visitors on the delicate ecosystem of Lake Tahoe. The project aligns with Oracle's commitment to environmental stewardship and innovation, contributing to public goodwill and enhancing the Oracle and Hyatt brands in the community and globally.



Floating Observatory Design

1. Floating Observatory features include: modular design, (so it can be assembled at the lake), a state-of-the-art immersive science center to educate visitors about the unique aspects and sensitivities of Lake Tahoe's ecosystem, underwater viewing stations covered spaces for gatherings and events, restrooms and rough weather retractable hood.
2. As a floating barge it can be towed and tethered to various docks and piers around the Lake using a small tugboat.
3. It will have docking stations for small watercraft and convertible ramps for easy pedestrian access.

Educational Focus

1. The science center will emphasize environmental stewardship, educating visitors about the impact of over-tourism and inspiring responsible travel.
2. UC Davis students will staff the science center, gaining hands-on experience in environmental education and research while being docents for visitors.

Funding and Tax Benefits

1. Oracle Charitable Foundation funding will provide a significant tax write-off.
2. The collaboration with Sustain Tahoe and UC Davis ensures the project aligns with educational and environmental goals offering additional tax benefits for Oracle.

Public Goodwill and Brand Enhancement

1. Sustain Tahoe designated team will guide the management of the project, providing a positive impact in the Lake Tahoe Community.
2. Oracle and Hyatt's association with this environmentally conscious initiative will enhance their global and local reputation.

Research and Innovation

1. The Floating Observatory will contribute to lake research, fostering innovation and potential start-ups.
2. Oracle also has an opportunity to showcase technology on the craft, attracting global attention and reinforcing its commitment to innovation.

Partnerships

1. Sustain Tahoe will facilitate partnerships with UC Davis, Oracle, and other relevant stakeholders.
2. Oracle's technological contributions and branding can be highlighted on the Floating Observatory

Staffing and University Support

1. UC Davis students will staff the science center, gaining valuable experience and contributing to the community.
2. The project's association with UC Davis fosters collaboration and supports lake research initiatives.

Budget Allocation

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1. Design and construction of the Floating Observatory. (projections upon request)
2. Technology integration, highlighting Oracle's innovation.
3. Operational costs, including UC Davis student stipends.

Revenue Streams

1. Tourism events
2. Ongoing hosting as an immersive TERC Science Center
3. Conference and event rental fees
4. Sponsorship and collaboration opportunities (like the annual Executive Summit)
5. Positive impact on Oracle and Hyatt's Brand Value

Conclusion:

The Daphnia, Floating Observatory Science and Conference Center is an ambitious project that aligns with Oracle and Hyatt's commitment to environmental sustainability, education, and innovation. By creating a unique space for conferences and events, coupled with an immersive science center, the project will foster public goodwill, enhance brand value, and contribute to the preservation of Lake Tahoe's ecosystem. With Oracle Charitable Foundation's support, this project is not only a sound business proposition, and tax write-off but also a powerful force for positive change.