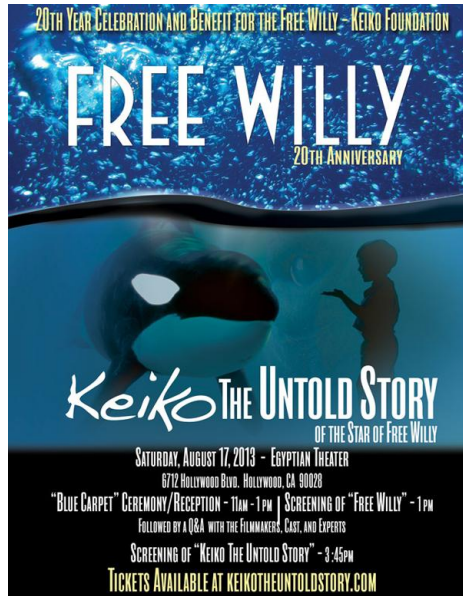


## "Free Willy" 20th Anniversary A Benefit for Free Willy-Keiko Foundation

Keiko the whale was two years old when he was captured off the coast of Iceland and sold to an Icelandic aquarium. Three years later he was sold to Marineland in Ontario, Canada, where he began performing for the public. After developing skin lesions, an indication of poor health, Keiko was then sold to an amusement park in Mexico in 1985. It was during his time at Reino Aventura ("Adventure Kingdom") in Mexico City that he was cast in "Free Willy", the 1993 movie that told the story of a boy who befriends a whale and then frees him.



In celebration of the 20th anniversary release of "Free Willy", the movie that led to Keiko's rehabilitation and return to the wild, the [Free Willy-Keiko Foundation](#) and the film's production company, Joshua Records, LLC, will host the world-premiere screening of "Keiko The Untold Story of the Star of Free Willy", together with a showing of the original family classic, "Free Willy", at Hollywood's landmark Egyptian Theatre on August 17, 2013. This gala event will bring together many of the movers and shakers in current marine mammal protection efforts, as well as the Hollywood stars and production team from the 1993 summer blockbuster "Free Willy."

This celebration of Keiko's life and legacy is a benefit for the Free Willy-Keiko Foundation and will include a "Blue Carpet" ceremony and reception from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; a 1-3 p.m. screening of the movie "Free Willy" followed by a Q&A with producers and cast from both films; and a 3:45

p.m. screening of the documentary "Keiko, The Untold Story of the Star of Free Willy" now available in Blu-Ray/HD.

**PAWS president and co-founder, Ed Stewart, has been invited to be a guest speaker at this exciting event.** For information and tickets, [click here](#).

This event is being sponsored by [Earth Island Institute](#), [Free Willy-Keiko Foundation](#), [The Humane Society of the United States](#), [Hollywood Outreach](#), [Heal the Bay](#), New Regency Enterprises, Warner Bros., and Joshua Records, LLC.