



# Austin Lefevre

## Director of Residential & Commercial Accounts

### Role at Tenji

Austin oversees residential and commercial installations nationwide in addition to managing the Tenji showroom and local maintenance accounts. He has been working with aquatic animals since 2002, and is now well-versed in the creation of stunning exhibits that allow their inhabitants to not just survive, but thrive.

### Project Highlights

#### **7,000-Gallon Residential Reef Aquarium** *completed 2020*

As project manager for Tenji's largest-ever living reef tank, Austin brought his extensive biological expertise to the task of designing this unparalleled exhibit. After two years guiding the design of this unthinkable large residential tank, Austin and the Tenji team brought the client's extraordinary dream to life: being able to SCUBA dive in his own aquarium.

#### **Cabrillo High School Touch Tank** *completed 2020*

The first of its kind, this cascading tank groups animals by sensitivity, using height variation to allow for age-appropriate touch tank interactions. Austin, the project manager, oversaw logistics, rigging, plumbing, and fabrication for this educational exhibit, personally running plumbing lines and putting the finishing touches on the rockwork and cladding during the installation.

#### **Custom Cylindrical Residential Reef Aquarium** *completed 2020*

Austin served as project manager on this unique installation, working closely with the architect and general contractor to devise a completely silent indoor system. He also collaborated with the client's custom woodworker to design a world-class tank stand and canopy that allow for easy maintenance access.

#### **Milne Center at Mystic Aquarium** *completed 2020*

Austin was the assistant on-site project manager for the six-week installation that capped this four-year endeavor. He oversaw the installation of all filtration components and interfaced with the contractors, plumbers, and client to ensure that every element adhered to the construction drawings.

### Skills

life support system design  
project management  
animal care  
animal quarantine/conditioning  
construction oversight  
relationship-building  
trust-building  
fabrication  
plumbing  
public speaking

### Affiliations

Marine Aquarium Conference of North America (MACNA)  
Aquatic Animal Life Support Operators (AALSO)  
American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA)  
Regional Aquatics Workshops (RAW)

### Prior Experience

#### **Aqua Box, LLC, Founder and Owner** *2014–2017*

Designed and installed animal-friendly commercial and residential aquariums, ponds, and water features throughout North America; sold quarantined and conditioned fish wholesale and retail online.

#### **Michigan Aquatic Specialists, Founder and Owner** *2009–2014*

Designed and installed commercial and residential aquatic systems throughout the Midwest, exceeding industry standards to emphasize quality of life for display animals.