

# TRUNKLINE



**GLOW WILD!**  
**NOW - MAY 21**  
SEE PAGES 14 - 15



**Party for the Planet**

April 1 - 30

Powered by **LGE** and **KU**  
Foundation







We take our work home with us.  
PriceWeber is delighted to be part of the Louisville Zoo family.



Two people walking on a path in a park.

# GET HEALTHY WALKING CLUB

NOW - OCT. 31, 2023

Daily from 8 – 9:15 a.m.

Presented by

**NORTON**  
PREVENTION & WELLNESS

**SCAN HERE**  
to register  
or for more  
information!



# CONTENTS

## ZOO BUDDIES

Learn about the origins of Future Healers Got Zoo Buddies. See how this program benefits the children and teens involved and what 2023 has in store for the Zoo Buddies and their families!



## PENGUIN CARE

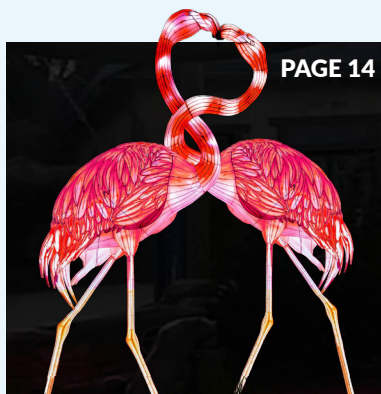
Find out what goes into animal care behind the scenes with a story about Rabbit, one of our little penguins. Rabbit underwent cataract surgery with Dr. Erica Tolar to help restore his eyesight and safeguard his ability to care for offspring.



## WILD LIGHTS: Around the World

Our popular lantern festival is back in a WHOLE NEW WAY!

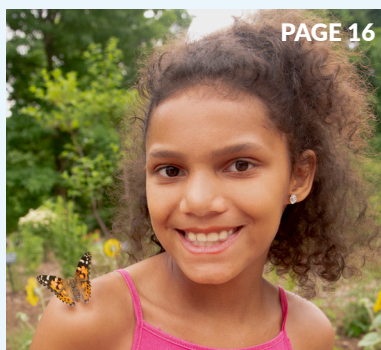
Experience unique locations from around the world as you stroll through the Zoo under the light of enormous, handcrafted, silk-covered lanterns.



## EARTH MONTH

**Powered by LG&E  
and KU Foundation**

One day isn't enough to celebrate the wonder of our planet. During the month of April, enjoy special activities PLUS special admission discounts thanks to our sponsor, LG&E and KU Foundation!



## ALSO INSIDE...

Education programs, new animal arrivals, summer events and much more!

### Zoo Address

1100 Trevilian Way  
Louisville, KY 40213

### Telephone

Administrative Offices: (502) 459-2181  
FAX: (502) 459-2196  
Education: (502) 238-5358  
Membership Office: (502) 459-2287

### Zoo Hours – Open Daily

Now – March 17, 2023  
10 a.m. – 4 p.m. (exit by 5 p.m.)  
March 18, 2023 – Sept. 17, 2023  
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. (exit by 6 p.m.)

*The Louisville Zoo is closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.*

### Admission

General admission tickets and memberships can be purchased at the Zoo or in advance at [louisvillezoo.org](http://louisvillezoo.org).  
Children 2 and under receive free regular admission.

### Visit Us Online

Website: [louisvillezoo.org](http://louisvillezoo.org). Instagram: @LouisvilleZooOfficial  
Facebook, Twitter and TikTok: @LouisvilleZoo

Trunkline is published four times a year by the Louisville Zoological Gardens, Director, Dan Maloney.

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The Louisville Zoo, a nonprofit organization and the state zoo of Kentucky, is dedicated to bettering the bond between people and our planet by providing excellent care for animals, a great experience for visitors and leadership in scientific research and conservation education. The Zoo, an agency of Louisville Metro Government, is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA).

The Louisville Zoo is KultureCity Sensory Inclusive™ Certified. Visit [louisvillezoo.org/kulturecity](http://louisvillezoo.org/kulturecity) for more information.





# GREETINGS



Director Dan Maloney with Chilean flamingo.

As spring approaches, we are looking forward to the beautiful weather and all the opportunities the season brings! We have been hard at work on exciting projects to promote wildlife conservation and education as well as updates on grounds to create even more opportunities for wonderful memories with family and friends. I am eager to share just some of our latest developments. In early 2023, your Zoo broke ground on the expansion and upgrade of our MetaZoo Discovery Center. On hand were Mayor and Mrs. Greenberg, Deputy Mayors Nicole George and David James, Metro Council members, Zoo Foundation and Friends of the Zoo board members, “Future Healers Got Zoo Buddies” families, and our wonderful donors to this critical project. This renovation will enhance accommodations for our education animal ambassadors, allowing visitors to enjoy even more opportunities to connect with and learn about the special creatures in our care.

Our avian enthusiasts will be thrilled to hear that the renovation of our hyacinth macaw exhibit is nearly complete and will be ready to welcome visitors soon. Their new habitat provides an even more stimulating environment for these giant, charismatic parrots, native to South America.

While there's lots to celebrate at the Zoo — we have crucial conservation efforts right in our region to celebrate as well! Your Louisville Zoo is now partnering with Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KYDFWR), Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Purdue University, and University of Kentucky to eventually hatch, raise and release eastern hellbenders. These unique salamanders are the largest in North America and are native to our state. This program is the first dedicated to releasing hellbenders into Kentucky waterways. We are proud to be part of the effort to ensure their survival.

In addition to our hellbender partnership, we are also working with KYDFWR, Eastern Kentucky University and Murray State University, to install two MOTUS towers in our state. MOTUS is a wildlife tracking system that monitors the movements of migratory birds, bats and insects fitted with transponders. By better understanding their behavior and movements, we can improve the protection of these species and ensure their survival for years to come. Your Zoo is sponsoring the equipment and installation of the towers through conservation funding contributed by you and your fellow terrific guests and members.

These are among a few of the exceptional projects we are thrilled to champion through your generosity, with many more to come! As you visit with us this year, we hope you will be inspired to act and help protect wildlife and habitats that make our community such a unique and beautiful place. Cultivating pollinator plants, installing bird and bat houses, and providing fresh water in bird baths and garden pools are just some of the ways to help your neighborhood creatures. And remember — when you visit your Zoo, you are joining the effort as we work to save animals, together!

See you soon at the Zoo!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Maloney".

**Dan Maloney**  
**Your Zoo's Director**





# Butterflies N' Blooms

## Butterflies Flutter Back to Your Zoo!

The Louisville Zoo is excited to announce the return of its popular Butterflies n' Blooms exhibit, featuring native butterflies and open from May 20 through Sept. 17. This exhibit offers visitors the chance to get up close with hundreds of winged beauties, all while learning about the importance of pollinators and their role in supporting our ecosystem.

Located near our Etscorn Garden, the butterfly house is a tranquil and interactive space where visitors can observe hundreds of free-flying native butterflies. The exhibit features a variety of plants that serve as nectar sources for the butterflies. A monarch waystation sits next to the exhibit, providing critical habitat for butterflies and nectar sources like milkweed, buttonbush, Canada goldenrod and smooth blue aster!

Guests will have the opportunity to learn about the butterfly life cycle, from egg to caterpillar to chrysalis to butterfly, and how these beautiful creatures contribute to the health of our environment. It's the perfect way to learn more about nature conservation in your own backyard and actions you can take to protect our local ecosystems. Butterflies n' Blooms is included with Zoo admission and is open daily from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., weather permitting. We hope to see you there!

Learn more about the exhibit and our efforts to help pollinators at [louisvillezoo.org/butterflies](http://louisvillezoo.org/butterflies).



## How Can You Get Involved?

- Learn how to create a monarch waystation at home.
- Learn how to start your own pollinator habitat/monarch waystation at Monarchs & Mimosas (21+ event). Info on Pg. 18!
- Plant native habitats, reduce mowing and pesticides.



# Zoo Buddies!

By Kyle Shepherd, Public Relations Manager



The Louisville Zoo's mission has always been "to better the bond between people and our planet." It's a vision that requires constant improvement, and we have been steadfast in efforts to continually cultivate more compassion for both wildlife and the humans who share this beautiful world.

As part of these efforts, the Louisville Zoo is forging ahead with a program to help children traumatized by gun violence, giving them a safe and inclusive space to learn from animals while building positive memories. Now moving into its second year, "Future Healers Got Zoo Buddies" has helped these children grow in ways we hoped and in ways we could never have imagined!

The program was named by those it helps: children ages 4 – 13 who have been impacted by the sometimes-invisible effects of secondary trauma following gun violence. This is a kind of trauma that's experienced when hearing details or witnessing the aftermath of another person's traumatic experience. While it's impossible to take away the trauma these children have endured, the Zoo focuses on what it can do: provide a safe place for them to find refuge from their trauma and embrace the healing influence of the natural world.

The foundation of the Zoo Buddies program dates back to the challenging year of 2020. Amid a global pandemic, Louisville was also suffering from a record-breaking number of homicides. Knowing what was at stake for our community, the



Zoo Buddies with an Aldabra tortoise.



Zoo Buddies feeding Baridi the giraffe.

Zoo connected with local activist Christopher 2X, whose Game Changers program with UofL Health was already positively influencing youth in our community suffering from secondary trauma due to violence. Together, we established Zoo Buddies — an extension of Future Healers and a tool to cultivate compassion and love within a group of young people who had already braved so much.

"Allowing these kids to go beyond the stresses of violent crime and the trauma they've experienced, step outside of themselves, and see their role in planetary health is the key to

creating the humanitarian advocates we hope emerge from this program," Christopher 2X said. "I am looking forward to this second year and, even further down the road, seeing our littlest Zoo Buddies graduate and walk out into the world as bold ambassadors for our planet and its wildlife!"

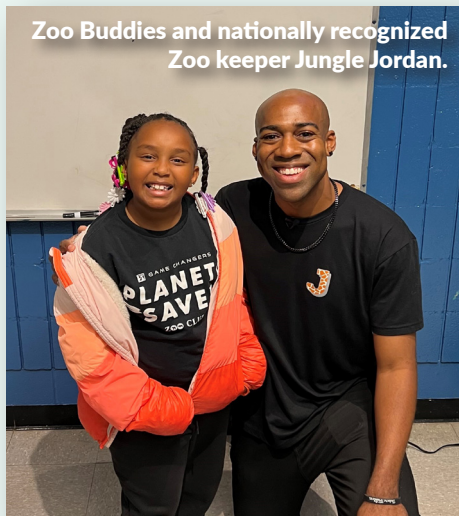
Tiffany McDougal is the mother of two Zoo Buddies, 6-year-old Ny'Sear and 11-year-old Ny'Ree McDougal. They began the program and started learning about bees — a vital part of pollination around our planet. These hard-working insects exemplify working together and living in harmony with nature. Bees are also often assumed to be harmful, or something to be afraid of — emotions McDougal's children knew all too well. Once they began building bee boxes, learning about the Zoo's hives, and meeting with the beekeepers, she instantly noticed a change.



“Believe it or not, when I’ve seen Ny’Ree light up like a lightning bug the most, it was with bees,” McDougal said. “Even though she loves her sloths, she was really into the bees.”

At the heart of the education curriculum for Zoo Buddies is the concept that we have one mind, one body, one life and one planet. It’s taken in part from the “One Health” approach – a public health initiative that strives to understand the connection between humans, animals, plants and the environment.

For McDougal, it’s meant major developments for her children as their focus, concentration and confidence in school assignments have improved.



“They’re also more cautious about everything earth-related, like littering, and really caring about the oceans,” she said.

While the kids have astounded the Zoo team with their engagement, enthusiasm and compassion, having their parents’ participation and support in each session has proved integral to the program’s success.

The curriculum includes Zoo walks, special presentations and field trips to different animal areas – creating immersive experiences and bright, positive memories for the attendees and their parents.

As we move into our second year of Zoo Buddies, our education

team continues to improve ways of delivering content, and several conservation partnerships are in the works.

Kim Allgeier, the Zoo’s Education Curator said, “Instead of doing a different lesson each month, we have a theme every two months with lessons that connect. We’re also adding optional family activities between sessions. We are hoping to schedule a session with Polar Bears International, a conservation partner, since the children are learning about Glacier Run. The award-winning exhibit is based on the notion that humankind and nature must co-exist – a principal mission of Zoo Buddies.”

One heartwarming story to come from Zoo Buddies so far involves 8-year-old Daniya Pitts. On her way to school one morning, Daniya pleaded with her mother, Jovan, to pull the car over so she could move a turtle out of the road to safety.



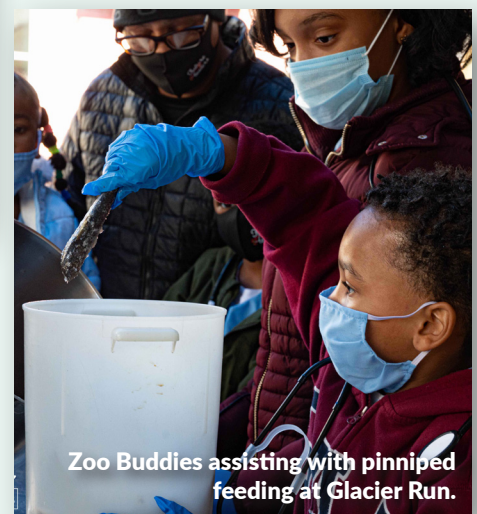
“I knew at that moment that the lessons on animal care and compassion had really hit home,” Ms. Pitts said. “I wanted Daniya to see what it takes to care for someone – the animals – and not just look at them but to see that it actually takes a team to care for them, like how we as parents have to care for our kids and nurture them.”



Daniya’s love for animals has now earned her the nickname “Dr. Dolittle,” and while she still aspires to be a hairstylist one day, Daniya has recently added a second career to her wish list: veterinarian.

“Hearing from the families about moments like Daniya moving the turtle to safety and witnessing similar moments myself is what this program is about,” said Christopher 2X.

Each interaction within Zoo Buddies helps to continue our mission, and we are looking forward to watching our new Zoo buddies grow, heal and “better the bond between people and our planet.”





# Little Penguin Sees World Anew...

Successful Cataract Surgery Restores Eyesight



“

The most rewarding part of cataract surgery in any animal is the ability to restore vision and improve their quality of life.

- Dr. Erica Tolar

”



The Louisville Zoo is home to over 1,100 animals. While caring for so many animals may be challenging, our dedicated teams of keepers, veterinary staff and generous community partners help to ensure each animal at the Zoo receives top-notch, specialty care. One example of this specialized care was the recent cataract surgery that was performed to restore the sight of Rabbit, our 15-year-old, male little penguin.

Rabbit hatched at the New England Aquarium in Boston and came to the Louisville Zoo in 2019. The 15-year-old little penguin has produced four offspring in our Little Penguin Conservation Center. With his calm demeanor, Rabbit has proven to be a good parent, allowing the keepers to assist in caring for his offspring without displaying any signs of aggression.

Rabbit's vision had been gradually declining due to cataracts, making it difficult for him to navigate his habitat. He would bump into structures and needed more attention during feeding, with the keepers having to touch his beak to signal the presence of food.

Cataracts are not uncommon in Zoo penguins, and (like in humans) age is a risk factor for the development of this condition. Penguin cataract surgery has been performed in zoos around the world, but not often in little penguins like Rabbit. While Rabbit is not a young bird, his care team felt surgery was worth the risk to help improve his welfare and safeguard his ability to sire and rear chicks.

Enter Dr. Erica Tolar, the Zoo's consulting veterinary ophthalmologist for the past 16 years. Dr. Tolar is the only board-certified veterinary

ophthalmologist in the Louisville area, working out of her private practice, Bluegrass Veterinary Vision. "I have been doing work with the Louisville Zoo since I've been in town and I love it," she shared. Dr. Tolar has a wealth of experience in performing cataract surgery on a variety of exotic animals, including a kestrel, toucan and even a tiger cub.



To confirm Rabbit was a suitable candidate for surgery, an electroretinogram (ERG) and ultrasound exam were performed on his eyes prior to the procedure. The challenges in performing cataract surgery on such a small animal are numerous. Anesthesia was the first challenge – Zoo Senior Staff Veterinarian Dr. Zoli Gyimesi and the Animal Health Center team were able to perform that careful and sensitive process. Another challenge was the small size of the penguin's eye, leaving little room for error. Despite the challenges, Dr. Tolar utilized the same equipment and techniques used in human medicine to perform the delicate surgery successfully. The

surgery (phacoemulsification) took approximately 25 minutes per eye.

The post-operative care for Rabbit was a challenge as well. To prevent infection, Rabbit was kept out of any pools. Staff administered eye drops several times a day. Our animal patients can't talk to us when there is an issue, so the keepers' keen observations were critical in the post-operative period.

This story has a happy ending. The surgery not only restored Rabbit's sight but has also improved his quality of life, allowing him to navigate his environment with ease, maneuver the waters of his habitat, and interact with other penguins in his group. He is also much more active and eager to nest again – continuing his important role in safeguarding the future of these incredible birds.

Dr. Tolar said, "The most rewarding part of cataract surgery in any animal is the ability to restore vision and improve their quality of life. Watching Rabbit navigate his environment with the enthusiasm of old is fantastic. He can confidently walk down paths he couldn't before and swims without hesitation. He is interacting with the other birds in the flock and hopefully will have a new mate. Seeing his improvement is more rewarding than words can express."

We hope you will also come see Rabbit and follow his adventures! You can see him with his "waddle" of little penguins, weather permitting, in the Islands Zone.





# Flamingo Chicks



The Zoo had some recent additions to our flock — two Chilean flamingo chicks! These chicks hail from the Memphis Zoo; the first chick arrived shortly after it hatched, while the other was transported to the Louisville Zoo still inside its egg! The egg was then artificially incubated and hatched about a week after arriving at the Zoo.

For hand-rearing, our bird department makes a version of crop-milk (a liquid excretion high in fat and protein that flamingos feed to baby birds) that consists of cooked egg yolks, egg whites, calcium, liquid, and vitamins, that are blended into a formula that staff feeds the chicks. Chicks are fed six to seven times per day, gradually decreasing over time.

James McKinney, the Zoo's Curator of birds, said, "Since chicks do grow relatively quickly, and being that they are long-legged birds, attention must be given to proper growth and development. Chicks must get regular amounts of exercise for proper leg development." Even with Zoo staff exercising the chicks multiple times a day, there were still some challenges with their leg development. After reaching out to other zoos who have encountered similar issues, the veterinary and bird teams consulted with a chiropractor with a special Kinesio tape certification to wrap the chicks' legs. The birds are still being treated, but this technique appears to have been successful thus far. The birds are now being introduced to the rest of the flamingo "flamboyance" (group of flamingos)!

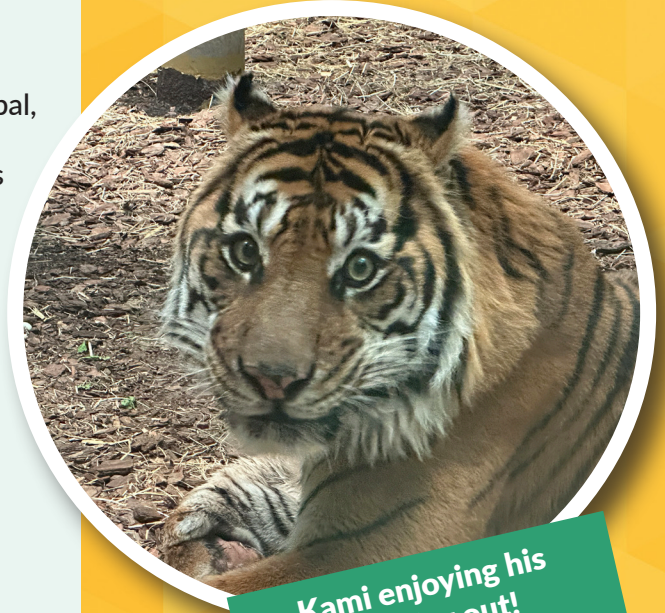


**Bird Curator James McKinney (pictured) and team helped raise the chicks by hand.**



## SUMATRAN TIGER, KAMI

The Zoo recently welcomed a new male Sumatran tiger, Kami Sambal, to our Islands exhibit! Kami is 15 years old and joins us from the Oklahoma City Zoo. Kami has adjusted well to his new home and is now on rotation with the Zoo's other Sumatran tigers, Jingga and Leela. Kami joins us with a breeding recommendation as part of the Sumatran Tiger Species Survival Program (SSP) which works to maintain the genetic diversity of managed animal populations.



Kami enjoying his first day out!

## SPLASH PARK UPDATE

Ready to splash this Summer? We are happy to share that a brand-new splash pad is being installed and the Splash Park is on track to reopen Memorial Day weekend!



### Splash Park Hours of Operation:

May 27 – Sept. 4:  
10 a.m. – 5 p.m.\*

*\*Members Only Weekday  
Morning Splash (with ID)*

Mon. – Fri.,  
June – August  
until 10 a.m.

## AVIAN FLU UPDATE

In response to confirmed cases of avian flu in our region last year, we took temporary measures such as closing our walk-through aviaries and moving several bird species into indoor protected areas. These efforts helped to keep our animals safe from disease, with no positive cases found in our bird populations. After continued monitoring, our animal care team determined it was safe to reopen our walkthrough aviaries and move birds back on exhibit. We will continue to keep you updated with any changes regarding our animal population and Avian Flu. Be sure to follow us on our social media channels!



Visit [louisvillezoo.org](https://louisvillezoo.org)/today for daily updates on attractions, food stands, animals and more!



# Spring Break Alert!

**Renew and pick up your Zoo membership before it gets too WILD out there!**

Area schools will be releasing students for spring or session breaks as early as March 18. Spring Break is one of the busiest times of the year for our admission and membership staff. Beat the crowds: renew early and pick up your membership card before Spring Break so you don't miss any fun at your Zoo!

### HOW TO RENEW A MEMBERSHIP

- Visit us online at [louisvillezoo.org/member](https://louisvillezoo.org/member) or Scan the QR code below
- Speak to a staff member at any ticketing window
- Call (502) 459-2287



**REMINDER:** We do not mail membership cards. Pick up your membership card in person at any ticketing window on any visit.



## FASTER TO THE FUN

### Follow these tips for the quickest entry into the Zoo:

**Is your membership expired?** Renew ONLINE at [louisvillezoo.org](https://louisvillezoo.org) and use your emailed temporary pass to enter at the gate. Pick up your card on the way out or skip the card and download our Membership Card App.

**Consider confirming your membership details before your first visit:**

Go to [louisvillezoo.org/member](https://louisvillezoo.org/member) and click “manage profile.” Verify your membership level, names, number of children (if included), address, phone number and email. Accuracy speeds things up! Can’t make a change or notice a major error? Give us a call at (502) 459-2287 or email [zoomembership@louisvilleky.gov](mailto:zoomembership@louisvilleky.gov).

**Want to skip the card and go “green”?** No more worrying about if you forgot your card in a different bag or wallet. Try our free Membership Card App. This free app stores your membership data and an image of your membership barcode on your iPhone/Android device. Using this app will let us scan and verify your membership information directly from your smart device at the gate and works at reciprocal zoos too! For information and instructions please visit [louisvillezoo.org/app](https://louisvillezoo.org/app). Please call (502) 459-2287 or email [zoomembership@louisvilleky.gov](mailto:zoomembership@louisvilleky.gov) for your verification code before you arrive at the Zoo.



## Zoo Bucks

The Louisville Zoo is pleased to offer members quarterly coupons with various offerings like guest admission and activities. We hope you enjoy the following limited-time promotional offers.

*Please check the expiration dates and restrictions on the coupons.*

## AVAILABLE ONLY IN PHYSICAL COPY



## EVENTS

# GLOW WILD! Now - May 21

The fun starts at 6:30 p.m.

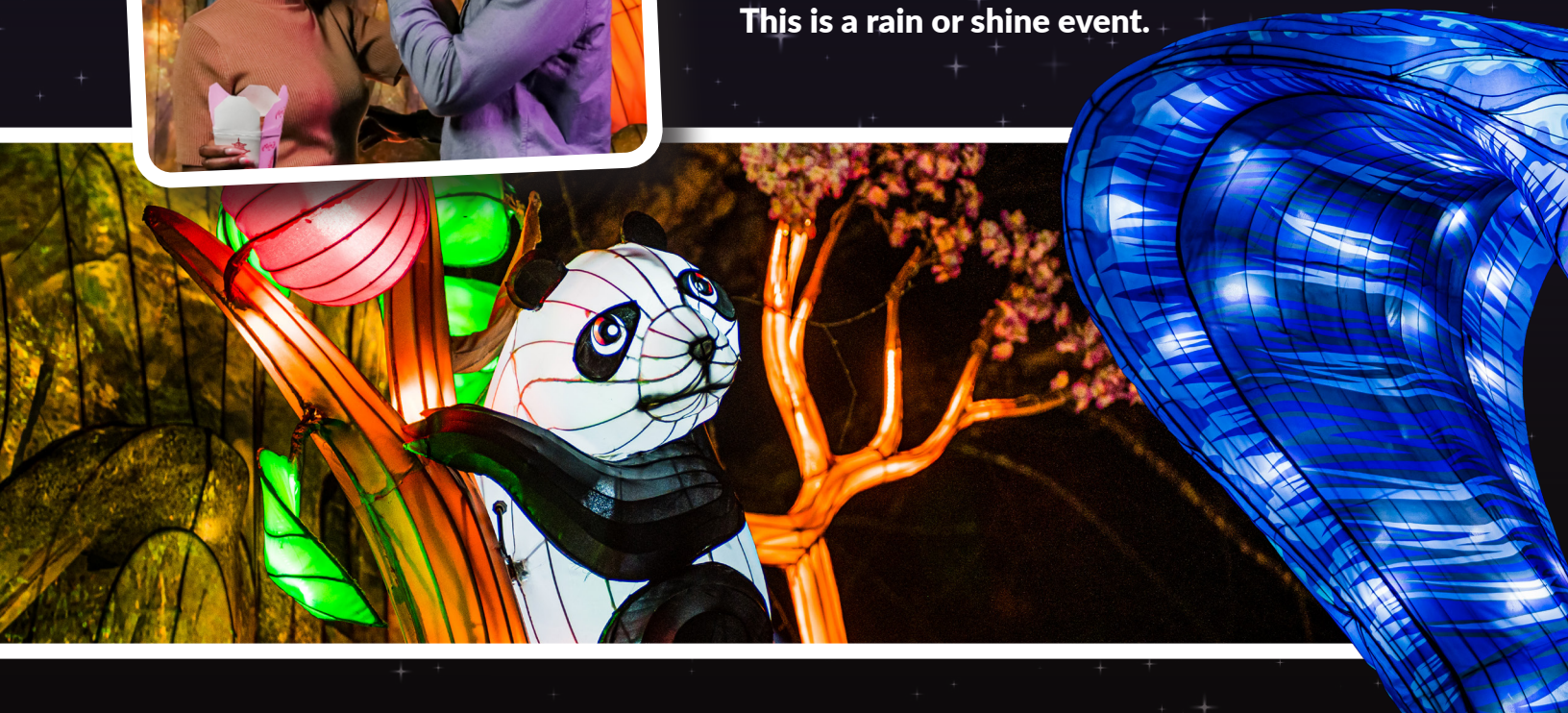


Our popular lantern festival is back in a **WHOLE NEW WAY!** Experience unique locations from around the world as you stroll through the Zoo under the light of enormous, handcrafted, silk-covered lanterns. Don't miss the thrilling sights of the region's largest lantern festival with hundreds of lanterns aglow with more than 50,000 LED light bulbs.



**SCAN to purchase tickets or for more information**

[louisvillezoo.org/wildlights](https://louisvillezoo.org/wildlights)  
Avoid lines and buy online!  
This is a rain or shine event.



Sponsored by

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Foundation



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NEW  
LANTERNS!

New this year, feast your eyes on stunning famous landmarks like the Great Sphinx of Giza to the Leaning Tower of Pisa. Marvel at larger-than-life flora and fauna like kangaroos, cobras and pandas. Engage with interactive, animated and color-changing displays. Commemorate your visit with awe-inspiring photos. Enjoy a signature cocktail and specialty snacks. The wonder of Wild Lights is sure to create glowing smiles and bright, everlasting memories.

In Partnership With



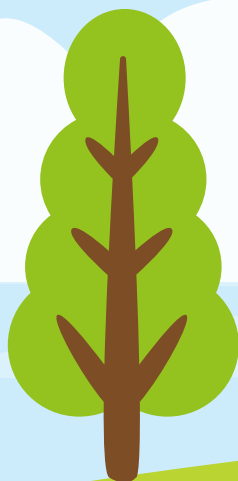




# party for the planet

A Month-Long Celebration of the Earth

Powered by **LG&E** and **KU**  
Foundation



**One day isn't enough to celebrate the wonder of our planet and promote the need to protect it — so the Louisville Zoo is hosting a month-long party! During the month of April, enjoy special weekend activities PLUS special admission discounts powered by LG&E and KU Foundation!**



## RECYCLING WEEKENDS AT THE ZOO

**April 1-2, 8-9, 15-16, 22-23**

Join us weekends in April to learn how recycling programs help our planet! Organizations and programs that help benefit the air, water, land and, of course, animals, will be featured each weekend! Enjoy special animal presentations, keeper messages, as well as tips and suggestions that all help support wildlife and wild places! See [louisvillezoo.org/earth](http://louisvillezoo.org/earth) for additional information and a list of programs.

## ZOOPOOPYDOO COMPOST SALE

**April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 and May 13**

**7:30 – 11:30 a.m.**

Get your garden ready with high-quality ZooPoopyDoo compost. Cost is \$45 per scoop. Scoops will be placed in your truckbed or trailer. No bags are provided. No mulch will be sold in 2023. Visit [louisvillezoo.org/zoopoopydoo](http://louisvillezoo.org/zoopoopydoo) for details.

## FUNDAY MONDAYS

**April 10, 17 and 24**

**10 a.m. – 5 p.m. (\$7.25 general admission)**

Enjoy \$7.25 Zoo admission, powered by LG&E and KU Foundation. Parking is not included and will be charged at the Zoo admission windows.

## EARTH DAY AT THE ZOO

**April 30**

**\$5.00 off general admission**

**Eco-Partner Displays: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

Enjoy \$5.00 off general Zoo admission PLUS FREE parking powered by LG&E and KU Foundation. See community eco-partner displays and the winners of our Trashformation Art Contest. Come join the fun and learn what you can do to help save our planet! *Discount available at Zoo ticket windows only and cannot be applied to online purchases.*



**SCAN HERE for more information!**







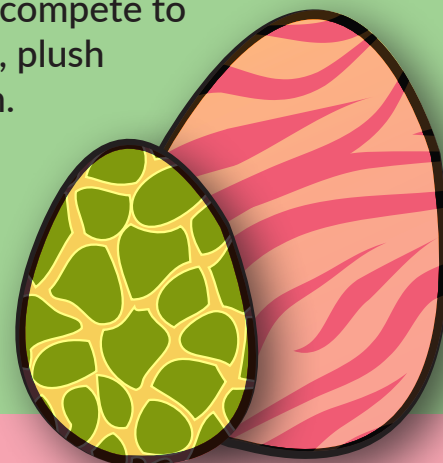
# SAFARI EGGVENTURE

**Ends April 9**

EGGsplore your Zoo again this spring with an all-new mobile scavenger hunt game that allows you to dive deep into the Zoo while searching for hidden zoo-themed eggs, answering trivia questions and competing in some EGGstra special challenges. Experience the fun now through April 9. You can play for fun or compete to win EGGciting prizes like a Zoo membership, Wild Lights tickets, plush animals and more! Safari EGGventure is free with Zoo admission.



SCAN HERE or visit  
[louisvillezoo.org/eggventure](https://louisvillezoo.org/eggventure) for  
prizes, rules and more!



# MONARCHS & MIMOSAS

**April 29, 8:30 – 10 a.m.**

**\$40 per ticket**

**Special ticket. Advance registration required.**

Start your day with a refreshing cocktail as you learn tips for creating your own pollinator garden from our experts. This special class for those ages 21 and older includes cocktails, pastries, access to a native plant sale and a free milkweed plant to start your own home habitat!

**For additional information and to reserve your spot, visit [louisvillezoo.org/events](https://louisvillezoo.org/events)!**







**ZOOFARI!**

JOIN FRIENDS OF THE LOUISVILLE ZOO

# Cool Island Breezes

SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 2023

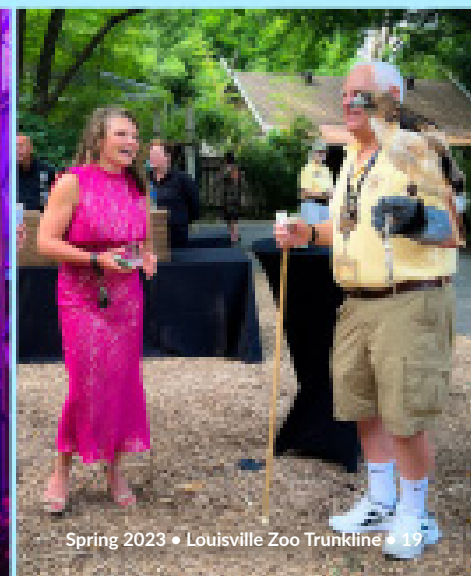
Cocktails | Animal Encounters | Live Music

Live & Silent Auctions

[LOUISVILLEZOO.ORG/ZOOFARI](http://LOUISVILLEZOO.ORG/ZOOFARI)



This event is for guests 21 and older.





## MAY EVENTS



## HUMP DAY HAPPY HOUR

**Sunset Safari – May 10**

**6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

**Price – \$40**

Special ticket. Advance registration required.

**Happy Hours at the Zoo are back!**

These 21-and-older experiences include two specialty cocktails, savory appetizers and exclusive animal demonstrations. Additional food and beverage specials available for purchase.

**Tickets are on sale now!**

To learn more about this special 21-and-older event series, visit [louisvillezoo.org/happyhours](https://louisvillezoo.org/happyhours).



## MOTHER'S DAY

**May 14**

Enjoy free admission for moms on this special day and learn more about some of our amazing Zoo moms like Canada lynx Matilda and zebra Azizi!

*Presented by*



## STORYBOOK CHARACTER DAY

**May 20**

**10 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

Imagination comes to life as kids of all ages meet some of their favorite storybook characters like Curious George, Pete the Cat and more! Free with Zoo admission or your Louisville Zoo Membership. For more information, including a full list of characters, visit [louisvillezoo.org/storybook](https://louisvillezoo.org/storybook)





# Summer of Fun

Mark your calendars! This summer is packed with exciting events — old and new. Whether you're looking for some family fun or planning an exciting night out, we have something for everyone this year at the Zoo.

For a full list of events coming to your Zoo, visit [louisvillezoo.org/events](https://louisvillezoo.org/events).



- **June 18: Father's Day** – Enjoy free admission for dads and learn more about some of our own Zooper dads like zebra Gibbs! Presented by Ford.
- **June 21: Trivia Night** – Join us after-hours for a wild-themed trivia game, food and drink specials and more. *Advance registration required.*
- **June 30: Late Night Date Night** – There's nothing more classic than a date at the movies! Catch one of your old favorites.
- **July 12: Hump Day Happy Hour** – Enjoy a refreshing cocktail, special animal encounters and more at these 21-and-older evenings.
- **July 15: Walking Club Health Expo** – Join us for a morning focused on improving your health and fitness. To learn more, visit [louisvillezoo.org/walkingclub](https://louisvillezoo.org/walkingclub).
- **July 22 – 23: Santa's Summer Safari** – Santa is on vacation and he's coming to your Zoo! Head over for a weekend of summer fun with the big man himself.



## CINEMA SAFARI

### Family Movie Nights

Cinema Safari returns this summer to your Zoo! See a movie under the stars at the wildest theater in town. Join us in the Oasis Field at sundown to watch your favorite family-friendly movies on our giant inflatable screen. Our Cinema Safari series kicks off July 14.

More info at [louisvillezoo.org/events](https://louisvillezoo.org/events).





# Volunteers

## SUMMER TEEN VOLUNTEER PROGRAM RETURNS

Looking to give your teen a WILD summer while they make a difference? Our teen volunteer applications are open now! Visit [louisvillezoo.org/volunteer](https://louisvillezoo.org/volunteer) to learn more and fill out an application. Application packets must be completed and returned to the Louisville Zoo volunteer office by Tuesday, May 2, 2023.

## VOLUNTEER PROGRAM UPDATES

Thank you to the many schools, organizations and individuals who have filled our needs for 2023 Boo at the Zoo volunteers! We look forward to a full return of our year-round Zoo volunteer opportunities starting in summer of 2024.

# Spring Break Camps



**\$350 member / \$375 non-member**

**Includes one child and one adult Wild Lights ticket**

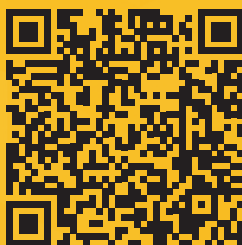
**April 3 - 7**

**Register at [louisvillezoo.org/camps](https://louisvillezoo.org/camps)**

## AGES 8 - 9

### Color and Camouflage

Animals use a variety of tactics to hide from predators or sneak up on their prey. One of the strategies animals employ is camouflage where they use colors, patterns, materials or even illumination to hide themselves from unwanted eyes. In this camp, we will explore how animals use color, patterns and their environments to hide in plain sight.



**SCAN HERE  
TO REGISTER!**



## CONSERVATION AND CONVERSATIONS

**Google Meet Virtual Program**  
**April 26, May 24 and June 28**  
**12:30 – 1:30 p.m.**  
**Free to register!**

Connect with the Zoo as we explore a variety of environmental and conservation issues. Over the course of the year, we will explore broad topics like “Field Science” and “Global Climate Change.” Each topic is chosen to deepen participants’ understanding of the Louisville Zoo and our mission. Participants will receive a discussion guide for each topic and are invited to join in a series of 60-minute live virtual discussions with Zoo educators. Each virtual discussion series will provide an overview of the topic, show connections with your Zoo, and provide recommendations for further learning. Some discussions will include recommendations for books or movies that we can explore as a group and others may feature guest speakers! Learn more at [louisvillezoo.org/events](https://louisvillezoo.org/events).



## EDUCATION



## EXPLORATION STATIONS

Free with admission or Zoo membership.  
Learn more at [louisvillezoo.org/events](https://louisvillezoo.org/events).

Explore science with our brand-new exploration stations! Staffed by knowledgeable docent volunteers, our exploration stations will give Zoo visitors of all ages the chance to probe a little further into natural science. Use all your senses to examine biofacts, flex your creativity, and learn all about wildlife here in Kentucky and around the world! Stations will be set up around the Zoo. Visit [louisvillezoo.org/events](https://louisvillezoo.org/events) for specific locations.

**Monday, Wednesday and Friday**  
**March 27 – April 7**  
(Mar. 27, 29, 31 and Apr. 3, 5, 7)  
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Fridays, April 14 – May 19**  
(Apr. 14, 21, 28 and May 5, 12, 19)  
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.



# EDUCATION

## SIPPY CUP STROLL

8:30 – 10:30 a.m.

**Member Price: \$20 adult and \$12 child**

**Non-Member Price: \$30 adult and \$20 child**

This program is specifically designed for young minds! Enjoy an early morning guided walk through the Zoo, followed by time in the Snow Leopard Cub House presented by PNC. Each event includes animal information, free play, and other age-appropriate activities. Check in on the Zoo's front plaza between 8:30 – 8:45 a.m. Program starts at 8:45 a.m. and concludes at 10:30 a.m. Subject to change based on the needs of the animals.

**Special ticket. Advance registration required.**

**For Ages 2 - 6!**



| Themes             | Dates                     | Description   |
|--------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Living Dinosaurs   | Apr. 26, 28               | Dinosaurs still walk among us! Come to the Zoo this morning and learn all about these amazing ancient animals and their descendants we can still meet today.                      |
| African Safari     | May 3, 5                  | Wake up with a roar! Join us as we trek across Africa to learn all about the amazing animals (big and small) found there.   |
| Camouflage         | Apr. 1<br>May 10, 12, 13  | Ever played hide and seek by accident? Join us in finding and observing the Zoo's best camouflaged residents as we learn about all the different ways animals can hide.           |
| Glacier Walk       | Apr. 12, 14<br>May 17, 19 | Walk, don't (Glacier) run, to join us this morning as we learn about what makes cold weather animals special.   |
| Rainforest Friends | Apr. 19, 21<br>May 24, 26 | Could you hang upside down all day like a sloth? What about swimming like a tapir? Come walk through the rainforest with us as we explore from the forest floor up to the canopy. |





## SENSORY-FRIENDLY SUNDAY

**9 – 10:30 a.m. (walk) and 10:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. (MetaZoo activities)**

**Member Price: \$20 adult and \$12 child (FREE for 2 and under)**

**Non-Member Price: \$30 adult and \$20 child (FREE for 2 and under)**

**Special ticket. Advance registration required.**

Enjoy the Zoo at your own pace during this program for Zoo fans that want a quiet, exclusive experience. Participants will enter the Zoo an hour before we open to the public and take a guided Zoo Walk to orient themselves in our space. Guided Zoo Walks will include animal information provided by Zoo docents and staff about our monthly theme and call attention to sensory stops on Zoo grounds like our accessible playground or the Snow Leopard Cub House. When the Zoo officially opens at 10 a.m., program participants can take part in fun and educational activities in our MetaZoo Discovery Center which will remain a reserved quiet space for program participants until the program ends at 4 p.m. See website for dates and sessions: [louisvillezoo.org/education](https://louisvillezoo.org/education).

**Great for families that need an exclusive, self-paced program with fewer stimuli and places for quiet time!**

*The Zoo is certified Sensory Inclusive by KultureCity and offers FREE accommodations for all guests with sensory issues during regular hours. Sensory Bags are available for families to checkout free of charge the day of their visit. Learn more at [louisvillezoo.org/kulturecity](https://louisvillezoo.org/kulturecity)*



## BREAKFAST WITH THE BEASTS

**9 – 11 a.m.**

**Member Price: \$25 adult and \$20 child (FREE for 2 and under)**

**Non-Member Price: \$35 adult and \$30 child (FREE for 2 and under)**

**For ages 4 – 18. Scout/youth groups welcome!**

Wake up with some of your favorite animals in this program that offers a special look into how our animals start the day. Enjoy an exclusive keeper talk, a variety of breakfast treats, activities, and plenty of fun as we say “good morning” to the Zoo. Subject to change based on the needs of the animals.

**Special ticket. Advance registration required.**

| Saturday<br>June 3               | Saturday<br>July 1          | Saturday<br>Aug. 5                     | Saturday<br>Sept. 2      | Saturday<br>Oct. 7            | Saturday<br>Nov. 4          |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Ready for Brekki<br>in Australia | Good Morning<br>Glacier Run | Backyard Breakfast<br>Kentucky Natives | Sun Up In the<br>Savanna | Bee Our Guest:<br>Pollinators | Sunrise at Snow<br>Leopards |





# HAVING A *Roaring* GOOD TIME AT THE ZOO?



**CHECK OUT  
THE EVENTS  
WE HAVE  
TO OFFER &  
BOOK WITH US!**



# SPONSORS

Every day, the Louisville Zoo welcomes visitors, supports conservation projects, creates once-in-a-lifetime memories and cares for endangered wildlife. Just like our animals, corporate partnerships with the Zoo come in many shapes and sizes. Your business or organization can partner with the Zoo through many different opportunities, including event or program sponsorships, group events and more! With attendance of over 857,000 this past year, your brand has the potential to reach a significant number of families in the region.

For info on how you can become a Zoo corporate sponsor, contact Kelly Grether at (502) 238-5615 or [Kelly.Grether@louisvilleky.gov](mailto:Kelly.Grether@louisvilleky.gov).

## Special thanks to our generous sponsors for these programs:

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# Caring Hearts, Major Impact

From the moment Walter and Lisa Clare arrived in Kentucky, the Louisville Zoo became an important part of their lives. Walter fondly recalls spending countless days with Lisa at the Zoo after stressful days or weeks of work because the Zoo offered them time to relax and reconnect in a tranquil setting. He and Lisa enjoyed observing the animals, talking with staff, seeing the botanical collection come to life, and hearing the laughter of children. After their own children arrived, the Zoo continued to offer their family a peaceful escape and gave Walter and Lisa the opportunity to show their children animals they had only seen in books, movies or on TV.

Sadly, Lisa passed away in 2015. Walter decided that he wanted to honor her compassionate nature as well as her generous spirit by offering financial support to organizations that were important to them throughout their marriage.

"The Louisville Zoo provided me and my family with great memories, such as attending the opening of Gorilla Forest. I've also since learned about the Zoo's international involvement with preservation and advocacy of so many individual species. I'm so proud of the work they accomplish."



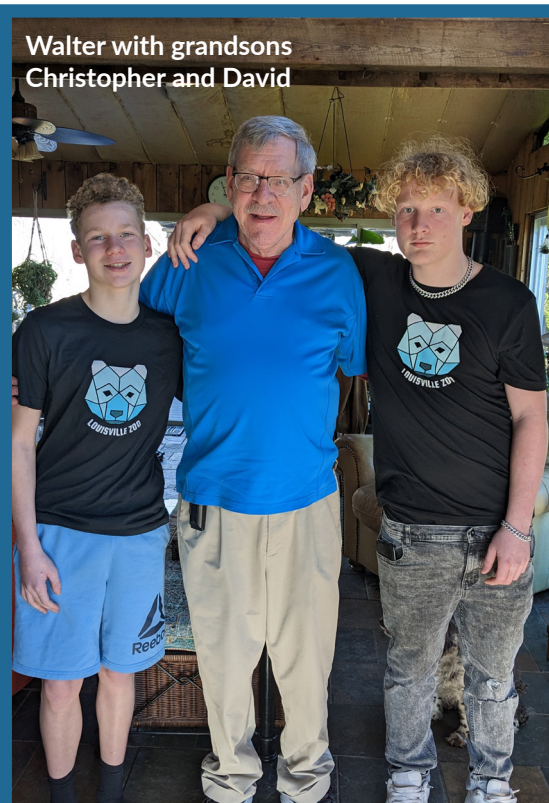
Walter selected the Louisville Zoo as one of the beneficiaries of his living trust. He did this because he believes the Zoo is an equalizer in the region — offering every resident, regardless of their background or ability, the opportunity to observe animals that many would never have the opportunity to see in their natural habitat.

To Walter, the Zoo is a place that was so important to him and Lisa for so many years that he wanted to ensure it was around for future generations to enjoy. "The wonderful thing about planned

giving, or end-of-life giving, is that it's a way for average people like us to ultimately make a difference."

Walter has also joined the Louisville Zoo's Sustainer Society because he wants to support the organizations named in his trust in some small way during his lifetime, too. He said, "it truly gives me a sense of purpose. Every time I walk the grounds of the Zoo, I have a quiet sense of gratitude that I (and we) are able to make a small impact for so many people."

If you would like to discuss how you can join Walter by investing in and supporting the Zoo's work, please contact Kelly Grether at (502) 238-5615 or [Kelly.Grether@louisvilleky.gov](mailto:Kelly.Grether@louisvilleky.gov).



Every time I walk the grounds of the Zoo,  
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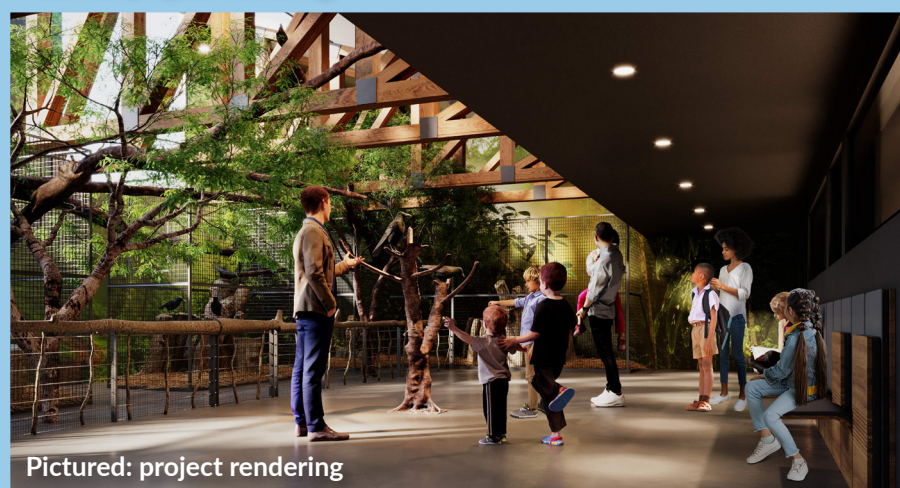




# A GROUNDBREAKING UPDATE FOR METAZOO ANIMALS

## PHILANTHROPY

Pictured: project rendering



Pictured: project rendering

On January 28, 2023, the Louisville Zoo broke ground on a \$2.8 million construction project that will support the growth and development of its Animal Ambassador Program and provide new office and training spaces to our conservation education team. Donors, board members, community members, Mayor Craig Greenberg, Deputy Mayor Nicole George, Zoo volunteers and staff joined Director Dan Maloney to mark this momentous occasion.

We are excited to begin construction on this critical next step in the growth of our Animal Ambassador Program, which connects so many in our region to memorable, awe-inspiring learning experiences. As accreditation standards put forth by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums continue to evolve for ambassador programs, we are working to stay ahead of and exceed guidelines for animal welfare.

The planned renovations, which were fully funded by private donations, will begin immediately. They will reinforce the Zoo as the hub of conservation education for the region and reaffirm our commitment to outstanding animal care.

## OTHER WAYS TO SUPPORT YOUR ZOO

- Join the Louisville Zoo Sustainer Society
- Set-up a monthly/recurring gift to the Louisville Zoo Fund
- Contribute appreciated stock (security account #78973274, DTC #0547)
- Direct your 401K or IRA Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) to the Zoo
- Round-up your upcoming membership renewal in support of the Louisville Zoo Fund
- Plan to upgrade to a Zoo license plate next time you renew your car tags
- Note the Zoo Foundation as a beneficiary on your estate, life insurance, IRA, Trust or other retirement plan



To read the full press release, please scan the QR code. Visit us often to check in on our progress!





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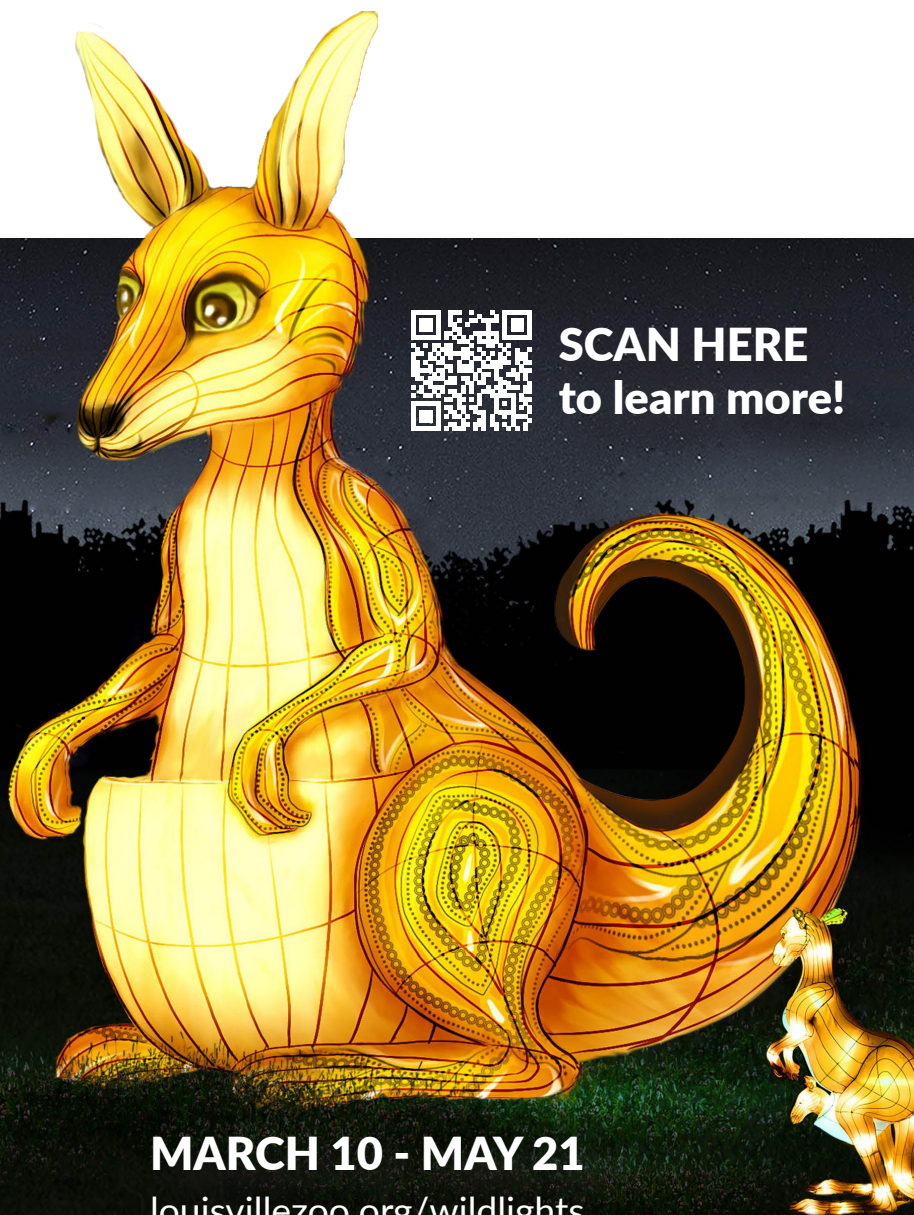
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**MARCH 10 - MAY 21**

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