



BENEATH THE SEA®

Proudly Presents their
PIONEER FOR 2024

Richard Kohler

Beneath the Sea's Pioneer Awards Program reaches back into the annuals of underwater research, travel, arts, and community to select someone who has spent their life achieving recognition and bringing honor to the underwater diving community. It is the nature of this category that it seeks to bring the experienced into contact with the young so that each may discover the joy of life and discovery.

Richie Kohler is an author and shipwreck explorer whose 40 years of diving experience have taken him to all corners of the globe, exploits detailed in documentary films and a NY Times best-selling book, *Shadow Divers*, by Robert Kurson. Kohler hosted fifty-six episodes of the popular History Channel program "Deep Sea Detectives" and numerous other television programs detailing his explorations on some of the most famous shipwrecks in the world, including the *Andrea Doria*, *RMS Titanic*, and the *HMHS Britannic* employ-



ing submersibles and cutting-edge diving equipment. Richie's focus in underwater exploration has been on the human aspect of shipwreck tragedies, correcting fractured or missing history and in doing so, providing answers and closure to family members by locating and identifying lost warships such as the *USS Murphy*, *USS Lagarto*, *U-215*, and *U-869* and reaching out to these people has been the real reward of shipwreck exploration. Recent work on a forgotten WWII submarine battle has led to a posthumous recognition of an American Naval Captain at an award ceremony at the US Pentagon. A fellow in the Explorer's Club, Kohler continues to lead expeditions worldwide in search of lost ships and the mysteries they hold. He has written numerous magazine articles about shipwrecks, deep diving, and diver safety. He published his first book in 2017, *Mystery of the Last Olympian*, detailing a decade of work on *Titanic's* sister ship, *Britannic*. Over the years, he has made numerous presentations at schools, libraries, diving conventions, and symposiums promoting diving safety, education, and awareness.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Maria Hults, Multi-Mediahouse, 631.728.2285, mediahouse5309@Gmail.com