

FALL 2024

WILD TIMES

A Phoenix Zoo Digital Publication



Congrats to our
Bidders for Critters Auction
winner, Natalie Wood, who
purchased the opportunity to
be featured on the cover of an
issue of Wild Times Magazine!

PHOENIX ZOO

zoolights

Presented by



NOV 27 – JAN 12 | 5:30 – 10:30 p.m.

It's the Valley's favorite holiday tradition - ZooLights! Shining bigger and brighter than ever with nearly four million lights, hundreds of dazzling displays, brand new Wildlife Lanterns and the return of the tallest floating tree in North America showcasing original music and a synchronized light show!

Tickets on sale now.



Edward Jones



THE KEMPER AND ETHEL
MARLEY FOUNDATION

FALL 2024

WILDTIMES

A Phoenix Zoo Digital Publication



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How can you help the Phoenix Zoo?

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.

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ARIZONA CENTER for NATURE CONSERVATION

FALL 2024

WILD TIMES

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ARIZONA CENTER FOR NATURE CONSERVATION

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HOURS

Now — January 19, 2025

8 a.m. Member Early Entry

9 a.m. — 4 p.m. Daily

January 20 — April 30, 2025

8 a.m. Member Early Entry

9 a.m. — 5 p.m. Daily

455 North Galvin Parkway

Phoenix, AZ 85008

Please note: Encounters, tours and experiences are not open until general public hours. Also, we do our best to have the majority of our animals in their habitats by opening time, but this cannot be guaranteed.



ON THE COVER

Photo credit: Joaquin Hidalgo

Congrats to our Bidders for Critters Auction winner, Natalie Wood, who purchased the opportunity to be featured on the cover of an issue of Wild Times Magazine!



Dear Zoo Friends,

The wait is over! Jasiri and Azizi, our new male lion cubs, are outside in Predator Passage. These two bundles of energy are the cubs born to Zuri and the late Boboo. Losing Boboo to cancer was tragic, but these cubs will carry his all-important genetics to insure the genetic diversity of lions in human care. This breeding was part of a planned genetic pairing by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums Species Survival Plan. Since being introduced to their aunt Kamara, our growing pride is enjoying the fall weather and the attention of all of you that have visited. These lions are the first to be born at the Phoenix Zoo since 1976 and we're thrilled to share them with you. Come visit soon because they are growing by leaps and bounds!

We are now 90% complete with the fundraising for our new Veterinary Medical Center and we plan to break ground in the first quarter of 2025. This new project will expand our veterinary facility from a 5,000-square-foot clinic to a 27,000-square-foot veterinary teaching hospital with state-of-the-art technology, public viewing of some medical procedures when they occur and educational components for children and vet students alike. It will be located next to our Conservation Center, creating an Animal Care and Conservation Campus. We are grateful to our many donors and humbled by the generosity of our community. For those of you planning your end-of-year giving, please consider donating to this important project. At \$25 million, this is the biggest single project in the Zoo's history, and we could really use your help getting to the finish line.

It may be hard to believe after our really warm fall, but it's time for ZooLights. As you'll read, we'll have five days of Cruise ZooLights this year for those of you who would prefer to view the lights from the comfort of your car. As always, we keep adding lights and experiences to this beloved family tradition. We'll have some colorful and eye-catching new lanterns this year and our giant Christmas tree will once again be on the main Zoo Lake. Our holiday globe will be back and on the Children's Trail lake. We can't wait for you to see what this year's ZooLights has in store!

See you at the Zoo!

Norberto J. (Bert) Castro

President / CEO

Arizona Center for Nature Conservation / Phoenix Zoo

WELCOME JASIRI AND AZIZI!



When lionesses Zuri and Kamara arrived at the Phoenix Zoo in October of 2023, the hope was that at least one would be a match for our male African lion Boboo, and that cubs would be a possibility in the future. Soon after being introduced, that dream became a reality and Zuri began showing signs of a pregnancy. While we wanted to shout it from the mountaintops of Papago Park, we wanted to be positive that she was positive... have you ever tried to give a lion an ultrasound? It's not so easy!





Once the pregnancy was confirmed, we began preparing the night house for Zuri to best raise her cubs. We built a den box to replicate what she would have created for herself in the wild and waited patiently for any cubs to be born.

On June third, Zuri gave birth to two adorable male cubs and all three were in amazing health post-birth. The successful birth was a huge win not only for the Phoenix Zoo, but also for the lion Species Survival Plan (SSP) and the Saving Animals From Extinction (SAFE) program that work to ensure the safety and longevity of endangered species across the world.

However, in a shock to us all, our male lion and father to the cubs, Boboo fell ill. After initial examination and exploratory surgery,

our veterinary team found an aggressive form of cancer involving both kidneys and the spleen. He was humanely euthanized the week following the birth of his cubs. While he never had the opportunity to meet them, we are heartened knowing that his legacy lives on through his cubs. It was a heartbreaking loss, but our dedicated team of keepers channeled the energy into raising two healthy and handsome cubs.

As they remained behind the scenes for the first few months of their lives, the cubs began to find their footing. They started target training to prepare for future vaccines and medical observation, learning to position themselves in view and reach of the keepers. In the night house they were also introduced to their aunt Kamara, who remains a bit skeptical of the playful duo, but she has

accepted the two new members of her pride. On October 11, Azizi and Jasiri made their Predator Passage debut and to say they were ready would be an understatement. They bounded out of the night house with no regard for their mother, Zuri's hesitancy. Atop the rocks, Zuri kept a watchful eye as the cubs explored the habitat, chased butterflies and played with one another in front of a steadily growing crowd. When word got out about their debut, viewing space was limited, but the excitement was palpable.

Since then, the rambunctious boys have continued to bask in the spotlight and embrace life at the Phoenix Zoo. We encourage you to take advantage of the beautiful Phoenix winter and come by to see Azizi and Jasiri before they are all grown up!



NOVEMBER

Art on the Wild Side Galleries

Common Ground *(Wild Side Gallery)*

Now – January 26, 2025

Thursday – Sunday | 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Diverse Visions Inspire a Common Passion

Water is Life *(Savanna Gallery)*

Now – February 23, 2025

Daily | 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Through original artwork and photography, this exhibit in the Phoenix Zoo's Savanna Gallery celebrates water's broad impact on Arizona wildlife, plants and people.

Cruise ZooLights | November 10, 11 & 12, 2024

Cruise ZooLights is back with FIVE NIGHTS to drive you WILD.

ZooLights | November 27, 2024 – January 12, 2025

You'll find adventure EVERYWHERE at the Valley's favorite holiday tradition, ZooLights!

DECEMBER

Sensory Friendly ZooLights | December 2, 2024

Expect the same great ZooLights with some modifications to make it more sensory friendly, including smaller crowds, reduced flashing lights and more.

JANUARY

Night of Three Kings | January 4, 2025

Enjoy a night of live mariachi music, food, games, activities and a chance to meet the Three Kings!

Cruise ZooLights | January 13 & 14, 2025

Cruise ZooLights is back with two final nights to close out the season.

Zoo Move & Groove 5K | January 18, 2025

The Phoenix Zoo's annual 5K race is back in 2025! All registered participants get to enjoy ZooLights after the race!

Art on the Wild Side Galleries

Society of Animal Artists *(Wild Side Gallery)*

January 30 – May 25, 2025

Located within our Wild Side Gallery, a collaborative effort with the internationally acclaimed Society of Animal Artists showcases their work within our Boundless World.

FEBRUARY

Art on the Wild Side Galleries

Urban Wildlife: Surviving in a Complex World *(Savanna Gallery)*

February 27 – June 29, 2025

How do we live in close proximity to each other, not only without causing harm, but rather fostering an environment of respectful coexistence? Urban Wildlife highlights our proximity to one another in a way that fosters an environment of respectful coexistence.

MARCH

Roars & Pours | March 6, 2025

Guests 21 and older can sip and stroll select Zoo trails while enjoying craft brews, wine and food. Plus animal encounters, yard games, live music, entertainment and more!

Zoobilation | March 22, 2025

Travel through the decades as you take a trip down memory lane. Immerse yourself in an evening of adventure at the Phoenix Zoo's premiere fundraising event, Zoobilation. Enjoy unique experiences and savor delicious cuisine from the Valley's favorite caterers.

APRIL

Roars & Pours | April 3, 2025

Guests 21 and older can sip and stroll select Zoo trails while enjoying craft brews, wine and food. Plus animal encounters, yard games, live music, entertainment and more!

Bunny Brunch | April 13, 2025

Guests will enjoy an eggs-cellent morning with up-close animal encounters accompanied by a delicious buffet brunch and photos with the Easter Bunny.

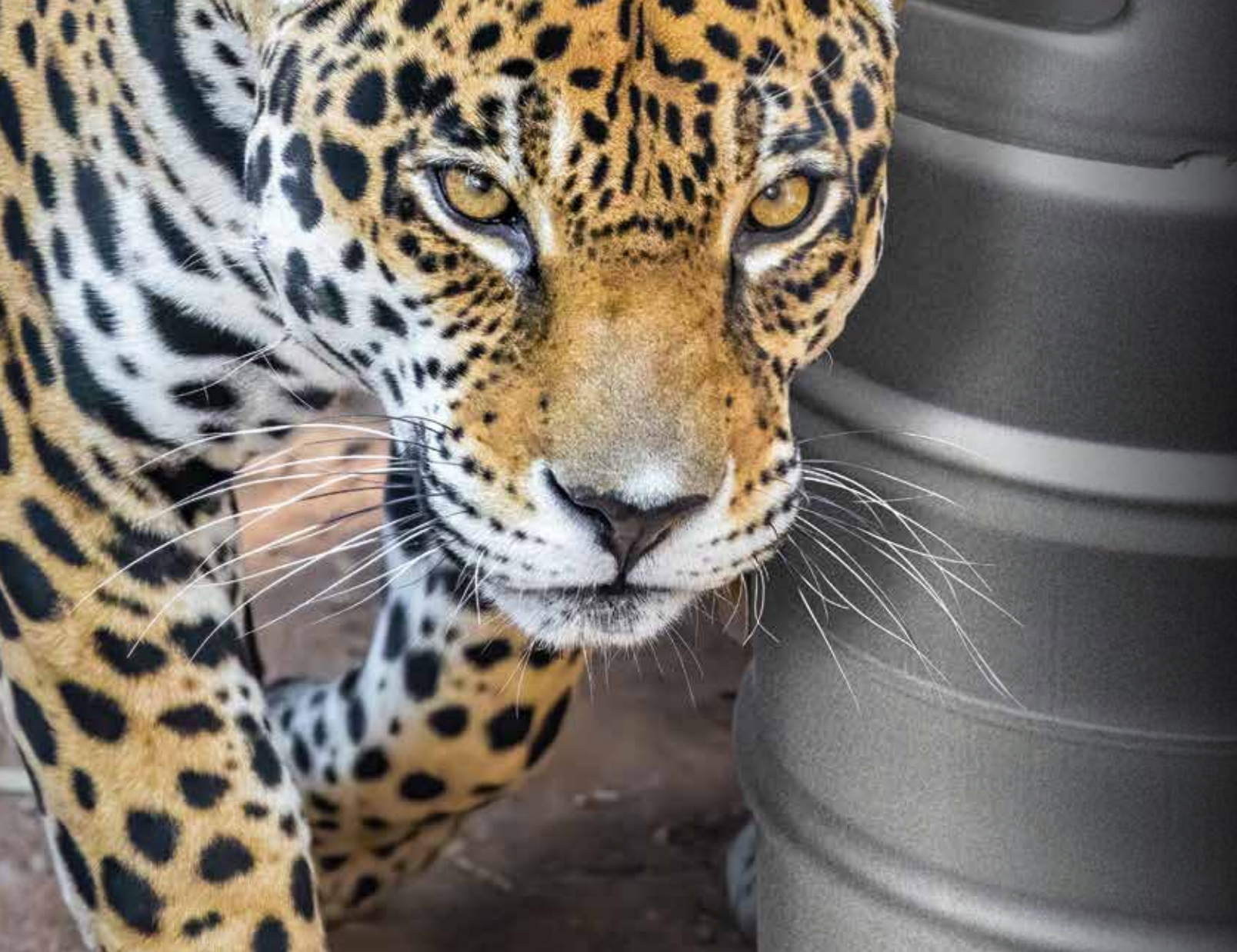
Earth Day | April 26, 2025

It's a Party for the Planet!™

Our Earth Day celebration strives to foster ideas and provide people with the tools to implement "doing your part" into their everyday lives!

Día del Niño | April 27, 2025

Día del Niño is back featuring a variety of family-friendly entertainment and activities all with a festive Latin flair!



ROARS&POURS

HAPPY HOUR SERIES

MARCH 6 | APRIL 3 | MAY 1, 2025

Guests can sip and stroll along select Zoo trails.

21 & Older Only | 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

\$13 tickets at phoenixzoo.org

The joy of the holidays returns to the Phoenix Zoo with three ways to enjoy the Valley's favorite holiday tradition, ZooLights!



Kick your holiday spirit into gear with the arrival of Cruise ZooLights on November 10. We have five nights that will drive you WILD – available November 10, 11 & 12 and January 13 & 14.



1 From the comfort of your car, drive through our immersive 200-foot-long light tunnel, experience millions of twinkling lights and dazzling animal sculptures and enjoy the Lake Lights Show on our main lake! Indulge in holiday treats and beverages, receive a commemorative digital photo, purchase glow toys and Zoo souvenirs all without leaving your vehicle!

Cruise ZooLights is a unique way to experience the Zoo for the whole family—from little ones still learning to walk to those with mobility restrictions. Fill the car, sip some cocoa and drive through ZooLights before it opens for nightly walkthroughs.

CRUISE
PHOENIX ZOO
zoolights
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2 On November 27, ZooLights opens to the public for the classic walkthrough experience you have come to know and love. Don't miss our brand-new Lake Lights show, featuring vibrant visuals and mesmerizing music that will captivate visitors of all ages. Warm up with delicious treats at our cozy s'mores pits and sip on delicious hot cocoa as you take in the festive atmosphere. Enjoy a stroll through the 200-foot-long light tunnel, get your photo with Santa and embrace the opportunity to create lasting memories in a magical setting.



"Thank you @phoenixzoo for this amazing sensory friendly night!! We went into it knowing it was a 50/50 chance that [our son] would not like it and we'd have to leave. He had so much fun at the zoo lights we were literally crying tears of joy. It was the first time we got to have this kind of family outing."
@headphonesforhenry

3 Back for the third year in a row, on December 2, the Zoo will make modifications to our nightly ZooLights programing for Sensory Friendly ZooLights! During this special evening you can expect nearly the same great ZooLights experience with some minor adjustments to make it more sensory friendly, including smaller crowds, quieter music, reduced flashing lights, sensory stations and more.

We are proud to continue to provide a more accessible ZooLights experience. This event is a part of our broader inclusivity efforts, in an effort to meet the needs of a community with sensory sensitivities.





Endangered Black-footed Ferrets and Narrow-headed Gartersnakes RELEASED TO THE WILD

The Arizona Center for Nature Conservation (ACNC)/Phoenix Zoo is excited to announce the arrival of 25 endangered black-footed ferret kits at the Zoo's Arthur L. and Elaine V. Johnson Conservation Center. The kits make up seven litters from moms Chelly, Hyzenthlay, Lavender, Ledbetter, Roxy, Shelob and Ziti. Twenty-one of these kits are slated to be released to the wild later this year or next spring.

"This has been one of our most successful breeding seasons in the past twenty years. We are excited to have so many kits to release to the wild to contribute to recovery of this highly endangered species," says Dr. Tara Harris, Director of Conservation and Science at the Phoenix Zoo.

The Phoenix Zoo is one of six facilities worldwide breeding black-footed ferrets for

release to the wild as part of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums' SAFE Black-footed Ferret program. Black-footed ferrets are considered one of North America's most endangered species. Once thought to be extinct in the wild, they have returned to their native habitat through reintroduction efforts. The Zoo has produced over 600 black-footed ferrets in its 30+ years of involvement with the breeding program, with many released back into the wild in prairie grasslands in Arizona and other parts of their native range. In 2023, thirteen kits born at the Phoenix Zoo were reintroduced at sites in Colorado and Kansas.

The Arizona Center for Nature Conservation (ACNC)/Phoenix Zoo welcomed three litters of narrow-headed gartersnakes at its Arthur L. and Elaine V. Johnson Conservation Center in mid-to-late August. In collaboration with conservation partners, Arizona Game and

Fish Department, U.S. Geological Survey's Arizona Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, University of Arizona, US Forest Service – Tonto National Forest, and US Fish and Wildlife Service, the 25 resulting neonate narrow-headed gartersnakes were released to the wild in the Tonto National Forest on September 13, 2024.

The births are part of the Zoo's long-term efforts to breed narrow-headed gartersnakes for release to the wild, as part of broader efforts to recover this imperiled species. With this September release, 98 narrow-headed gartersnakes born and/or raised at the Phoenix Zoo have been released to the wild, boosting wild populations. "We're especially excited that this year's release and our 2022 release of 25 narrow-headed gartersnakes constitute the largest-ever releases to the wild for this threatened species," says Dr. Tara Harris.





This holiday season, make your nights sparkle for less with SRP's exclusive discounts and rebates! Enjoy savings on a variety of home upgrades, including energy-efficient lighting, cooling systems and insulation, all designed to help you save energy year-round. Start your savings journey today at savewithsrp.com!



Bidders for Critters

Presented by



Thank You to our 2024 Auction Donors

Click on our donors' websites to learn more about them.

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The Arboretum at Flagstaff
Arizona Biltmore, A Waldorf Astoria Resort
Arizona Diamondbacks Foundation
Arizona Goat Yoga
Arizona Herb Association
Arizona Milk Producers
Arizona Museum of Natural History
Arizona Opera
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Arizona Science Center
Arizona State Fair
Arizona Sunrays
Arizona Theatre Company
Arizona Wilderness Brewing Company
Arizona Winery Tours - Sedona, AZ
Arizona's Family
Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum
As You Wish Pottery Painting Place -
Tempe Studio
ASU Gammage
AZ Legacy Law Group
B.R.I. Taproom & Arcade
Bearizona Wildlife Park
Bergbower Design

Berridge Nurseries
Big 5 Sporting Goods
Barry & Jean Bingham
Bites Donuts AZ
Bob the Psychic
Bonnie Lou Coleman
Broadway Cares
Jamia Brown
Buqui Bichi Brewing Chandler
Burland Jewelry Center
Castles N' Coasters
Chandler Center for the Arts
Chavez Foundation
Children's Museum of Phoenix
Christopher Creek General Store
Chupacabra Taproom
Cider Corps Cidery & Taproom
Class Axe Tempe
Cooper's Hawk
Copenhagen Imports
Crescent Crown Distributing
Avery N. Crossman
Cuddle Clones
Daily Dose Bar & Grill
Dave Seibert
Christine Davidson
Desert Botanical Garden
Desert Dragon Pottery
JoEllen Doornbos
Doubletree by Hilton Phoenix North
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East Valley Children's Theatre
Emerald Isle Golf Course
Entravision
Doreen Feldberg
Fever
Fiesta Bowl Charities
Larry & Margo Fink and Family
FLG X - Flagstaff Extreme Adventure Course
Four Seasons Resort Scottsdale
at Troon North
Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation
Frias Family
Grand Canyon Brewing + Distillery
Grass Clippings
Great Room Escape Tempe
Debra Grunwald
The Habit Burger Grill
Hassayampa Inn
Heard Museum
Herberger Theater Center
The Hermosa Inn
HF Coors
Hilton Garden Inn Phoenix/Tempe ASU Area
Honey Hive Farms
Hot Air Expedition
Hotel Valley Ho
Hubbard Radio
Hundred Mile Brewing Co.
Hurricane Harbor Phoenix
Hyatt Place or Hyatt House Tempe/
Phoenix/University

Hyatt Place Tempe/Phoenix Airport	Gael N. Parks	Sphinx Date Co. Palm & Pantry
iHeartMedia	Sue Passe	Stellar Adventures
Jamba	Pat Weiler	Carl Stone
The Joint Chiropractic	Elaine Paul	Studio 3 Images
JW Marriott Scottsdale	Perch Pub & Brewery	Stumpy's Pizza & Subs
Camelback Inn Resort & Spa	Phantom Fox Beer Company	Sunsplash Waterpark
The Keg Steakhouse + Bar	Phoenix Art Museum	Susan Richey
Knott's Berry Farm	Phoenix Herpetological Sanctuary	Swire Coca-Cola
Lake Pleasant Cruises, Inc.	Phoenix Raceway	Tap Dragon Craft Beer & Wine Bar
L'Auberge de Sedona	Phoenix Rising FC	TelevisaUnivision
Diane Law	Phoenix Zoo Auxiliary	Tempe Mission Palms Hotel
Elisa Lawrence	Phoenix Zoo Board of Trustees	and Conference Center
Lectric eBikes	Phoenix Zoo Friend	The Thunderbirds
Lisa Dahl Foundation	PHX Beer Co.	Timo Wine Bar
Lou Malnati's	Pink Jeep Tours	Tony Perri & David Ridgeway
Lucy Dickens	Pogo Pass	Total Wine & More
Roy Macdonald	Portillo's Tempe	Trader Joe's Tempe (93)
MacDonald's Ranch	ReeCreations	Uncle Bear's Family
The Maggiore Group	Rehab Burger Therapy	Urban Air Trampoline &
Robert & Michelle Mawk	Reid Park Zoological Society	Adventure Park
McCormick Ranch Golf Club	Sam Rosselli	Urban Air Trampoline and Adventure Park
Amy McLean	Royal Palms Resort and Spa	US Ghost Adventures
Medieval Times Dinner	San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance	1-816-SCARE-ME (1-816-72273-63)
and Tournament - Scottsdale AZ	SanTan Village	USS Midway Museum
Bonnie Mendoza	Scheels	Verde Canyon Railroad
Mesa Arts Center	Schmitt Jewelers	Dr. Chris Visser
Tom & Carole Minor	Seasons52	Vogue Bistro Bar Surprise, AZ
North Italia	Katherine Sechrist	Walter Station Brewery
NY Pizza Department (NYPD Pizza)	Mary Seeman	Waterstone Mortgage
OdySea Aquarium	Dave Seibert	The Westin Kierland Resort and Spa
Dena Ogden	Shalimar Studios	Whitfill Nursery
The Old Spaghetti Factory	Susie & David Sherman	The Wigwam
One Handsome Bastard Distillery & Grill	The Shop Beer Co.	Wildflower
Oriental Trading Company	Short Leash Hotdogs	Niki Y. Wilson
Oro Brewing Company	Paula Siebert	Ziggy's Aprons
Joanne (Stacy) Palermo	Skin By SK Organic Facial Studio	Zipps Sports Grill
Rose & Harry Papp	Sonesta ES Suites Flagstaff	

Stay tuned for Bidders for Critters coming in 2025!

 **Bidders for Critters**



Building a new Veterinary Medical Center at the Phoenix Zoo

This fall, the Phoenix Zoo embarked on a new fundraising campaign to raise money for a brand new Veterinary Medical Center. The Zoo's animal collection will continue to receive outstanding care from our veterinarians and animal care team in the new and improved facility, which will include advanced medical equipment and research space to lead us to the cutting edge of wildlife veterinary science and healthcare. The new space will provide large medical facilities with indoor viewing windows and digital screens to educate guests as they observe veterinary exams and animal health procedures, which may take place in real time. The Center will also contain classrooms and collaborative workspaces to train and motivate the wildlife veterinarians of tomorrow.

Phoenix Zoo President/CEO, Bert Castro, said of the project, "We have been very fortunate with our fundraising efforts thus far and have already raised over \$22 million of the needed \$25 million from incredibly generous foundations, philanthropic gifts and individual gifts. In addition, Sundt Construction is supporting this endeavor through building the project at cost – which is an enormous savings to the overall cost of the new Center. As a non-profit, we rely solely on donations to make these exciting projects come to fruition. We are hoping with the public's help now, we will be able to complete the goal for this amazing Center and will break ground in January."

Now through December 31, 2024, Zoo Trustee, Maja Wessels, and Charles Covington, have generously pledged up to \$10,000 to match every contribution dollar-for-dollar. DOUBLING YOUR DONATION in support of building a new Veterinary Medical Center.

"We have a unique opportunity to come together as a community and make a lasting impact on the future of wildlife care," says Derrick Hall, President and CEO of the Arizona Diamondbacks, and Campaign Cabinet Chair for the Phoenix Zoo's Veterinary Medical Center. "This new facility will not only enhance the health and well-being of the animals we all cherish, but it will also serve as a hub for education and innovation. Every contribution, no matter the size, brings us one step closer to making this vision a reality."

If you are inspired to make a contribution to the Veterinary Medical Center, donations can be made in multiple forms including on the Zoo's website, through "rounding up" at numerous points of sale venues throughout the Zoo, in the Desert Marketplace gift shop and by clicking **here**.

Please contact Ashley Lunsford at alunsford@phoenixzoo.org for additional information or questions. Learn more about the project **here**.





Donate by December 31, 2024 to
DOUBLE your donation!



phoenixzoo

ARIZONA CENTER *for* NATURE CONSERVATION



CAMP!

Night Camp:

Wake up at the Phoenix Zoo!

Now everyone can experience Night Camp! Throughout the year, the Zoo offers camps for families, homeschool groups and adults. These camps have prepared activities, plus pre-set dates and sleeping locations.

Upcoming dates:

Family Night Camp

March 1 – 2, 2025

Homeschool Night Camp

November 23 – 24, 2024

March 8 – 9, 2025

Adult Night Camp

Interested in a night camp only for adults?

Join our interest list.



Camp Zoo

Go on nature walks, meet animals and learn how to connect more with the natural world. Your Camper's curiosity will guide them through games, learning activities and crafts all centered on Nature Play! Campers will learn how we can connect with nature through art, science, conservation and play!

Now Featuring a Papago Park Adventure!

Campers will get to hike to Hole in the Rock and explore nature with Park Rangers on one of their days of camp!

Spring Camp

March 10 - 14, 2025 | 8 a.m. – 2:45 p.m.

Grades 1 – 5

\$299 members | \$325 general

Registration opens in January

Winter Camp

December 30 – January 3 | 8 a.m. – 2:45 p.m. (No camp January 1)

Kindergarten Camp is half day: 8 – 11:45 a.m.

Grades: K – 8

Kindergarten (Half Day) \$150 members | \$170 general

Grades 1 – 5 \$240 members | \$260 general

Grades 6 – 8 (Horse Hands Camp) \$299 members | \$325 general

Camp Zoo is excited to introduce our first-ever Middle School Horse Hands Camp! Explore the wonder of horses all week long: work closely with Equine Zookeepers, experience all the care and keeping of horses and learn how to saddle up and ride! This Camp will be the equivalent of completing the Level 1 Horse Hands Classes at the Zoo.



TEENS AND FAMILIES

Teen Volunteering

Whether you're looking to develop leadership skills on our Trailblazers Youth Advisory Council or get some experience engaging guests about conservation as a ZooTeen, we have a program for you! Applications for the next program year open March 2025.



Teen Career Conference

February 8, 2025

The Phoenix Zoo is excited to host its Teen Career Conference once again! This event is geared towards teens, grades 9-12, and their educational support networks (parents, educators, career/college counselors, etc.) who are interested in exploring different careers in the world of animal science.

Conservation Science Night

Save the date for Friday, February 28, 2025 and come be part of an incredible evening of conservation in action — all for free! Conservation Science Night is a family-friendly event that highlights the essential work our Conservation team is doing to protect Arizona's unique wildlife and habitats. With interactive stations like animal behavior observations, spotlighting black-footed ferrets, and tagging narrow-headed gartersnakes, guests can experience firsthand the science behind our mission.

CLASSROOM PROGRAMS & TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Curriculum for the Classroom

Our dedicated team of educators is excited to help you integrate the magic of the animal kingdom into your classroom with learner-led project-based curriculum units! We offer three topics for students in grades 3 – 12. Each topic includes an in-depth Teacher Guide with:

- Arizona State Standards Alignment
- Teacher Guide with detailed content outlines, lesson plans and assessment
- Student Research Notebook PDF
- Support materials for each lesson including pre-recorded videos, recommended research sources and activity worksheets
- A 30-minute live, virtual Q&A with a Zoo Educator

Outreach Live on Location

Let the Zoo come to you! Our fun, interactive outreach programs include an educator and ambassador animals that come right to your classroom or site. These programs are a great way to add impact and bring learning to life. Our standards-based topics can be customized for learners from PreK to high school and we have topics for adults as well!

LEARN MORE

FREE Teacher Professional Development

You read that right. We offer \$100 stipends for teachers attending our Professional Development Workshops! Get familiar with our Curriculum for the Classroom and how to guide the students through conservation projects and Socratic discussions. Summer and fall dates and registration links can be found here.



ART ON THE WILD SIDE

A PHOENIX ZOO ART EXHIBIT

WILD SIDE GALLERY

COMMON GROUND:

Diverse Visions Inspire a Common Passion

Now – January 26, 2025



Frank Gonzales



JenMarie Zeleznak



Jason Napier



Art Holeman

COMING SOON

Society of
Animal Artists

January 30 – May 25, 2025

Wild
Inspiration

June 5 – August 24, 2025

SAVANNA GALLERY

Water is LIFE

Now – February 23, 2025



Antelope Canyon | Susan Richey



The Elgin Monster | Mike Olbinski



Hanging Garden Spring | David Wallace



**Urban Wildlife:
Surviving in a Complex World**

February 27 – June 29, 2025

**My Favorite
Wild Thing!**

July 3 – September 28, 2025

Wild Birthdays



Calling All Party Animals!

Let the Phoenix Zoo host your child's next birthday party and enjoy a fun, stress-free day celebrating. It's sure to be a wildly good time!



602.914.4333

Picnics at the Zoo!

**You bring the guests...
we'll bring the wild.**

With unrivaled venues and activities to choose from, the Phoenix Zoo is the Valley's most unique picnic location.

- Scenic venues for groups of all sizes
- Animal encounters
- Variety of catering options
- Free parking

Book Today!
602.914.4301



New to the Zoo!

IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE!

The Wildlife Champion birthday package is here!

Packages* include:

- 12" animal plush
- Certificate of adoption
- Animal fact sheet
- Frameable photo
- Phoenix Zoo birthday button
- Personalized birthday card
- Colorable Zoo-themed birthday box

*Phoenix Zoo admission tickets available as add-on



A fun and unique gift for all ages!
Click [here](#) to order today



Maximize your impact with a matching gift!

Did you know you can make your support for the Phoenix Zoo go even further? Unlock the power of matching gifts! Many employers offer matching gift programs, which means they'll match your charitable donation, effectively doubling the impact of your contribution.

How does a matching gift work?



Other ways to maximize your support



Millions of individuals work for companies with matching gift programs and billions of dollars in matching gift funds go unclaimed each year.

For more information about matching gifts, please contact Ashley Lunsford at alunsford@phoenixzoo.org.



Make the Holidays **ROAR** with Excitement!

Spark Curiosity for the Natural World with a Yearlong Phoenix Zoo Gift Membership!

A Phoenix Zoo membership is a unique gift that allows you to encounter animal adventures and take advantage of exclusive member-only perks for a full year! With each gift membership purchase, you are not only creating memorable experiences for your loved ones, but also supporting the 3,000+ animals that call the Phoenix Zoo home. Because of our members, we can continue our mission of educating and sharing with others the importance of caring for our environment. Save \$10 when you buy a gift membership before December 31, 2024 by using promo code: WTNOV

Member Benefits:

- FREE daytime admission to the Phoenix Zoo for one full year
- FREE or discounted admission to more than 150 zoos and aquariums
- Early entry to the Zoo one hour before opening
- Advance ticket offers and discounts – including ZooLights
- FREE admission to two Art Galleries
- 10% discount at Plaza Marketplace gift shop
- Discounts on guest admission tickets, stroller and wheelchair rentals, photo packages, WILD Birthday parties, camps and more!

COMING 2025



Enhance your day at the Phoenix Zoo with a variety of fun experiences to make your visit even more memorable!

WATER PLAY AREAS & PLAYGROUNDS



Discovery Farm

Presented By  ARIZONA MILK PRODUCERS

Kids love this 'farm-themed' play area located at Harmony Farm on the Children's Trail. This area is also home to cows, sheep, horses and the not-to-be missed, Red Barn Goat Petting Yard.

Yakulla Caverns

Splash, jump and play at the "coolest" splash pad in the Valley! Make your way through the cavern as you explore stalactites and stalagmites! Perfect for children 5 and over. *Yakulla Caverns is closed for the season.*

Enchanted Forest

Presented By  Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust

Take an adventurous trek through the shady Virginia G. Piper Enchanted Forest! Little explorers can take the bridge over a trickling river and through the trees to visit the Enchanted Forest's own tree house.

Leapin' Lagoon Splash Pad

Let your little ones enjoy the water while you rest. Or for the daring adult, join in the fun and get soaked! Perfect for babies and toddlers. *Leapin' Lagoon is closed for the season.*

ZOO TOURS

Safari Cruiser Rides

Presented By  VALLEY TOYOTA DEALERS

Hop aboard for a fun, narrated, 25-minute tour meandering past a large portion of the Zoo's animals, encounters and experiences.

Discovery Tours

A Discovery Tour is a 75-minute guided tour through the Zoo in one of our eco-shuttles. You'll be able to hop on and off the cart for closer viewing and for photo opportunities throughout the tour.

Backstage Adventures

If you're looking for a truly unique experience, join us for a Backstage Adventure and get an insider's glimpse of some of our animal habitats such as flamingo, elephant and Stingray Bay.

Premium Adventures

Looking for the ultimate Zoo tour? Try a Premium Adventure – a fully customized experience for you and your special guests.

** Discovery Tours, Backstage Adventures and Premium Adventures are limited to same party groups only and must be booked in advance by calling our Reservations Department at 602.914.4333.*



ENCOUNTERS & EXPERIENCES

Camel Rides

Go for a ride on one of the most amazing animals in the world and even get your picture taken!

Monkey Village

Presented By  POGO PASS

As the only walk-through squirrel monkey exhibit in the United States, this is a must-see on your visit to the Zoo!

Doornbos Discovery Amphitheater Animal Presentations

Presented By  SNP

Daily at 10:30 a.m. with a second show Friday – Sunday at Noon

Venomous Rattlesnake Presentation Friday – Sunday at 1:30 p.m.

Temperatures Permitting

Lakeside Carousel

Presented By  AMERICA FIRST CREDIT UNION

Take a spin on the Lakeside Carousel! Each animal is unique and beautifully handcrafted for an authentic, distinctive look.

Art on the Wild Side

Inspiring artwork adorns the walls of the Zoo's galleries; Wild Side & Savanna Grill.

ScooterPals

Join the ScooterPals Crew for a scooterrific fun and flexible way to experience the Phoenix Zoo.

Stingray Bay

Our 15,000-gallon interactive pool offers you the chance to come hand to fin with our cownose stingrays and even feed them fish and shrimp.



GIRAFFE ENCOUNTER

Feed a Giraffe!

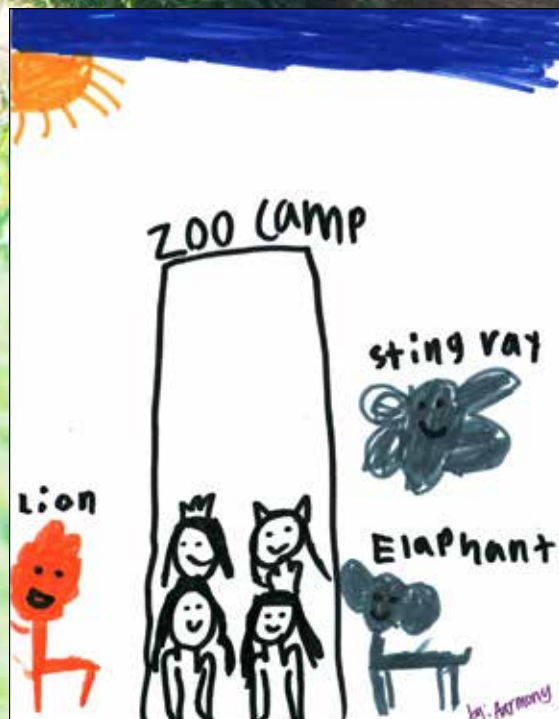
The long-awaited return of our Giraffe Encounter is finally here! We are excited to welcome you back to visit the feeding deck opposite the red river hog habitat on the Africa Trail and hand-feed our Masai giraffes. Experience the joy of a giraffe eating biscuits right out of your hand and get that ultimate selfie!

Open Daily *(weather permitting):*
10:30 – 11:30 a.m. | 2 – 3 p.m.
\$8 members | \$9 general





Dylan | age 13



Harmony

Wild Child artwork is randomly selected. Share your animal drawings with us. Parents – please write your child’s name legibly along with their age.

Send to: **WT – Wild Child | Attn: Communications**
455 N. Galvin Pkwy.
Phoenix, AZ 85008



Who's coming to the Zoo?

The Phoenix Zoo has some exciting additions coming! Can you guess what they are based on the images below? Keep an eye out for announcements to find out!



WISH LIST

What does
a tiger like
to play
with?



How do
our birds
keep their
beaks
sharp?



What does
a gibbon
want
for it's
birthday?



What
does an
alligator
wish for?



From celebrations to everyday enrichment and care
for our animals, Zoo grounds and guests...see what our staff
and animals want by checking out their Wish List today!



Commemorate the love you have for your pets!

Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to add your pet's pawprint and name to the Etched in Glass Donor Wall.

Purchase yours today before they are gone!

Tiles are \$500 each.

Funds raised will benefit the non-profit Phoenix Zoo.



For more information,
email phoenixzooprints@gmail.com
or call 602.286.3800 x7342.



Night of the Three Kings Noche de los Reyes Magos

Saturday, January 4, 2025 | 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Come meet the three kings and enjoy a night of live mariachi music under the glow of ZooLights!

Activities included with ZooLights admission. Food not included.



Take your support of the Phoenix Zoo TO THE NEXT LEVEL!

Help ensure a bright future for endangered species, educate audiences about the importance of conservation and play an essential role in the future of the Zoo.

Supporting Memberships

- Starting at \$500
- Includes Base level benefits
- One Discovery tour per year
- Special access to select Zoo venues, guest admissions, on-grounds donor recognition and more!**

Guardian Conservation Society

- Starting at \$1,500
- Unlimited access to the Zoo for you and up to 11 additional guests
- One behind-the-scenes tour per year with animals like Chutti the greater one-horned rhino*
- Exclusive invite to Heart of the Zoo lecture series events and ZooLights Donor Preview Night

Upgrade your support today!

For more information contact Chris Gutierrez at 602.914.4362.

**Behind-the-scenes tours are subject to availability and must be reserved through the Donor Relations office.*

Join the Antler Society -



THE ANTLER
SOCIETY

LEAVE A LEGACY

If you've ever wanted to express your appreciation for the Phoenix Zoo, a gift in your estate plan could be the perfect option for you. Whether you make a gift today or after your lifetime, you will help to provide experiences that inspire people and motivate them to care for the natural world. With a little planning today, your impact can be felt for generations to come.

The "Antler" name draws on an analogy between our thoughtful donors who have remembered the Phoenix Zoo in their will or estate plan and the deer that leave behind its antlers for the nourishment of other living creatures. Membership in this society is extended to those who share with us their intention to leave a legacy with the Phoenix Zoo.

Would you like more information?

Click [here](#) to download this free comprehensive Estate Planning Kit. It will help you protect loved ones, organize everything in one place and save on taxes.



Have a question?

Please contact Donor Relations to speak with a team member in confidence and with no obligation.

Email: teamdonorrelations@phoenixzoo.org



Join the

WOLFPACK

**You can save wildlife
every month!**

You can make a
LARGE difference for as little
as \$15 a month.

Every Gift Counts
Click here to join the Wolfpack!

phoenixzoo
ARIZONA CENTER for NATURE CONSERVATION

Cruise ZooLights is back with five nights to drive you wild!

November 10, 11 & 12, 2024
January 13 & 14, 2025

Tickets on sale now!



Smaller crowds, quieter music,
the same lifelong memories!

PHOENIX ZOO
zoolights
Presented by

Sensory
Friendly



December 2, 2024 | 5:30 - 10:30 p.m.



Sensory Stations | A photo op with Santa | Sensory bags available | And so much more!



Tickets available now.

Zoo Move & Groove 5K

POUNCE TO VICTORY!

January 18, 2025



Register online today!

SAVE THE DATE FOR

ZOOBILATION

DECADES OF DISCOVERY

AT THE PHOENIX ZOO



SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2025 | 6 – 10 P.M.

Travel through the decades as you take a trip down memory lane. Immerse yourself in an evening of adventure at the Phoenix Zoo's premiere fundraising event, Zoobilation. Experience unique performances and savor delicious cuisine from the Valley's favorite caterers. Featuring up-close animal encounters, dancing under the stars to **STATUS** the Band and one-of-a-kind Zoo adventures!

IT'S A CELEBRATION YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS!
RESERVATIONS ON SALE EARLY JANUARY.

We'll See
You at the
ZOO!

