2021 PHOENIX ZOO ANNUAL REPORT

Bouncing Back



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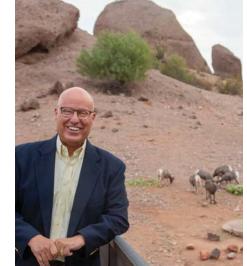
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### The Phoenix Zoo is the only zoo in the Valley accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) and is a nonprofit zoological park, serving nearly 1.4 million guests annually. Home to more than 3,000 animals, many of which are endangered or threatened species, the Zoo is also committed to supporting wildlife and habitat conservation in the region and across the globe. The wildlife recovery and research programs based at the Zoo are focused on boosting wild populations of 10 imperiled Arizona native species. The Zoo engages in field research, working with universities, other conservation organizations and private land managers to better understand wildlife in Arizona, Mexico, Costa Rica, Colombia and beyond.

phoenixzoo.org

### Dear Zoo Friends,



Gratitude. As I reviewed this year's Annual Report, I was overwhelmed with gratitude with every page I turned. We entered 2021 with so many unknowns. Would COVID-19 vaccines become available soon? Would our attendance ever recover? Were our animals vulnerable to the virus? Would the Phoenix Zoo be able to survive financially?

The title of this year's report, "Bouncing Back," reflects on a year that began with questions but ended with gratitude. Although the pandemic continues, we have found ways to navigate the challenges it has presented. And thanks to the amazing generosity of our community and the financial opportunities provided by the federal government and others, we have emerged from 2021 stronger than ever.

We welcomed some incredible new animals to the Zoo, including Chutti, the charming greater one-horned rhinoceros, and three tiny emperor tamarins with some of the most impressive mustaches in the animal kingdom. Our conservation team had a very successful year, producing cactus ferruginous pygmy-owls, black-footed ferrets, Chiricahua leopard frogs, narrow-headed gartersnakes and Gila topminnows all for release to the wild – a conservationist's dream! I'm so grateful that our on-site conservation work continued largely uninterrupted when so much of the world was on hold.

I am unbelievably grateful for our members. Despite everything, 2021 saw our membership level at an all-time high. Our members participated in programs, donated to special exhibits and campaigns, and contributed gifts (both large and small) to help insure our financial position. Our community foundations and partners provided gifts and grants of COVID relief, and the Arizona Office of Tourism awarded a large grant to kick off the fundraising for our new Big Cats of Arizona habitat.

I am grateful that our Phoenix Zoo Auxiliary volunteers remained committed, even when there weren't events and volunteer opportunities on-grounds due to the pandemic. This dedicated group of volunteers remain the Zoo's biggest fans, continuing to find creative ways throughout the years to raise funds and support. Over the past 60 years, the Auxiliary has raised and donated millions of dollars; I can't imagine our Zoo without their zebra-print vests and smiling faces.

We are slowly starting to have events at the Zoo again, bringing back Roars & Pours and our continuing Art on the Wild Side exhibits in the Savanna Gallery. We once again held our Wildlights for Wildlife drive-through fundraiser, welcoming guests with food trucks and animal encounters before leading them through an exclusive preview of this year's ZooLights. Speaking of, people happily returned to ZooLights this year, enjoying the millions of lights and amazing lanterns in a safe outdoor holiday tradition. In fact, the 2021 ZooLights set all-time attendance records with almost 320,000 guests!

But the project last year that might be the most impactful improvement to our Zoo in my entire tenure is our renovated and expanded parking lot. This new and improved lot is the reason our ZooLights set records; no longer will we have to turn people away due to limited parking. We added 573 new parking spaces, shade structures, native trees and, thanks to SRP, 20 electric vehicle charging stations. This project represented a huge commitment by the City of Phoenix to the future sustainability of our Zoo.

For that, and for everything else, I am truly and deeply grateful.

Sincerely,

Norberto (Bert) J. Castro President / CEO Arizona Center for Nature Conservation / Phoenix Zoo

Finding Beauty in the Struggle

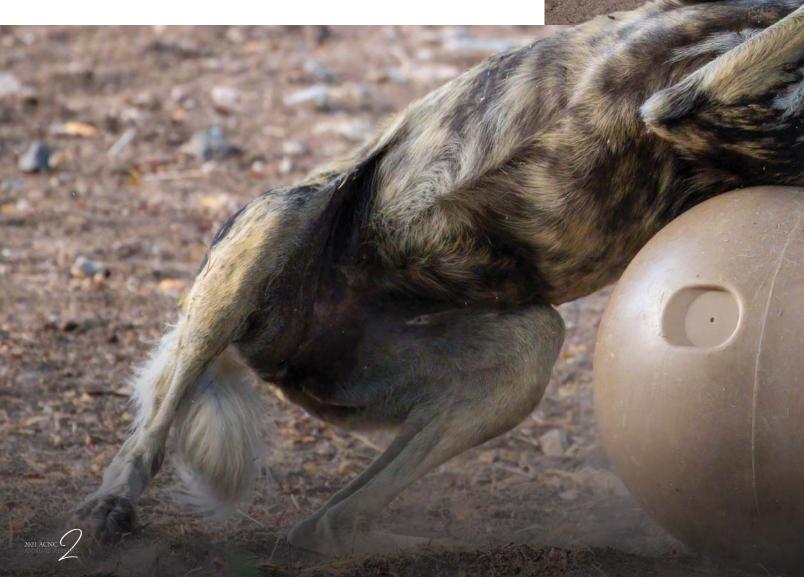
Nearly 60 years ago, the Phoenix Zoo gladly accepted the mission of Operation Oryx – a grand expedition to capture what was then believed to be the last few remaining Arabian oryx in the wild and to bring them to Arizona, thus, becoming keeper of the "World Herd." Remarkably, there are now more than 1,000 in the wild and nearly 7,000 in managed settings.

This success story became our guiding light and foundation in the decades that followed.

Times are certainly different now; the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic that began in 2020 changed – quite literally – everything. But while we navigated through the uncertain chaos last year, we kept our mission of inspiring people and motivating them to care for the natural world at the forefront.

And because of that commitment, in 2021, we bounced back.

As you'll read in this report, these highlights are just a fraction of what the Phoenix Zoo accomplished in 2021. We're exceedingly proud of the dedicated work of all our employees.





A Year of Firsts

### Sensory-Friendly ZooLights

We introduced a brand-new, unique ZooLights experience in 2021. Geared for guests with PTSD, autism, ADHD, ADD, early onset dementia and anxiety (just to name a few), Sensory-Friendly ZooLights featured smaller crowds, a quieter music volume, lights adjusted to reduce flashing/ fast movements, a "social story" provided in advance to help guests prepare for the experience, sensory stations and a quiet room.

But perhaps nothing sums up the event better than the following quote we received from a family afterwards:

"It makes us feel like we belong. It makes us feel like we can enjoy it like all other families do."

### Wrinkled Hornbill Hatchlings

A wrinkled hornbill hatched on August 15, 2021 - a first for this endangered species at the Phoenix Zoo. The parents nested and reared the chick in an artificial nest cavity developed by keepers Marisa Boyd and Bryan MacAulay for their in-situ Asian hornbill conservation project currently underway in Borneo. This is the first nesting attempt by the pair, as they have recently reached breeding age; the male is nine years old and the female is 10. The female sealed herself in the cavity in late June. The chick and female parent broke out of the cavity in late October. Both parents will continue to feed the chick for the next few months. The sex of the chick is currently unknown, but we will DNA test it during its first wellness exam.

### New and Enhanced Inclusionary Practices

Our strategies for recruitment, retention and inclusion were further improved in

2021. We created a cross-departmental Diversity & Inclusion Committee, developed a plan to engage minority groups when recruiting staff, volunteers and board members, created a Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEI) training program and hired a DEI Manager.

Additionally, we engaged local leaders in developing solutions to address disparity within our community, identified opportunities within exhibits, programs and events to celebrate diverse cultures and customs, and developed a plan to identify our deficiencies and improve accessibility, thus, removing barriers to a fulfilling Zoo experience.

### New Nyalas

In April of 2021, the Phoenix Zoo received a bachelor herd of three nyala from Disney's Animal Kingdom. They live in the former gerenuk habitat with Sulcatta tortoises and East African crowned cranes. The boys came to us at just about one-year-old, so we have witnessed their physical changes as they are getting older - from the length of their horns to the color of their coat. They are a medium-sized antelope from southeastern Africa. Adult males have spiral horns and will become gray as they age. They have white stripes and spots that vary from one individual to another. They are listed as least concern by the IUCN, but their distribution is becoming more limited.

### Auggie! Auggie! Auggie!

Auggie, an Andean bear, arrived at the Phoenix Zoo on October 25, 2021, and spent a few weeks in the bear night house learning the ropes and getting to know his keepers. Then, on Friday, November 12, he made his habitat debut and has been having







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a ball exploring his new territory ever since. Auggie was born at the San Diego Zoo on January 8, 2020, to first time mother, Alba. He came to us at the time a cub would normally move on from their mother in the wild and has acclimated well. Auggie quickly won over his keepers' hearts with his spunk and enthusiasm for any food item. Enrichment is no match for Auggie and he will work tirelessly to extract all food items; he even continues playing once the food is gone! With the excitement only a child can exude, he has reminded his keepers how much this species loves spending time in trees. You can often find him up high in a self-made nest.

### Chutti the Cutie

Chutti, the Zoo's new greater one-horned rhinoceros made his habitat debut in early November 2021. Chutti came to the Zoo on the evening of October 26 from the Fresno Chaffee Zoo and was initially kept inside the elephant barn and holding yards to get used to his new surroundings and neighbors. Chutti is overall a very relaxed guy (for a rhino) and has been taking everything in stride. He is very personable and very food motivated. He turned sevenyears-old on November 27 and frequently puts on quite the show for our guests as he plays with his behavioral enrichment toys. You will find him either napping, eating or running around the habitat playing. His two speeds?

Slow and speedy fast!

### The Emperor's New Groove

We were pleased to welcome another new species to our Zoo in 2021: the emperor tamarin. The three boys made their debut in December 2021 on the Nina Mason Pulliam Children's Trail in the middle of our tamarin complex. Marquis is the 14-year-old father of two offspring, Pierre (age 4) and Jacques (age 3). As you can surely tell, they are famous for their fabulous mustaches!





reptiles

linividuals



Animal Care

### **COVID-19 Measures**

Veterinary medicine often parallels human medicine in regard to treatments and medical advances. Recently, Zoetis created an experimental vaccine against COVID-19 for use in animals and the Phoenix Zoo was able to acquire doses for ours. Our Living Collections team evaluated each species for potential risk of exposure, risk of infection and ability to reliably receive two doses of vaccine three weeks apart. We vaccinated our felids, primates and a few other at-risk species such as our bats and sloth. Our staff continues to use personal protective equipment, keeps up with global information on infections in Zoo animals and remains vigilant about our animals' health as it relates to this virus.

### **Preventive Care**

In mid-September, our primate keepers noticed that Haddie, our female Siamang, had gained some weight, was moving around more deliberately and had some mammary development. These signs were suggestive of a pregnancy to our veterinary team, and we wanted to investigate this further in a noninvasive way. Thanks to the great training conducted by our keepers, we were able to start working with Haddie to ultrasound her abdomen. A week later, we were able to hear a fetal heartbeat of 180 beats per minute, confirming the pregnancy. Haddie was monitored closely in the subsequent weeks and remained healthy and active. On November 22, Haddie gave birth. So far, mom and baby are doing well. Similar to human mothers who are nursing, we are focusing on making sure Haddie is provided extra nutrients and lots of fluids to help her care for and nurse her infant.

### **Thorough Diagnostic Procedures**

In May, a Grey's monitor presented to the Joyce Corrigan Memorial Care Center for being barely responsive and salivating profusely. He was examined thoroughly and no overt causes for his presentation were evident. We pursued diagnostics such as lab work and imaging, and we performed endoscopy of his stomach. This is a procedure where a flexible camera is passed

from the mouth into the stomach. Once in place, we saw abnormal tan objects within the stomach. The endoscope has a channel that can be used to pass forceps or tweezers to grasp tissue samples or objects. Using these forceps, we removed multiple body parts and the tail of a scorpion. Here at the Phoenix Zoo, we have had numerous cases of scorpion envenomation in our mammals and they usually present salivating, with twitchy body movements and severe depression. This is the first case we have seen in a reptile. But with direct evidence of the monitor having eaten a scorpion and this not being part of the diet we offer them, as well as similar clinical signs, we felt this was a true envenomation. So, we initiated our standard treatment protocol, including scorpion antivenin IV. The animal received intensive supportive care and within 48 hours began to rally. Ultimately this animal was hospitalized for 14 days prior to being released back to the habitat. Since then, he has continued to do well, and we hope he will be more careful when selecting snacks in the future.



Fulfilling E)ur (Mission



In a year when many of us stayed close to home, the Phoenix Zoo's Conservation teams worked hard to send some of our former residents out into the world. The Zoo is involved in conservation and research programs for 10 Arizona-native species. We work with state and federal agencies to determine how we can best use our talented staff and specialized facilities to help address wildlife conservation challenges. In some cases, that means breeding or raising animals for release to the wild. Here are some highlights from our work in 2021.

### Cactus ferruginous pygmy-owls

This fall, in partnership with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Arizona Game and Fish Department, US Geological Survey and Wild At Heart raptor rescue, we celebrated the first releases to the wild of cactus ferruginous pygmy-owls hatched at the Phoenix Zoo. Owls were released into two sites in southern Arizona. Some of the birds from each release have been tracked using telemetry. Camera-traps at one of the sites may provide additional information about the released birds' movements in the area. This effort has been a true collaboration across the Zoo. Conservation and Science staff have provided for the daily husbandry and management of the pygmy-owls at the Zoo since 2018, with crucial input from the Living Collections Birds team and health care oversight by veterinary staff. Zoo Facilities staff designed and built release-boxes for use in the field, and Conservation and Science, Birds, and



Field Conservation Research biologists have all been part of field trips to assess potential release sites and transport birds for eventual introduction to the wild. Our goal is to learn as much as possible from the owls here at the Zoo and from these releases so we can continue to contribute to collaborative efforts to support pygmy-owl persistence in the wild in Arizona.

### Springsnails

In 2018, the Zoo brought in 200 Huachuca springsnails from the wild to help us further develop techniques for raising these tiny invertebrates successfully at the Arthur L. and Elaine V. Johnson Conservation Center. Our goal was to apply lessons learned from this species to work with more imperiled springsnail species in hopes of ultimately boosting wild population numbers of threatened and endangered native snails. We've done so well with Huachuca springsnails that we were authorized to release 400 total to the wild in 2021 and were permitted to bring in 225 threatened San Bernardino springsnails to the Zoo to start a population of this species in human care.

### **Black-footed ferrets**

2021 was a banner year for black-footed ferrets at the Zoo. We celebrated the best kit production we've had in the last 20 years of work breeding this endangered species. This fall, 13 of the 27 surviving kits were sent to the US Fish and Wildlife Service National Black-footed Ferret Conservation



Center (FCC) in Carr, Colorado as candidates for release to the wild. The kits all passed pre-conditioning at the Center, successfully demonstrating that they could kill prairie dogs (their primary prey) and surviving the 30-day stay in the Center's outdoor pen system before they were released to the wild in Colorado. The Phoenix Zoo is one of only five zoos in the world that breeds black-footed ferrets. FCC biologist Robyn Bortner noted, "The 5 AZA breeding partners supplied 75 kits, or 37% of our juvenile release candidates this year. The AZA Black-footed Ferret Species Survival Plan® program also retained 14 Phoenix kits to bolster the SSP breeding population for 2022. The Zoo's efforts will contribute valuable genetic variation for next year's breeding population." We're proud to be a long-standing partner in the effort to ensure the survival of this iconic prairie species.

### Additional Releases in 2021

Once again this year, we worked with state and federal wildlife agency partners to send Zoo-reared threatened Chiricahua leopard frogs, narrow-headed gartersnakes and Gila topminnow fish for release to the wild. We are grateful for the opportunity to help with conservation efforts aimed at restoring wild populations of animals of conservation concern in Arizona and celebrate the hard work of staff across the Phoenix Zoo and our generous members and donors who help make these accomplishments possible.



Our Impact

Two Arizona State University (ASU) master's students working with our Field Conservation Research Department (FCRD) successfully completed their theses in the fall.

Two ASU undergraduate SOLUR (School of Life Sciences Undergraduate Research program) students joined our team in 2021, helping sort camera-trap photos and working in the field learning tangible skills to help prepare for careers in wildlife research.

FCRD staff trained over 100 of our international colleagues in five virtual training sessions to help with preparation for a national conservation survey in Colombia and for engaging communities in national park conservation in Costa Rica.

We analyzed over 23,508 wildlife camera-trap photos from protected areas in the Philippines, including several documenting the presence of rare species.

An ASU PhD student working with the FCRD, Kate Weiss, completed her first season of field work collecting coyote scat and camera-trap photos along the Salt River in Arizona. She will be exploring the nutritional content of a coyote's diet along an urban gradient and is now starting her second season of field work.

FCRD received a grant from the US Fish and Wildlife Service to protect over 100 jaguars from poachers in Costa Rica. Field work associated with this grant will include 60 camera traps, six acoustic recorders for bats, birds, and frogs, and 30 acoustic gunshot detectors for La Amistad International Park. We will be climbing over 60 trees, using about 500 feet of climbing rope and almost 1000 feet of cordage to deploy our camera-traps and acoustic monitors.

We recorded over 12 species of birds, 13 species of terrestrial mammals, and one reptile, including the Philippine pangolin (critically endangered), Philippine porcupine (vulnerable), Palawan peacockpheasant (vulnerable) and the extremely rare collared mongoose.





5



Education & Programs

Though we're still building back our program audience to pre-Covid levels, 2021 was filled with opportunities to connect people with nature virtually and at the Zoo. Two highlights for the year are our tours program and Project Orangutan.

### Tours

We offered three main types of specialized tours at the Zoo in 2021. Discovery Tours are customized guided cart tours that take guests anywhere they'd like to go on the Zoo's public pathways. Tour Guides share stories and information about our animals and each tour starts with the question, "What would you most like to see today?" Backstage Adventures are just as they sound - opportunities to go behind-the-scenes and learn what happens backstage at the Zoo - or in some cases, step on the other side of the barriers straight into an animal's habitat. Backstage Adventures' guests can meet our ambassador animals, help give an elephant a shower, or handfeed flamingos, all while spending time with the zookeepers who know more about the animals than anyone else in the Zoo. Premium

*Grade 6 Student* Tours allow participants to combine a Backstage Adventure and Discovery Tour for

a unique experience.

I like being able to work with

others and create the models for the Behavior Enrichment items.

- Ki'Shaun

All our tours provide opportunities for guests to create deeper connections with the animals. Participants learn more about the individual animals' personalities, what it takes to care for them and about their wild counterparts. Research shows that these intimate experiences increase the likelihood that the participants will be motivated to care for the animals whether through increased support of the Zoo or by taking action to protect the Zoo animal ambassadors' species and habitats in the wild. Zoo staff also find motivation and positive morale when they know they've contributed to these inspiring experiences. In 2021, we helped create wonderful memories for almost as many tour guests as we welcomed in 2019 (pre-pandemic).

It's fun to know that what we're creating in class is going to be helpful to the orangutans. - Zoey Grade 6 Student

Many parents are thrilled with this project... The students are fiercely trying to cut back on palm oil use. There was a uproarious cheer when we learned Nutella was one of the first companies to use 100% RSPO certified. We have a new saying "Eat Nutella. Save the Orangutans" ... Overall, we are thrilled! The kids are having a blast and everyone loves little Jiwa!

- Grade 3 Teacher

I like being able to create something for the orangutans and help keep them active in the zoo. - Karla

Grade 6 Student

Kids could be creative and explore different options. They enjoyed the design and building so much. We would totally do it again! - Grade 6 Teacher



We were so excited for the kids to have the opportunity to learn so much about the flamingos from the Phoenix Zoo team. Both kids learned so many fun and interesting facts, being up close made the experience very personal.... The experience is another reason why we are zoo members and happily support the zoo where we can...

### **Project Orangutan**

Project Orangutan is a complete nineweek project-based learning curriculum for third through sixth grade teachers to use in their classrooms. Our program challenges students to design behavioral enrichment for our group of four orangutans. Along the way they learn about adaptations orangutans possess, conservation challenges facing their wild counterparts, and personal actions they can take to help make a difference. Conservation action prompts are built into the standards-based curriculum, and because it incorporates English/language arts, math, technology and Next Generation Science Standards as well, educators can weave it into their teaching process organically without doing a lot of extra work. Students engage with the material in any way they choose, providing opportunities to build deeper connections with the content and identify solutions that resonate with them as individuals.



I am enjoying getting to see my students work through the engineering design process in a way that can be applicable to the real world. - Grade 6 Teacher

One of our favorite Phoenix Zoo memories was when we got to visit with elephants Indu and Sheena! .... an experience we'll always remember!

Had a tour with Mike and it was absolutely awesome! Very personable tour guide with a ton of knowledge and information you won't find on your own ... Our family truly enjoyed it and most of all we learned so much.

Early program evaluations are showing encouraging results. The outcomes we expect from students who complete Project Orangutan include developing empathy for orangutans by considering multiple perspectives and gaining a deeper understanding of all the ways orangutans and humans share the planet and impact one another. The connections between humans and the environment allows learners to assess various actions they can take as individuals, and which are the most accessible for them. We expect students to be more willing to engage in conservation actions after participating in Project Orangutan, since they will fully understand the impact and will have identified the scope of the actions as accessible for them.

We were able to pilot Project Orangutan in several classrooms in 2020. During 2021, 23 new classrooms implemented the curriculum, impacting over 800 students. We also modified the content to offer it to homeschool students at the Zoo, which was a huge success. We look forward to continuing to offer the program in 2022. The Project Orangutan model works so well, we're planning on using it as the basis for future project-based learning programs including Project Arizona Wildlife, which will focus on native species that we care for in the Arthur L. and Elaine V. Johnson

Conservation Center.



Members Make a Difference

### 1,891

Members participated in a Program, Camp, Class or Tour

Phoenix Zoo members provide muchneeded support for the Zoo. But it's not just their annual membership that makes a difference. Members are committed to animal conservation, education and a secure financial future for the Zoo. Members donate to new and improved exhibits, support special projects, participate in events and experience all the Zoo has to offer, generating additional funds for daily operations. The dedication of our members helps us continue our commitment to conservation.

### 42,663

Total Member Households

41,818 Individual and Family

350 Guardiar

# \$7,963,859

Revenue Generated by Membership Dues

2021 ACNC

### \$194,336

Support Member Donations

407,675

## \$661,536

Revenue from Member Event Participation

## \$456,299

Revenue from Daily Guest Experience Participation

## \$669,310

Gift Shop Purchases

## \$758,567

Guardian Member Donations

### \$229,667

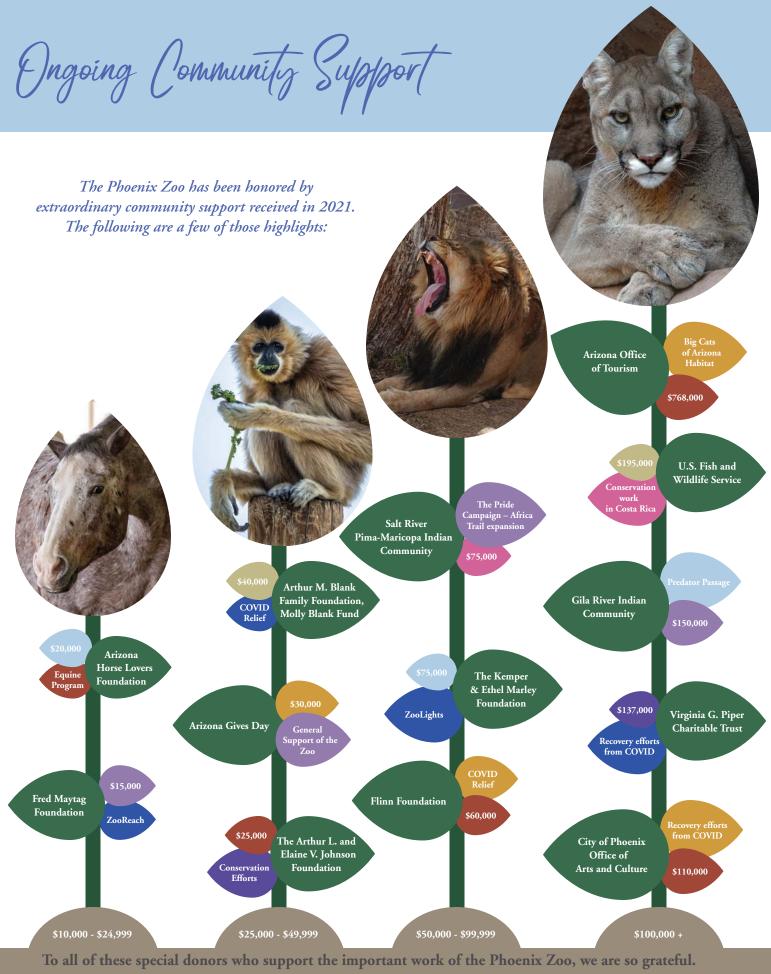
Individual and Family Member Donations



Individual and Family

Member Impact

Supporting Guardian Conservation Society



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Thank you!





The Arizona Center for Nature Conservation Board of Trustees and staff greatly appreciate the generous donors who supported the organization this year through grants, sponsorships, bequests, corporate contributions, Capital Campaign contributions and other gifts.

### \$100,000 and Above

Arizona Office of Tourism City of Phoenix - Office of Arts & Culture The Dorothy D. and Joseph A. Moller Foundation Gila River Indian Community Lee Goldberg\* Helen Hare\* Karl H. Le Claire\* The Kemper & Ethel Marley Foundation Louis A. Nyman\* Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community SRP U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust

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Morris and Carrie Aaron Mike and Kim Abel Bert and Jill Alanko David Alex and Brenda Guzman Juan Alvarez and Olivia Ramirez Amazon.com Thomas and Alice Ambrose J. Chris Anderson Anonymous Glenn and Becky Antoune Arizona State University Mark and Tracey Arvieux Dorothée and Scott Ashby John and Sharon Atkinson Carl and Suzie Baerst Judith Bailey John and Kathy Baker Whitni Baker and Aldo Ferrer Emery and Mary Ellen Bartle Steven and Lindy Bauer Paul and Mary Ellen Baump Bennett and Sharon Beaudry Matt and Lindsay Bedwell Uta Monique Behrens Ken and Gina Behringer Joy A. Bell Heidi Berger and Brett Barker Neil S. Berman Keven and Barbara Besana Paul and Sandra Besso Daryl and Maryann Bethea James and Connie Binns

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\*Deceased

All supporters as of December 31, 2021. The Arizona Center for Nature Conservation regrets the omission of any names. Please inform the Development Department at 602.914.4362 if this has occurred so our records can be updated.



60 Years of the Phoenix Joo Auxiliary

You can see them throughout the Zoo at any given event, leading a field trip or even just greeting guests. Wearing their iconic zebra striped vests, volunteers with the Phoenix Zoo Auxiliary have been supporting the Zoo for 60 years! Their origin is as unique and colorful as the Zoo itself.

In the summer of 1961, a young couple were enjoying a tropical vacation, discussing the future of the city they called home. The husband lamented that the city was rapidly becoming one of the most prominent in the United States, and yet it lacked key amenities to establish it as a true "cosmopolitan force." Knowing her husband enjoyed a good project, Nancy Maytag challenged her husband Robert Maytag (heir to the Maytag appliance fortune) to succeed where many had failed; establish a zoo for the city of Phoenix. Maytag gathered his friends and associates and through influence and perseverance, he was able to put into motion a project that had long stalled as a city-funded entity. Thus, one of the most prominent privately funded zoos in North America was born.

Recognizing that she and her friends could be a powerful asset in the development of the Zoo, Nancy Maytag asked her friends to assist her with "a little fundraising and being helpful wherever we're needed." That motto became the backbone of the Arizona Zoological Society Ladies Auxiliary in October 1961.

The first four members were Nancy Maytag, Mrs. James Allen, Mrs. Tim Rodgers and Ann Lee Harris (a successful Broadway and television actress). Their first project was the sale of Christmas cards netting \$500. Next was a fashion show at the Camelback Inn that became an annual event well into the 1990s. Actress Ann Lee Harris used her influence to stage a world premiere for the movie, "Hatari" at the Kachina Theater on June 7, 1962. Many of the movers and shakers of the time attended the event and an appearance by the film's star, John Wayne, created even more buzz.

In March 1963, the Auxiliary was growing in strength and numbers (125 by its second year) with an enviable waiting list for membership. It mounted the first Aid to the Zoo National Horse Show at the Arizona Biltmore with 220 exhibitors. Over 1,000 people attended the opening day and the five-day project netted \$12,000. Over the years, the show became so prestigious that it moved to the Arizona Veterans Memorial



Coliseum. Eventually, the Aid to Zoo Horse Show moved to the Goodyear Equestrian Center where it continued until 1992. After a glorious 29-year run, the Aid to Zoo Horse Show had earned over \$2 million dollars for the Auxiliary and the Zoo.

Though the Aid to Zoo Horse Show was financially more successful, the Auxiliary's Fall Fashion Show and Luncheon, first held in 1962, was a long-running staple of the fashion show season. It earned monies toward many projects until its final show in 1993. Other fundraisers spearheaded by the Auxiliary included Zoo-B-Que (an Arbor Day event), the Great Adventure Hunt (a timed scavenger hunt and dinner), and Zoo Sounds (a concert and dinner).

Looking for a signature look to set Auxiliary members apart from guests at their everpopular events, the membership adopted their distinctive zebra stripe uniform during the Aid to Zoo Horse Show in 1965. Though the uniform has taken many forms through the years (from wrap dresses to jumpers, skirts and the present-day vests), the zebra stripes have prevailed.

One of the Auxiliary's most visible fundraisers has been the unique Handprints in Glass and Etched in Glass tiles located at the entrance to the Zoo. These beautiful tribute pieces have helped the Auxiliary raise close to \$400,000 towards helping the Zoo build the new Doornbos Discovery Amphitheater and the Africa Trail expansion, as part of the Pride Campaign.

Auxiliary President, Kelley Durham, shares that "even before the Zoo opened, the Auxiliary was making it the group's mission to raise funds for the Zoo and to promote education and conservation. Still going strong, this accomplished group of women do this by hard work, dedication and serving as ambassadors for the Zoo." Over the past 60 years the Auxiliary has donated over \$3 million to the Zoo.

From its first days as a service organization, Auxiliary members have volunteered in many capacities. Whether it's at the Zoo itself, helping with the dirty work of renovating Ruby's House, donating gifts to needy families, hosting school groups of homeless children or fulfilling the Zoo's Wish List, Auxiliary members have proudly embodied Nancy Maytag's first description, "doing a little fundraising and being helpful wherever we're needed."



In-Person Frents & Programs

### The Glory of Nature's Form: An Exhibit of Arizona Nature Photography

The Phoenix Zoo and Art Committee partnered with Arizona Highways to feature their photography in the Savanna Gallery. This one-of-a-kind exhibit featured seven well-known nature photographers with more than 52 of their pieces showcased. The exhibit launched with a special opening reception for over 200 guests as Robert Stieve, Arizona Highways' Editor, presented on the history of photography in Arizona and how it relates to the Zoo's conservation message.

### Breakfast with the Animals Presented by Nutella<sup>TM</sup>

Nutella sponsored this two-day event on September 25 & 26 at the Zoo. There were two breakfast seatings each day with 200 guests at each (800 guests attended in total). Our preferred catering company, Lancer Hospitality, filmed a video with their chef demonstrating snacks that could be made with Nutella.

### Wildlights for Wildlife, A Charity Drive

Wildlights for Wildlife is the Zoo's largest one-night fundraiser and 2021 marked its second year in action. Over \$178,000 was raised in sponsorship/underwriting with 110 vehicles in attendance. Raffle sales totaled nearly \$19,000 as our online auction brought in \$62,471 (with an original goal of only \$30,000). The event featured six food trucks with a variety of food offerings, each having a vegetarian and meat option. Guests drove through the beautiful new parking lot, stopping at food trucks along the way. In between the delicious food, guests enjoyed animal encounters led by our Ambassador Animal Resources team. This year, guests had a special guided tour of our Wildlife Lantern Cul-de-Sac.

### Cruise the Zoo

Cruise the Zoo returned for the second year in a row to give our guests a drivethrough option. In total, 2,483 cars cruised through the Zoo in this successful event that required the precise coordination of multiple departments within the Zoo.

### ZooLights

What humbly began in 1992 with just a few hundred thousand twinkles has transformed into millions of lights, a three-story holiday tree, two Music-In-Motion shows and nearly 1,000 hand-crafted sculptures.

Now 30 years later, ZooLights at the Phoenix Zoo has become a holiday institution in the Valley of the Sun.

This season saw record attendance - over 300,000 visitors!

### **Roars & Pours**

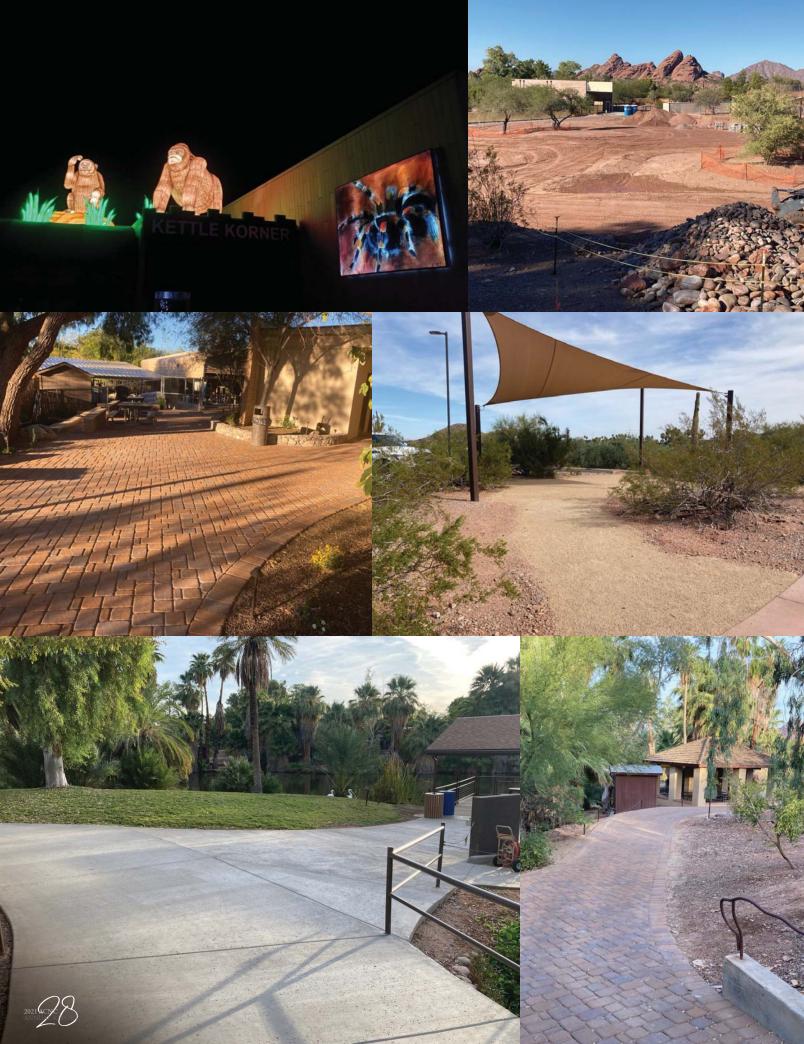
Back by popular demand in 2021 was our one-of-a-kind happy hour series, Roars & Pours. Guests were able to sip adult beverages and stroll select Zoo trails... all with the glow of ZooLights in the background.

### Summer Camp Zoo

We welcomed hundreds of children to our Summer Camp Zoo program where each week-long session was filled with up-close animal encounters, behind-the-scenes experiences, hands-on activities, games, in-depth investigations and organized free time.







Building a Better 200

Our Operations Department is a unique combination of three different divisions: facilities, transportation and ZooLights.

Facilities works on various projects through the Zoo while also completing repairs and maintenance on buildings, exhibits and public areas. Transportation has three full-time employees who are in charge of our rolling stock: golf carts, vehicles and construction equipment. Our ZooLights staff oversees the design, build and installation of the Valley's brightest holiday tradition.

Indeed, their work is never done... and there was no shortage of accomplishments in 2021.

### **ZooLights**

The 30th anniversary of ZooLights encompassed the outer Tropics Trail and was also configured to allow for a drivethrough option. For the third year, lighted animal lanterns were installed along the outer Africa Trail in addition to stunning, illuminated paintings from artist, Russ Ronat.

### Africa Trail

In November we broke ground on our new expansion project on the Africa Trail. This will include enhanced habitats for lion, hyena, amur leopard and meerkats.

### Auditorium

One of the oldest buildings at the Zoo, our auditorium, is being converted into an art gallery. While the interior of the building will soon be under construction, the outside areas have already received a facelift.

### **Night House Repairs**

The bobcat night house was completely remodeled to included new electric, paint and fencing while the Calamian deer night house project included replacing exterior mesh walls with block walls, all new kitchen equipment, mesh, paint and lighting.

### **Concrete Replacement**

Approximately 3,000 square feet of cracking concrete was removed and replaced at the Children's Trail by Mill House.

### Howler Monkey Remodel

One side of welded wire mesh was replaced with cable mesh, new shade cloth was installed, new paint, deteriorated metal was replaced, and new perching was added.

### Pavers and Shade at Plaza De Los Niños (PDLN)

The decomposed granite pathway at PDLN was replaced with pavers making the pathway a safer walkway and to prevent erosion. Additionally, through a grant from SRP, a shade structure was also added.

### **Pygmy-Owl Exhibit**

A new exhibit, funded by Michael Goodman, was constructed inside the Arizona Aviary for pygmy-owls.

### Rhino and Elephant Exhibit Modifications

The elephant habitat was modified to house a greater one-horned rhino. Large gaps originally sized to prevent elephant passage were narrowed sufficiently to further prevent our rhino from getting his head stuck. Additionally, a paver pathway at the elephant habitat for behind-the-scenes tours was installed to replace the granite pathway, thus, making the walkway much safer.

### Parking Lot Shade Structures

The City of Phoenix donated eight shade structures (formally located at the Footprint Center) that the Zoo subsequently installed along the sidewalks going to the parking lots. This will provide shaded rest stops for guest entering and exiting the Zoo.

### Wetlands Improvements

The netting along the walkways was raised and cable mesh was installed at the ramada for additional safety.





More Than Just a New Parking Lot

This important project was made possible by City of Phoenix Capital Improvement Program funds combined with donated materials and labor from local companies and individuals. The new lot added 573 new parking spaces. The existing 1,200-space parking lot was repaved, re-striped and enhanced with added walking paths. Additionally, more than 200 new native trees for natural shade were planted, installment of new high-efficiency and dark-sky appropriate LED lights were installed, a new shaded bus stop was added, and eight shade structures were salvaged and repurposed.

Furthermore, a 20-bay shaded Solar Car Recharge Facility was donated by SRP and new entry monument signage will be featured at both Galvin and Van Buren entrances (in early 2023).



### **STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

	For the year ended	For the year ended
	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2020
SUPPORT AND REVENUE		
Admissions & Memberships	\$ 17,901,715	\$ 14,011,853
Educational Programs	138,936	364,983
Group Services	227,987	773,616
Food & Retail	3,225,579	3,240,425
Contributions*	8,523,415	12,180,744
Investment Income	2,531,387	95,649
Other	24,162	19,783
Total Support and Revenue	\$ 32,573,181	\$ 30,687,053
EXPENSES		
Program Services	\$ 19,577,161	\$ 23,087,032
Management & General	2,312,302	3,794,766
Fundraising & Membership Development	2,581,954	2,674,011
Total Expenses	\$ 24,471,417	\$ 29,555,809
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$ 8,101,764	\$ 1,131,244
NET ASSETS – Beginning of Year	\$ 58,680,150	\$ 57,548,906
NET ASSETS – End of Year	\$ 66,781,914	\$ 58,680,150

\* Includes revenue with donor restrictions prior to release for Capital Campaign and other projects of \$4,165,028 for 2021 and \$4,897,516 for 2020. For 2021, includes \$1,802,248 in proceeds from the CARES Act Employee Retention Credit and for 2020, includes \$2,771,000 in proceeds from SBA Paycheck Protection Program.

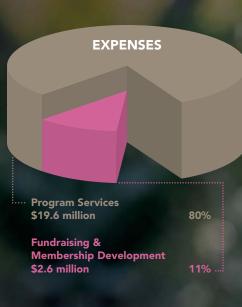
### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2020
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 10,728,263	\$ 6,012,219
Contributions Receivable	994,225	1,104,519
Other Current Assets	1,242,597	282,235
Other Assets		
Investments	5,319,983	5,473,176
Endowments	10,463,965	7,997,646
Assets restricted for long-term purposes		
Cash	5,210,903	2,201,820
Contributions Receivable	711,635	2,501,036
Property & Equipment, net	32,541,436	34,448,261
Other Assets	19,371	449,371
Beneficial Interest Trusts	5,992,123	4,936,396
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 73,224,501	\$ 65,406,679
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	\$ 2,630,978	\$ 2,307,453
Deferred Revenue	\$ 3,811,609	\$ 4,259,076
Long-term Debt	\$ -	\$ 160,000
Total Liabilities	\$ 6,442,587	\$ 6,726,529
NET ASSETS		
Without donor restrictions	\$ 48,506,228	\$ 43,240,625
With donor restrictions	18,275,686	15,439,525
Total Net Assets	\$ 66,781,914	\$ 58,680,150
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$ 73,224,501	\$ 65,406,679

### Admissions & Memberships \$17.9 million 55% Contributions \$3.5 million 26% Food, Merchandise, Experiences, Educational Programs & Hosted Events \$3.6 million 11%

SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Investment Income & Other \$2.6 million 8%



Management & General
\$2.3 million

State and





455 North Galvin Parkway Phoenix, AZ 85008

Mission

The Arizona Center for Nature Conservation advances the stewardship and conservation of animals and their habitats while providing experiences that inspire people and motivate them to care for the natural world.



