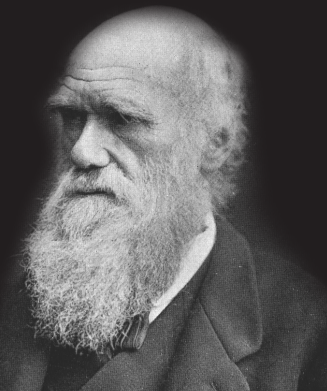


**2026** Celebrating the advancement of science, education, and human well-being

# DARWIN DAY



PRESENTED BY THE UAB DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12**

ALYS ROBINSON STEPHENS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER  
1200 10TH AVE S, BIRMINGHAM, AL,  
35294

## EVENTS

### Poster Session and Reception: 6:00-7:00pm

The Department of Biology will present a public poster session highlighting current research.

### Keynote Lecture by Andrea Bodnar: 7:00-8:00pm

*"The Ocean's Methuselahs - Genomic Signatures of Exceptional Longevity and Negligible Aging in Sea Urchins"*

## Andrea Bodnar, Ph.D.

Dr. Andrea Bodnar is the Science Director at the Gloucester Marine Genomics Institute, where she works at the intersection of marine biology and human health. She has a unique background, with formal training in biochemistry and neuroscience that led her to a position as a Senior Scientist at the Molecular Discovery Lab at the Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences (BIOS), where she conducted research using sea urchins to understand the cellular and molecular mechanisms underlying longevity. Her current work takes advantage of the close genetic relationship between humans and urchins to understand the molecular and cellular pathways controlling lifespan and disease resistance, searching for novel strategies for combating age-related diseases.



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