



LOS ANGELES ZOO & BOTANICAL GARDENS

FISCAL

YEAR IN REVIEW

2022-2023

GREATER LOS ANGELES ZOO ASSOCIATION

“

Through the passion of our team, the Los Angeles Zoo is leading the way in saving wildlife and connecting Angelenos to the natural world by providing exemplary animal care, delivering distinctive and diverse learning opportunities, and creating unforgettable experiences.

~~~~~  
**DENISE VERRET**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
& ZOO DIRECTOR

*Saving Wildlife. Enriching  
Our Communities. Creating  
Connections to Nature.*

JAMIE PHAM

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**ON THE COVER**

The Zoo had an above-average breeding season for southern mountain yellow-legged frogs in 2022-2023, and we handed off 851 tadpoles for release into the wild.

Photo by JAMIE PHAM

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**SHARE** your memories and photos on Instagram, X, and Facebook using #LAZoo



# From the CEO & Zoo Director

The Los Angeles Zoo has had a tremendous year, and I am very proud of what we accomplished. As I reflect on the past 12 months there is an obvious overarching theme that stands out. Partnership is the common thread that strings together our mission with the work we do every day. Our successes are rooted in the strong alliances we've forged with various trusted and respected organizations, groups, and individuals. The pages to come will demonstrate some of the key partnerships that have played a pivotal role in our commitment to animal care and wellbeing, wildlife conservation, education, community engagement, and equity in all forms.

The heart of our mission lies in providing the best care for our beloved animal residents. The extraordinary teamwork between our veterinary team, human doctors and surgeons, veterinarians, and government agencies has led to significant successes in animal health and wellbeing, along with practical wildlife conservation in the wild.

Our long-standing partnership with the Los Angeles Unified School District remains an important alliance, but one of our exciting developments this year has been the expansion of our collaboration between the Learning & Engagement Division and the Los Angeles Public Library system. This initiative has empowered us to extend our reach into local communities, providing access to educational resources that foster an appreciation for conserving nature.

Further underlining our commitment to conservation and community, our Zoo has proudly fostered a partnership with Outward Bound Adventures (OBA). Now in its second year, this collaboration is geared toward providing underprivileged youth and individuals from diverse backgrounds with access to nature, environmental education, and vital skills. Our partnership with OBA is a testament to our belief that everyone should have the opportunity to experience the transformative power of the natural world.

Equity and inclusivity have always been at the forefront of our efforts, and we remain steadfast in our commitment to ensuring that our Zoo is a welcoming place for people from all walks of life. In this spirit, we've joined hands with a multitude of organizations representing various racial and ethnic communities, LGBTQIA+ communities, as well as those with physical or neurological disabilities. Our collaborative efforts have led to the creation of numerous community events that celebrate diversity, inclusion, and belonging—celebrating the richness of our City's tapestry.

I extend my deepest gratitude to all our partners who have shared in our vision and helped us build a brighter, more sustainable future. The journey ahead is one of continued growth, and I am optimistic looking toward the future as we make strides in shaping a world where people and wildlife thrive, together.

Thank you for your unwavering support of the Los Angeles Zoo.



JAMIE PHAM

**Denise M. Verret**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
& ZOO DIRECTOR

# From the GLAZA President & Chair



JAMIE PHAM

**Dawn Petersen-Amend**  
INTERIM GLAZA PRESIDENT

**Erika Aronson Stern**  
GLAZA CHAIR

Thanks to the support and generosity of our donors, sponsors, and members, 2022–23 was an exceptional year for the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association. Zoo attendance totaled over 1.5 million guests, and member households reached 40,658—with combined admissions and membership revenue totaling nearly \$21 million.

One of GLAZA's major roles is to fundraise to support the mission of the Los Angeles Zoo. This fiscal year we exceeded our goal, generating more than \$4 million of restricted funds for Zoo initiatives. Part of that total includes the Zoo's first allocation from the California state budget to support several projects, including construction of a new Cape vulture habitat and the remodeling of Swan Lake.

California's intense February storms rained out our first in-person Walk for the Wild (WFTW), disappointing our 570 registered walkers. Thanks to the event's generous sponsors, we arranged a WFTW celebration for walkers and donors on a sunny April morning, where several hundred guests enjoyed breakfast and were thanked for their enthusiastic participation and the \$234,000 they raised. This year's Beastly Ball was a wild success, raising more than \$1.6 million in revenue, including a "fund-a-need" paddle raise to support the Zoo Pals program. With a generous matching gift from the estate of longtime GLAZA Trustee and Co-Chair Betty White, the Ball raised over \$168,000 for this effort—and we renamed the program Betty White's Zoo Pals. Our 2023 Ball honorees included former City Councilmember Tom LaBonge (the posthumous award was accepted by his family) and longtime GLAZA Trustee and philanthropist Diann Kim.

It was also a year of fun-filled events at the Zoo. The summer months featured Zoo Friday Nights, giving guests an opportunity to visit the animals in the cooler evening hours, dance to live bands, and sample fare from L.A. food trucks. Thanks to generous candy donations from Mars, October's Boo at the L.A. Zoo weekends delighted young trick-or-treaters, who also experienced a Spooky Stroll, animal feedings, and science shows. From November through early January, GLAZA presented a reimagined L.A. Zoo Lights, more closely aligned with the Zoo's mission. Colorful silk animals populated the newly renamed L.A. Zoo Lights: Animals Aglow, and despite 12 very rainy nights, a total of 136,671 guests enjoyed these light-filled evenings at the Zoo.

GLAZA is proud to support the Los Angeles Zoo and its mission, and we are grateful for the generosity of our donors, sponsors, and members. We look forward to another exciting and productive year.

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Karen Bass

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*GLAZA is proud to support the Los Angeles Zoo and its mission, and we are grateful for the generosity of our donors, sponsors, and members.*

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DAWN PETERSEN-AMEND
INTERIM GLAZA PRESIDENT



The year's notable births and hatchings include (clockwise from top left) a female mandrill, eleven California condor chicks, a male François' langur, and four bighorn sheep. Maintaining healthy, diverse zoo populations is crucial to the long-term survival of many threatened or endangered species.



RING-TAILED RESCUE

Rescued from the illegal pet trade, this young ring-tailed lemur found safe haven at the L.A. Zoo, where she has successfully integrated into our troop. The Zoo routinely assists state and local agencies with confiscation and placement of illegally held and trafficked wildlife, including many endangered species.

Photo by JAMIE PHAM





NEXT-GEN JOEY

Koala joey Chip was born in August 2022 to first-time parents Maya and Burra. Their pairing was the result of a Species Survival Plan (SSP) recommendation that works to ensure the sustainability of a genetically diverse population across AZA-accredited zoos.

PHOTO BY JAMIE PHAM



BREEDING SUCCESS

The Zoo welcomed two clutches of Saharan horned vipers last year. This snake's "horns" are pointy scales that help protect its eyes when it buries itself in sand. L.A. is one of few U.S. zoos to care for and successfully breed this species.

Photo by IAN RECCHIO



STRIKE UP THE BAND

A pair of Fiji banded iguanas arrived in March 2023, marking the return of this popular species to the LAIR after a long absence. Native to the Fijian islands, these lizards are distinguished by their vivid emerald coloring and lighter stripes—which help them camouflage in their forest home.

Photo by IAN RECCHIO

LOS ANGELES ZOO



Partners in Community

The Los Angeles Zoo reaches beyond its borders to the community at large, working collaboratively with a variety of organizations to engage diverse audiences and ensure that the Zoo is accessible and welcoming to all.

Special Nights at Zoo Lights

The 2022–23 season of L.A. Zoo Lights: Animals Aglow was a spectacular success, with more than 144,000 tickets sold. New this year were two special events designed to increase accessibility and bring the magic of Zoo Lights to wider audiences. A family-friendly Pride Night at Zoo Lights was produced in consultation with Christopher Street West/L.A. Pride. Despite heavy rain, 466 guests turned out for an evening of special entertainment designed to welcome the LGBTQIA+ community.

We also teamed with the City of Los Angeles Department on Disability (DOD) on the first-ever Sensory-Inclusive Evening at Zoo Lights. Smaller crowds, quieter music, and flexible entry were among the modifications made to tailor the event to guests who thrive in a sensory-supportive environment. Sensory bags with noise-canceling headphones and other adaptive accessories were available for checkout.

“On behalf of DOD, we want to take this opportunity to congratulate you all on a very successful sensory-inclusive night at the Zoo. We received nothing but great reviews from parents and partners.”

LOURDES A. SINIBALDI, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH, REFERRALS AND EDUCATION (CORE), DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY



JAMIE PHAM



JAMIE PHAM



CONNECTING THROUGH ANIMALS

Animals figure prominently in Korean folktales, so the Zoo was a natural choice to host Korean Culture Storytime in November 2022. Organized by Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles, the event introduced zoogoers to Korean culture through story, song, and activities based on the animals of the zodiac.

Photo by MAURA MESSERLY

Celebrating Diversity

At an event celebrating “L.A. for All” week, the Los Angeles Zoo was recognized for its participation in the anti-discrimination campaign organized by the L.A. Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department. Since joining last April, the Zoo has been proudly displaying the campaign’s multicolored banners in the front entry and retail space as a symbol of our commitment to making the Zoo a welcoming space for everyone.



CARL MYERS



Special Needs Outreach

GLAZA's Special Needs Outreach (SNO) program caters to a diverse and deserving audience, bringing a zoo experience to many who cannot visit on their own. Last year, SNO docents visited 51 facilities, engaging more than 1,808 participants and traveling a total of 1,262 miles.

"Thank you from the bottom of our hearts! Your outreach program is fantastic! The volunteers were so knowledgeable and patient. Our residents had a wonderful time. What a great way to reach those who cannot come to you."

CATALINA COLE
ACTIVITY DIRECTOR, WELLBROOK MEMORY CARE



GIRL POWER

The Zoo hosted the L.A. County Office of Education's 2023 Engaging Girls in STEM Festival in April. Experts from local science and technology organizations offered up activities, career guidance, and plenty of inspiration.

Photo by DAN KEEFFE



Migrant Education Program

Coordinated by the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), the Migrant Education Program caters to children of migratory workers, who often face social and learning challenges due to frequently shifting schools. The Zoo provides an immersive learning environment for these students while fostering a sense of belonging. Forty-five students participated in last summer's program, which wrapped up with a showcase of student projects inspired by lessons on megafauna, habitat design, and conservation.



JAMIE PHAM



LEARNING & ENGAGEMENT

Touching Tribute

Chickens, horses, fish, and bunnies were among the 1,000-plus cherished animal companions memorialized at the Zoo's second annual Beloved Pets Ofrenda, cocreated with Plaza de la Raza School of Performing and Visual Arts. Guests were invited to add their own photos and artwork to the display throughout the month of October.

"It is an honor to collaborate with the L.A. Zoo to spread culture and share stories ... In any family who loves their pets, animals are a part of the family and our lives, so an altar to remember them with more joy than sorrow, is fitting and healing."

MARIA JIMENEZ TORRE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PLAZA DE LA RAZA



LAURA FROST

Providing Pathways

The Zoo's Paid Internship Program (PIP) expanded in Summer 2022, welcoming 14 students from diverse backgrounds. Over the course of the 10-week program, interns worked with mentors from the Conservation, Learning & Engagement, and Nutrition divisions, gaining valuable work, research, and networking skills that will help set them on the path for future careers.

CARL MYERS



Celebrating Our Cultural Landscape

Traditionally celebrated in East Asian countries, especially China, Lunar New Year is a time to reunite with family, honor ancestors, and celebrate the arrival of spring. On January 14, 2023, the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) kicked off its Citywide 2023 Lunar New Year festivities at the Los Angeles Zoo with lion and dragon dance performances by Wushu Shaolin Entertainment. The Zoo continued its celebration of Lunar New Year with two weekends of special programming in partnership with AAPI-LA.

“The Department of Cultural Affairs is very proud of the partnership we developed with the Los Angeles Zoo to provide cultural arts programming celebrating Lunar New Year. Bringing together the beauty of art and the wonders of nature not only enriches the cultural landscape of the community, but also raises awareness about wildlife conservation and the importance of preserving our natural world. We look forward to continuing to work together to blend cultural creativity with the celebration of our animal kingdom.”

DANIEL TARICA
GENERAL MANAGER, L.A. DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

CARL MYERS



VIRTUAL PROGRAM VICTORY

The L.A. Zoo took home an award for Significant Achievement in Education at the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) annual conference in September 2022. The award recognized the Virtual Zoo Pals program, which originated during the pandemic as the Zoo’s Learning & Engagement staff sought creative ways to engage students remotely. The program was hailed for its intentional approach to minimize technological barriers, increase students’ social and emotional wellbeing, and make virtual learning a student-led process.

Photo by JAMIE PHAM

How High Can Your Condor Fly?

More than 21,000 people attended the L.A. Maker Faire at Los Angeles State Historic Park in April 2023. The L.A. Zoo booth, created and hosted by a team from Learning & Engagement, was a huge hit thanks to fun, interactive activities centered on California condors. Kids could make their own condors out of recycled materials. Then, they tested their creations in a wind tunnel meant to simulate the thermals that condors glide on. If a condor soared, its maker won a prize!



SINDY SERRANO

Check It Out

The Zoo expanded its partnership with the Los Angeles Public Library last year. Our Learning & Engagement (L&E) team visited 34 branch locations throughout Los Angeles, primarily in neighborhoods designated as having high or very high park needs. Nearly 1,200 library patrons participated in the program, which combined story time with crafts and outdoor activities. More than 3,600 guests visited the Zoo for free last year through LAPL’s “Discover & Go” program, which allows users to check out zoo passes with their library card. LAPL also joined in our Wild for the Planet celebration at the Zoo, hosting a library booth, children’s book readings, and activities inspired by nature-themed literature.



MAURA WESSERLY



RENAE COTERO

FAMILY NATURE CLUB

Partnering with the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Zoo hosted five free Family Nature Club events in Griffith Park last year. These nature play days are a big hit with families, with one writing that their daughter “woke us up at 6:30 a.m. to ask where we were going and we told her ‘Family... Nature...’ and before I finished saying it, she was jumping up and down screaming with joy.”

Photo by SINDY SERRANO



JAKE OWENS

Engaging Gang-Impacted Communities

Outward Bound Adventures (OBA) has been a community partner of the Los Angeles Zoo since 2021. OBA is dedicated to providing access to nature, environmental education, and exposure to careers in conservation for primarily low-income, overlooked, and underserved youth. In 2023, we began working with OBA’s Environmental Restoration Team (ERT), an adult program that provides individuals from gang-impacted communities with paid apprenticeships. Working with our Conservation and Grounds Maintenance divisions, ERT members provided invaluable support to the Zoo’s Oak Woodland Restoration Area—removing invasive plants, planting native species, and monitoring bird, lizard, and invertebrate biodiversity.

“For several years the L.A. Zoo and Outward Bound Adventures (OBA) have enjoyed a synergistic, mutually beneficial relationship that serves the common vision of both organizations: conservation, biodiversity and engaging and employing demographics that have historically been absent from such essential endeavors.”

CHARLES THOMAS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OUTWARD BOUND ADVENTURES

“

Because of the work that we do saving animals from extinction, the community pays attention and follows our lead when we provide opportunities to act on issues of sustainability—from charging electric vehicles to recycling cell phones that can help protect gorilla habitat. Many times, new ways of incorporating Earth-friendly practices into our operations arise from partnering with other agencies and organizations.

DR. CAROL ARMSTRONG, DIRECTOR OF SUSTAINABILITY

”

Gorillas on the Line



JAMIE PHAM

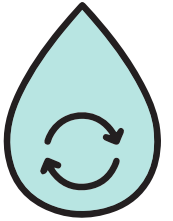
The Zoo participated in a cell phone collection drive organized by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), collecting 445 devices during the last fiscal year. Recycling old phones reduces demand for mining in gorilla habitat.

“The L.A. Zoo enables their visitors to participate in a gorilla conservation project by offering them an opportunity to recycle their old cell phones. This is how you change consumer culture and protect wildlife.”

ERIC RONAY
ECO-CELL

LADWP

In 2022, we worked with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) to install 12 hydration stations throughout the Zoo, replacing many of our traditional drinking fountains. And, for the second time, we partnered with LADWP to be a host site for its Recycled Water Fill Station Program, which provides L.A. residents with free water for irrigation and other non-drinking uses. DWP staff distributed 33,000 gallons at the Zoo’s fill station, helping to meet the City’s water conservation goals.



PLASTIC-FREE ECOCHALLENGE

In July 2022, Zoo staff and volunteers participated in a competitive, monthlong challenge to reduce reliance on single-use plastics. In its first outing, L.A. Zoo’s Team APE (Angeleno Plastic Eliminators) came in second place out of 310 teams from 46 countries. Our team of 246 people kept nearly 12,000 pieces of plastic out of landfills.



Looking Ahead

The year saw progress for two exciting projects now in the design phase at the Zoo. The first is a solar carport renewable energy project being led and funded by the Department of Water and Power. The project will generate solar power to fuel the City’s grid and will provide more than 50 new electric vehicle chargers. The second is a building decarbonization project being led by the Bureau of Engineering, which will result in rooftop solar power generation and back-up battery storage to improve the Zoo’s resilience.



Partners in Conservation

Endangered species around the globe are benefiting from conservation grants or field assistance provided by the Los Angeles Zoo in Fiscal Year 2022–23. The programs we support engage in a variety of conservation activities, including studying wild populations, creating sustainable breeding programs, reducing habitat destruction, strengthening community engagement, and promoting peaceful coexistence between people and wildlife. In these pages, we spotlight some of these programs and the impact that we've made, thanks to the support of our generous members, donors, and friends.

California conservation is a cornerstone of our Conservation Strategic Plan—and our efforts to preserve biodiversity begin right here at home. We've instituted a number of initiatives on Zoo grounds to restore habitat, study native species, and promote wildlife-friendly practices. Working with the Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, our Conservation Division spearheaded a long-term habitat restoration project in Griffith Park's West Trail, with staff and volunteers removing more than 80,000 invasive plants last year. We also partnered with Southern Sierra Research Station to install the first Motus tower in Los Angeles on Zoo grounds, which will gather data on migratory birds and other wildlife. Our collaboration with Theodore Payne Foundation included installation of two new bird-friendly gardens in the Zoo (right).



CONSERVATION STRATEGIC PLAN




JAMIE PHAM

Rescue Network

The Zoo is proud to be a founding partner of the Southern California Wildlife Confiscations Network (SCWCN), a task force created by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The network is a first-of-its-kind program that provides a cooperative program to care for animals confiscated from the illegal wildlife trade.

“

The L.A. Zoo has been a significant participant of the WCN since its inception. We are grateful for the critically needed donations of staff time and facilities to care for these wild animals and give them a second chance to thrive.

SARA WALKER, SENIOR ADVISOR ON WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING, AZA



”



Creative Partnership

The Zoo teamed with the Gottlieb Native Garden on a podcast focusing on urban conservation. Hosted by Dr. Jake Owens, BiodiverCity spotlighted how local scientists, including L.A. Zoo experts, are helping to save animals from around the world.

SUBSCRIBE AT [LAZOO.ORG/PODCAST](https://Lazoo.org/podcast)

“

Partnering with the L.A. Zoo on this podcast seemed like the perfect way to continue our education efforts on important environmental issues and how they affect habitats and wildlife both large and small.

SUSAN GOTTLIEB
CREATOR, GOTTLIEB NATIVE GARDEN

”



CARL MYERS



CARL MYERS

Opening Doors

In 2022, the Zoo launched the Teen Council for Conservation, offering 30 high school students from diverse backgrounds the opportunity to get paid, hands-on experience investigating and problem-solving environmental issues. We also expanded our Paid Internship Program for college students, partnering with the USC Wrigley Institute for Environment and Sustainability, which offered competitive funding to two interns.

“Thanks to our collaborations with the Los Angeles Zoo, we’ve been able to introduce a raft of new career-aligned learning opportunities for our undergraduates who study sustainability and the environment. Through internships, behind-the-scenes tours, and career panels, these students gain priceless career insights and hands-on experience in conservation, environmental communications, and policy.”

JESSICA DUTTON, PH.D.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
WRIGLEY INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR CONSERVATION EFFORTS, VISIT [LAZOO.ORG/CSP](https://Lazoo.org/csp)

The L.A. Zoo continues to be a leader in conservation translocations. We have been integral to the recovery efforts of species around the world—including two very close to home.



Southern Mountain Yellow-Legged Frogs

Southern mountain yellow-legged frogs (SMYLFs) have been a cornerstone conservation project at the Zoo since 2007, but until now all the work to create an insurance population for this endangered native species has been completely behind the scenes. The L.A. Zoo debuted a new bio-secure habitat for these frogs in 2023, offering guests the unique opportunity to view this rare and elusive species.

Last year the frogs in our breeding program produced more than 1,000 offspring. We handed 851 tadpoles over to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), along with 15 subadult frogs that were rescued as tadpoles from the 2020 Bobcat fire. All were released back to the wild. We also transferred several hundred tadpoles to the Santa Ana Zoo and the Aquarium of the Pacific to raise to adulthood, head-starting them for future release.

Photo by ADAM BACKLIN/USGS



CARLOS TIRADO

“For almost the last decade, the L.A. Zoo has been a phenomenal partner in the captive breeding and head-starting of the southern mountain yellow-legged frogs and their recovery in Los Angeles County. The L.A. Zoo has contributed exceptional facilities and captive care to this program, and the numbers of frogs released back into the wild reflects that professional skill set that they bring to this critical frog recovery program.”

DR. ROBERT FISHER

CONSERVATION BIOLOGIST, U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



California Condors

Fourteen California condors hatched at the Zoo in 2022, and our condor team continued to pioneer the use of double brooding (having a breeding pair raise two chicks at once), with four double broods in 2022. The team also treated six California condors that came in with medical issues. Four of those birds were able to be rehabilitated and re-released to the wild. Eight L.A. Zoo-hatched condors were released to the wild last year, including #1085, pictured.

“The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is grateful for the incredible partnerships across the California Condor Recovery Program, including with the amazing team at Los Angeles Zoo. Not only do they excel in their work innovating strategies to maximize successful breeding of condors, but their passion for the animals and recovery program constantly shines through.”

JAMIE PHAM

ASHLEIGH BLACKFORD
CALIFORNIA CONDOR
RECOVERY PROGRAM
COORDINATOR, U.S.
FISH & WILDLIFE
SERVICE



Each year, the Los Angeles Zoo, in partnership with GLAZA, provides funding through its Annual Conservation Grants Program to support the efforts of our partners around the world. Endangered species on four continents benefitted from last year's funding, including Asian elephants, Javan warty pigs, Indian gharials, Grauer's gorillas, and mountain tapirs.



Saving Elephants

Wild Earth Allies (WEA) works to support Asian elephant recovery in Cambodia by implementing targeted actions to ensure that elephants flourish in healthy forests that also sustain traditional livelihoods. Last year, L.A. Zoo funding supported a range of activities, including community tree-planting and anti-snare events, human-elephant coexistence training, and expanded elephant field surveys and camera trap monitoring.

“With support from the Los Angeles Zoo, we have accelerated community-based Asian elephant conservation programs in Cambodia. Our work has yielded measurable results with at-risk elephant populations protected, key habitat conserved, a reduction in human-elephant conflicts, and livelihoods of indigenous and under-served populations improved. We are sincerely grateful for this long-term partnership.”

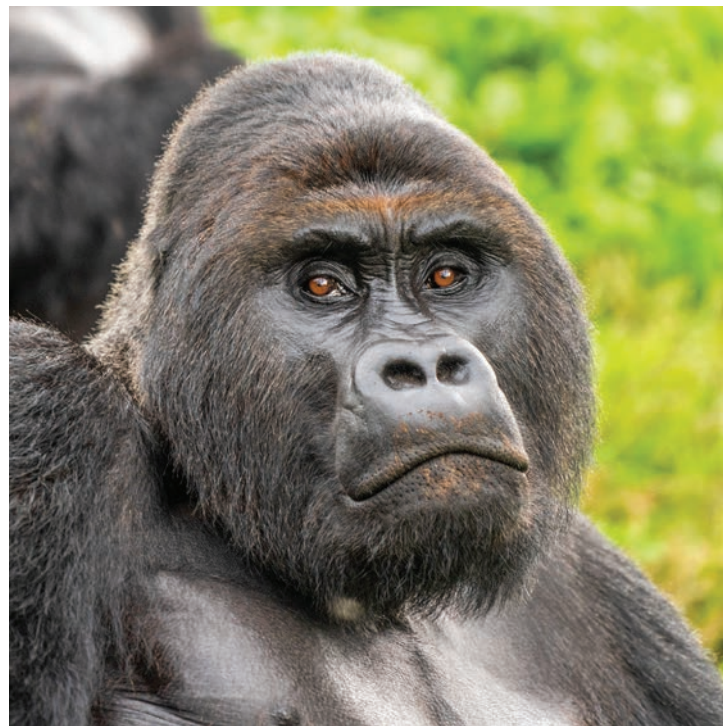
KATIE FROHARDT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WILD EARTH ALLIES

Saving Gorillas

Last year's grant to long-time partner GRACE Gorillas funded distribution of cookstoves and radios to communities in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Cookstoves reduce the need to cut down forests and the health risks associated with open flames. Radios were distributed to community members to increase listenership of programming created by GRACE educators, bringing the message “Healthy Gorillas, Healthy Forests, and Healthy People” to an audience of approximately 15,000 people.

“Because of GRACE programs, community members now understand the importance of planting trees, building fuel-efficient stoves, and teaching their children about gorillas and the forest.”

HONORÉ KAMBALE MASUMBUKO
DRC EDUCATION MANAGER, GRACE



Zoo staff travel across the globe to consult and assist with conservation efforts. Senior Animal Keeper Byron Wusstig traveled to Indonesia's Komodo Island to participate in field work with Komodo dragons. Condor Keeper Chandra David lent her expertise to bearded vulture recovery efforts in South Africa. Veterinarian Dr. Jordan Davis-Powell returned to Ecuador to monitor mountain tapir health and habitat use. Curator of Education Rosalio Rubio spent three weeks in Zimbabwe working with Painted Dog Research Trust to further field research and community conservation initiatives.



JAKE OWENS



“

Not only did I get the opportunity to meet with students, but I was also privileged to meet with members of the community. There were many

heartfelt conversations on education, cultural identity, world perceptions, and life struggles. My time there was truly life changing. I hope to be able to return and follow up on some of the brilliant minds and open hearts I experienced there.

ROSALIO RUBIO, CURATOR OF EDUCATION

”



BYRON WUSTTIG



COURTESY OF JORDAN DAVIS-POWELL

In Argentina, Director of Conservation Dr. Jake Owens laid the groundwork for future translocation of giant otters to the country, which was once part of the species' range. Owens also traveled with the Zoo's Manager of Visitor Engagement Maura Messerly and Animal Keeper Jeromy Chenault to India, where the team worked to support Wildlife Trust of India's efforts to build an incubation center for Indian gharials, strengthening the conservation efforts for this species.

CITY OF LOS ANGELES, DEPARTMENT OF THE ZOO

Statement of Activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023

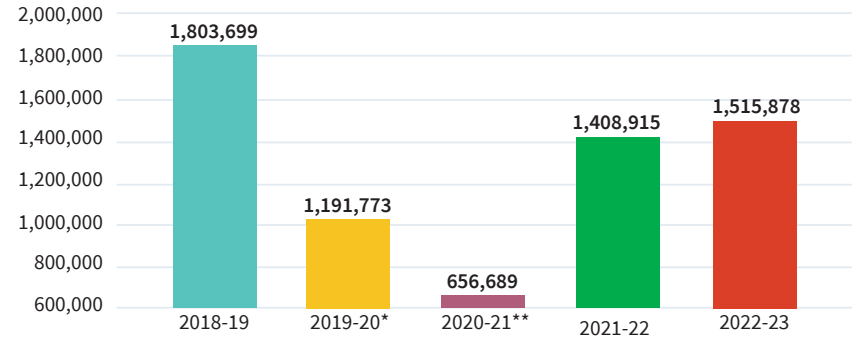
REVENUE	\$
General Fund	3,361,766
Zoo Enterprise Trust Fund	476,823
Admissions receipts	15,523,390
Nighttime ticketed events*	1,281,347
Concessions*	2,201,312
Membership*	1,301,214
Other receipts	1,439,415
TOTAL REVENUE	25,585,267

* Transfers from GLAZA

EXPENDITURES BY PROGRAM	\$
Animal care, wellness & conservation	10,684,591
Facility maintenance & operations	6,395,262
Learning & engagement	1,032,654
Public relations	140,743
Administration	5,494,374
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	23,747,625

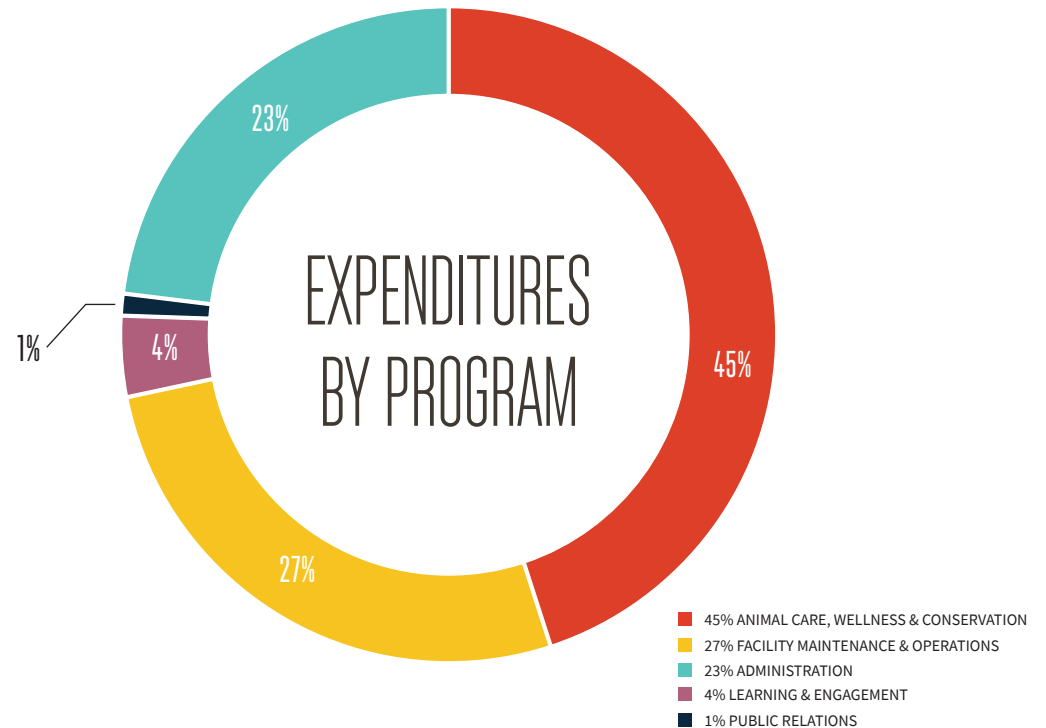
ATTENDANCE HISTORY

Includes all nighttime ticketed event attendance



* Zoo closed to the public 3/13/20 through 6/30/20 due to COVID-19 pandemic

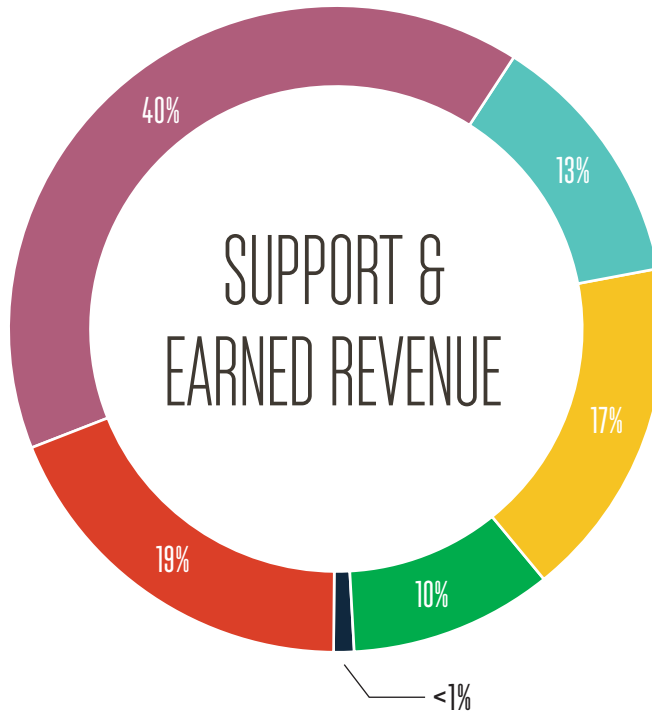
** Zoo closed to the public 7/01/20 through 08/26/20 and 12/07/20 through 02/15/21 due to COVID-19 pandemic



GREATER LOS ANGELES ZOO ASSOCIATION

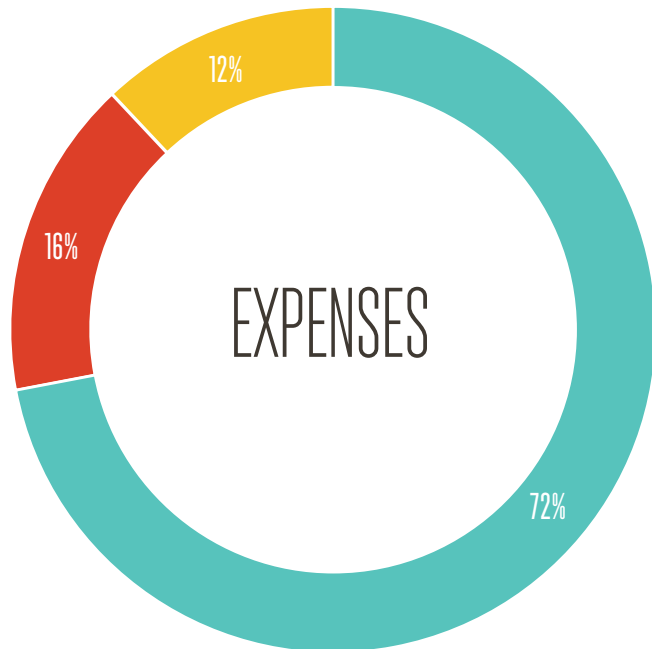
Statement of Activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023

SUPPORT & EARNED REVENUE		\$
Membership dues	5,415,033	
Contributions and grants	11,503,019	
Concession commissions and site rentals	3,700,153	
Exhibitions and ticketed events	4,973,159	
Net investment change	3,016,757	
Other revenue	221,250	
TOTAL SUPPORT AND EARNED REVENUE	28,829,371	



- 40% CONTRIBUTIONS AND GRANTS
- 19% MEMBERSHIP DUES
- 17% EXHIBITIONS AND TICKETED EVENTS
- 13% CONCESSION COMMISSIONS AND SITE RENTALS
- 10% NET INVESTMENT CHANGE
- <1% OTHER REVENUE

EXPENSES		\$
Program services	17,308,242	
General and administrative	2,161,009	
Fundraising	1,881,312	
TOTAL EXPENSES	21,350,563	
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	7,478,808	
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	41,889,388	
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	49,368,196	



- 72% PROGRAM SERVICES
- 16% GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE
- 12% FUNDRAISING

A complete set of financial statements audited by SingerLewak LLP, in which an unqualified opinion is rendered, is available at www.lazoo.org/about/glaza.

It is the policy of the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association that a portion of gifts and/or income therefrom is used to defray the costs of raising and administering the funds.



Donor Recognition

We are deeply grateful to the individual, corporate, and foundation donors who generously support the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association and the Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens. With ever-increasing pressure on wildlife worldwide, our work has never been more important nor donations more critical. We applaud the dedication and patronage of our donors, members, and partners who have invested in one of our community's shining assets.

Cumulative Giving

The Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association (GLAZA) proudly recognizes the following individuals, corporations, and foundations who have contributed cumulative gifts of \$25,000 and above from January 1, 1985, to June 30, 2023. These generous gifts include cash, grants, bequests, and/or securities. They represent the highest level of philanthropy and commitment to GLAZA and the Zoo. These donors enable us to build state-of-the-art animal exhibits, support critical species conservation programs at the Zoo and around the globe, provide funds for innovative animal health care and education programs, and secure the future of the Zoo by building a strong endowment. We celebrate and thank these generous benefactors.

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JAMIE PHAM

ANGELA COLLIER FOUNDATION

Radiography is the diagnostic imaging tool that we rely on and use on a near-daily basis at the L.A. Zoo. The Angela Collier Foundation made an incredibly generous gift of \$300,000 to purchase a new radiography unit for the Zoo's Gottlieb Animal Health & Conservation Center. Used for wellness exams, emergencies, and other diagnostic tests, this equipment is vital to the care and welfare of our animals. We are grateful to the Angela Collier Foundation for continuing to help transform the Zoo.

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JAMIE PHAM

ANIMAL CARE & ENRICHMENT ENDOWMENT

Todd Andrew Austin was an animal lover, Zoo member, and frequent Zoo visitor. He was a dear friend to animals and people alike. His parents, Geary and Nonnie Austin, donated \$150,000 to establish the Todd Andrew Austin Animal Care & Enrichment Endowment in his loving memory. This gift will support the Zoo's animal care and enrichment needs in profound ways for years to come.



BALDWIN YEN

ANIMAL NAMING

Seventy-one donors contributed to the Animal Naming Program last year, raising nearly \$40,000 and naming some of our beloved Zoo residents. Funds from this program benefit the welfare of the animals that call the Los Angeles Zoo home. Recent namings include Harold, an African spoonbill named in loving memory of docent Harold Soo Hoo, and Radar, a radiated tortoise named by Noah Gallardo. Four-year-old Elliott Yen (above) chose the name Walnut for the harbor seal named by her family's foundation, the SKB Foundation.

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Selig Legacy Society donors ensure that Los Angeles will have a vibrant zoo for generations to come by including the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association in their estate plans. Such gifts provide future support of the Zoo, making certain that our mission of caring for diverse animal populations and educating the public about wildlife and the need for conservation continues for future generations. We are delighted to honor this growing Society of donors.

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Volunteers

GLAZA's volunteer department grew by 88 volunteers this year, welcoming adults and students as young as 15 to classic programs and adding two new docent specialist classes: birds and hoofstock. "The focus in this year's training was on updating to align with conservation messaging and accessibility," says Director of Volunteer Programs Kirin Daugharty. Practically, that meant offering an online component as well as in-person, on-grounds, and mentoring stages. It also meant encouraging the existing docent-led conservation program, which partners with Cornell Lab of Ornithology on the annual Great Backyard Bird Count.

SHINING STARS

The year's Star Awards recognized volunteers' positive attitudes and commitment to the Zoo. The Silver Star was awarded to Docent Beach Rogers (left), and the Shining Star went to General Volunteer Sue Murphy.

volunteers by the numbers

551 VOLUNTEERS

54,673 SERVICE HOURS

310,137 GUEST ENCOUNTERS

3,431 STUDENTS TOURED

123 VIRTUAL FIELD TRIPS

JAMIE PHAM

Annual Donor Honor Roll

The Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association is grateful to the following donors who have contributed \$5,000 and above between July 1, 2022, and June 30, 2023.

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