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## PROGRAM DETAILS

**PROGRAM DATES:** July 7th-13th, 2019

**PROGRAM DURATION:** 7 DAYS, 5 DAYS ON MONA ISLAND

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** MARCH 1, 2019\*

**APPEALS TO** Those With An Interest In Animal Behavior, Herpetology, Conservation Biology, Zoology And Environmental Science

**TRAINING SKILLSETS:** Animal Handling, Health Assessments, Morphological Measurement, Environmental Data Collection, Spatial Analysis, Population Surveys, Wilderness Trekking

**PROGRAM COST:** \$3000\*\*

\*LIMITED SPACES AWARDED ON A FIRST-COME FIRST-SERVE BASIS

\*\*NOT INCLUDED: FLIGHTS TO/FROM PUERTO RICO, SLEEPING BAG, SNACKS, PHARMACEUTICALS, HEALTH CARE, PERSONAL CARE, OR FIRST AID.

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## MONA ISLAND

Situated in the heart of the Caribbean, equidistant from Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic, Mona Island is often called the Galapagos of the Caribbean. Once just a destination for pirates and privateers, Mona is protected by the Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER) and special permits are needed to access the island.

Records of Pre-Taino culture, potentially the Casmiroids, inhabiting the Mona Passage date back to 1000 BC. The Taino are descendants of the indigenous South American and Caribbean Arawak and named the Island after their Cacique or chief who was called *Amona*.



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## EXPEDITION MONA 2019



*“You half expect a Pterodactyl to swoop down from the jagged cliff edge and into its coral filled, crystal waters.”*



### The Mona Coqui

*(Eleutherodactylus monensis)*

This endemic species is the only amphibian found on Mona Island and the focus of our research!

### The Mona Iguana

*(Cyclura cornuta stejnegeri)*

This is the largest native lizard in Puerto Rico! Found only on Mona Island.



## Island Mysteries

The Island is home to 16 incredible species of amphibians and reptiles, of which 92% are endemic, meaning they are found no where else in the world. Stepping onto the shores of Mona is like taking a leap back in time. A time before human development played a role in species interactions and obstructed our view of the natural world around us. You are on an untouched island in the heart of the Caribbean Sea, the sunset will be yours to share with only the island wildlife. With zero light pollution, stars are abundant, Fall asleep to the enchanting call of the Mona Coqui frog, and wake up to the roaming iguanas and the majestic island sunrise.

### Hawksbill Sea Turtle

*(Eretmochelys imbricata)*

This critically endangered species uses Mona Island as an important nesting site due to its location.

### Mona Gecko

*(Sphaerodactylus monensis)*

This small but beautiful gecko has a limited range on the islands of Mona and Monito.



## Expedition Leaders

Rafael L. Joglar, Ph.D. Professor of Biology, University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras; Director, Proyecto Coqui

Louis Santiago Brevan, Fideicomiso de Conservación

Jennifer L. Stabile, Associate Research Scientist, Field Projects International; President, International Herpetological Symposium