

TRUNKLINE

Louisville Zoological Gardens
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theZOO
LOUISVILLE

NATURE CONNECTS® FREE WITH ZOO ADMISSION
NOW - SEPT. 17.



MEET SUNDARA

POSTER
INSIDE!



WELCOME FROM YOUR ZOO DIRECTOR



Director, Dan Maloney

Greetings wildlife enthusiasts! I'm Dan Maloney, Director of your Louisville Zoo. Each year as the warmth of summer arrives, thousands of eager, young learners enter our gates. For over 50 years, your Louisville Zoo has been the perfect venue for children to maintain active, engaged minds throughout their school vacations by inquiring, exploring, and gaining a better appreciation for the natural world.

Your Zoo team believes connecting with wildlife is not only awesome and awe-inspiring, but also an extremely powerful tool for learning. Soon, we will embark on a new project, providing even more opportunities for special animal encounters. Renovations will begin for the MetaZoo Discovery Center, the beloved space that generations of guests and supporters have enjoyed for Zoo camps, family programs, field trips and more.

The updated MetaZoo will enhance the homes of our animal ambassadors as well as increase our ability to engage guests through on-site, virtual and off-site encounters. Stay tuned for more information about this exciting project!

Along with amazing opportunities to engage with wildlife, we are super excited this season to offer Cinema Safari Nights and welcome the arrival of Sean Kenney's Nature Connects® with larger-than-life sculptures built with LEGO® bricks!

We are looking forward to celebrating with you this summer, to embracing discovery, and creating meaningful moments together! See you soon at your Zoo.

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Mayor Craig Greenberg

I've always been a huge fan of our Zoo, and my wife, Rachel, is a former Zoo Foundation Board member. Iconic exhibits, accessible activities for people of all ages, and excellent upkeep have solidified the Louisville Zoo's reputation as one of the most popular attractions in Kentucky. It should come as no surprise that behind the magic at the Zoo is a team of innovative thinkers who care deeply for the world around us.

Did you know that our Zoo is one of just six organizations in the world contributing to the revitalization of an entire species? The black-footed ferret, once declared extinct, has experienced an unprecedented revival with help from the Louisville Zoo. Our folks at the Conservation Center have produced over 1,000 healthy kits and provided over 700 ferrets to reintroduction sites across the country – an incredible feat!

When you stop by the Zoo this summer to visit with Sundara, the red panda or Lucy, the toucan, know that your support goes well beyond the walls of our exhibits. I'm so excited about the future that Director Dan Maloney has planned for the Louisville Zoo's role in global conservation efforts, and I'm proud to call all 226 employees at the Zoo my colleagues.

Enjoy another summer at the Louisville Zoo.

Zoo Address

1100 Trevilian Way
Louisville, KY 40213

Telephone

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

Zoo Hours – Open Daily

Now – Sept. 17, 2023
10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Sept. 18 – Mar. 15, 2024
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

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

Visit Us Online

Website: louisvillezoo.org. Instagram: @LouisvilleZooOfficial
Facebook, Twitter and TikTok: @LouisvilleZoo

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The Louisville Zoo, a non-profit 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 for more information.





ZOOFARI! 2023

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TRASHFORMATION WINNERS



party for the planet

A Month-Long Celebration of the Earth

Powered by



Foundation

The Louisville Zoo and LG&E and KU Foundation invited students throughout Kentucky and Southern Indiana to participate in our annual recycled art contest as part of Party for the Planet: A Month-Long Celebration of the Earth powered by LG&E and KU Foundation. The purpose of this program is to honor the earth and all it provides. For 2023, the contest asked students to create pollinator-friendly items using primarily natural, found materials such as rocks, wood, sticks, leaves, bamboo, etc. Repurposing items was highly encouraged. The goal was to make a shelter or place of rest for pollinators that resembles a natural, inviting habitat.

GROUP WINNERS

Preschool & Kindergarten

Kyree Philpot
Ka'Ljah Jeffreys
Kalila Bland
Elias Tulay
Dawn Elliot
Dayle Thompson
Mya Jeanes Emmanuel Vanegas

Grades 1 - 2

Sophia Nelson
Charlotte Nelson
Grace Nelson
Amelia Nelson

Grades 3 - 5

Elizabeth Ott
Sofia Bednarczyk
Raeanne Hanna
Makayla Beamon
Jade Johnson

Grades 6 - 8

Emily Berger
Abbie Givens

Grades 9 - 12

Kaitlyn Belcher
Angelina Fields
Sara Alarcon-Martinez

INDIVIDUAL WINNERS

Preschool & Kindergarten

Ames Ryan

Grades 1 - 2

Natalie Stoinoff

Grades 3 - 5

Rilo Schlievert

Grades 6 - 8

Kate Jarboe

Grades 9 - 12

Ashley French

Thanks to LG&E + KU Foundation for powering this event!



Sunny Days Ahead with Sundara



This spring, the Louisville Zoo welcomed one-year-old red panda, Sundara — and he's already warmed the hearts of keepers and guests.

Not seen at the Louisville Zoo since the 1970s, red pandas are native to the Himalayan forests in Nepal, India, Bhutan, Myanmar (Burma) and Southern China. They are endangered, with less than 10,000 in the wild due to the loss of nesting trees and bamboo, a primary source of their diet.

Sundara comes to us from the Kansas City Zoo and has already proven to be an excellent climber,

enjoying his multi-level habitat between Lorikeet Landing and Glacier Run.

"He's a very bold animal," says Jessica Cunningham, Louisville Zoo's Assistant Curator of Mammals. "He seems to really enjoy learning, training and exploring."

What he really loves are grapes, which keepers use as positive reinforcement during training. Sunny D, as he's affectionately called, also likes apples, pears and carrots, along with his regular meals of bamboo.

Like most red pandas, Sunny D also enjoys his afternoon naps. "You'll probably find him asleep if you come by at 2 p.m.," Jessica explains. "As a crepuscular animal, he spends the middle part of the day resting to conserve energy. But he likes to sleep on the top beam in his exhibit, so you can still get a great view."

The next time you want to brighten your day, be sure to stop by and see Sunny D!

Red Panda Fast Facts

In addition to being adorable, red pandas are:

- **Alluridae** – Once thought to be related to bears or raccoons, red pandas are actually the only remaining species in the alluridae family
- **Crepuscular** – Most active at dawn and dusk
- **Arboreal** – Tree dwelling

AN OINK-CREDIBLE ARRIVAL!

The Zoo is thrilled to announce we recently welcomed a new bundle of joy — a baby babirusa! The male piglet was born on April 29 to mom, Patrice, and dad, Albus. This is the second successful birth for the pair. You can see the new piglet on rotation along with mom in the Islands Zone.



A FLAMBOYANCE OF PINK

Have you heard? Your Louisville Zoo is now home to the largest flock of Chilean flamingos or "flamboyance" in the United States! Our habitat now houses an impressive 85 birds. Come see them all in the Americas Zone.

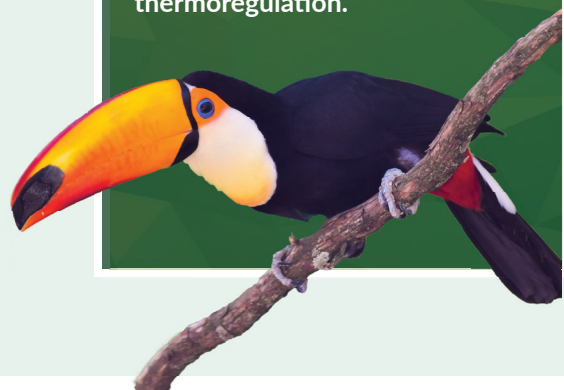


START SUMMER WITH A SPLASH

Ready for some wild, wet adventures? Head over to the Glacier Run Splash Park. Now renovated with a colorful, new splash pad, families can enjoy a cool down from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. daily this summer! Don't forget, members get early entry to the Splash Park weekdays in June, July and August starting at 9:30 a.m.

NEW SPECIES TAKES FLIGHT

Lucy, a toco toucan, joined us this spring, making her the first of her species at the Louisville Zoo! Originally from the Saint Louis Zoo, this vibrant 7-year-old bird can be seen on rotation in the renovated space across from the jaguar habitat. Toco toucans are the largest known toucan species. Their distinctive, long bills serve multiple purposes, including courtship display, defense, fruit gathering and thermoregulation.



Education Programs

BREAKFAST WITH THE BEASTS

July 1, Aug. 5, Sept. 2, Oct. 7
Special ticket required.

Wake up with some of your favorite animals in this program that brings a special look into how 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!

WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY

Aug. 12 and Sept. 9 – special ticket required.
Presented by Louisville Zoo & Murphy's Camera

Break into wildlife photography! Learn from experts about lighting, framing, animal behaviors to look for and more. This session will take you outside the classroom and around the Zoo! Designed for teens and adults with little to no wildlife photography experience.

CONSERVATION & CONVERSATIONS

July 1, Aug. 5, Sept. 2, Oct. 7
Special ticket required.

Connect with the Zoo as we critically explore a variety of environmental and conservation issues. Participants will receive a discussion guide for each topic and are invited to participate in a series of live, 60-minute virtual discussions with Zoo Educators. Some topics will include recommendations for books or movies that we can discuss as a group and others will feature guest speakers!



SENSORY-FRIENDLY SUNDAYS

July 9, Aug. 13, Sept. 10, Oct. 22 – special ticket required.

Enjoy the Zoo at your own pace during this EXCLUSIVE program for Zoo fans looking for a quieter experience. Participants will enter the Zoo an hour before we open to the public and take a guided Zoo walk calling attention to sensory stops on Zoo grounds. Afterwards, participate in fun and educational activities in our reserved MetaZoo space.



NEW ANIMAL ENCOUNTER OPPORTUNITY!

Backstage Pass



SCAN
HERE!

Secure your ticket for an unforgettable VIP experience with some of the Zoo's most loved ambassador animals!

Tour the Zoo's Black-Footed Ferret Conservation Center and learn more about how the Zoo supports conservation programs around the world. Then, take a behind-the-scenes visit to one of the Zoo's animal areas for an up-close animal encounter with the Zoo's penguins, rhinos or seals and sea lions – plus, hear about how our dedicated keepers care for these important species. Each Backstage Pass experience is approximately 45-minutes long and includes a guided cart tour with an experienced Zoo staff member.

Tickets start at \$90 per person. Don't let this opportunity fly away! Learn more at louisvillezoo.org/backstage



WELCOME KITS – SUPPORTING YOUR ZOO'S WILD JOURNEY



First BFF kits of 2023!

It's an exciting time at your Louisville Zoo as black-footed ferret (BFF) kit season is in full swing. Since 1991, your Zoo has welcomed over 1,100 kits, playing a vital role in the recovery of this endangered species once considered extinct. Every autumn, we look forward to the release of these precious kits back into their native Great Plains habitat.

None of this would be possible without the support of our community and donors like you! Through your support, we are not only able to help save vulnerable, threatened and endangered species, but also help inspire

new generations to care about wildlife and wild places. Dr. Jane Goodall once said, "Only if we understand, will we care. Only if we care, will we help. Only if we help, shall all be saved." We have taken her words to heart as we strive in our mission to "better the bond between people and our planet."

Thank you for being part of our journey. However, we still have much work to do! We ask today that you consider a gift to the Zoo's Annual Fund. Gifts of any size will help offset the food, shelter, enrichment and outstanding care provided to all 1,000+ animals that call your Zoo home and ensures our place as a community treasure for generations to come.

Support Your Zoo Today! louisvillezoo.org/zoofund



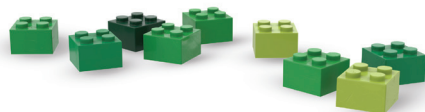
WAYS TO GET INVOLVED:

- Establish a recurring monthly donation to support the animals
- Join the Louisville Zoo Sustainer Society
- Purchase a plaque, brick or bench to be placed on Zoo grounds
- Upgrade to a Zoo license plate the next time you renew car tags
- Leave a legacy by adding the Louisville Zoo Foundation as a beneficiary on your estate, life insurance, IRA, Trust or other retirement plan.
- Direct your 401K or IRA required minimum distributions to the Zoo
- Purchase an item from the Zoo's Wish List

Now - September 17 FREE with Zoo admission



Sean Kenney's
**NATURE
CONNECTS®**
Made with LEGO® bricks



Nature Connects® is an award-winning exhibition showcasing sculptures created by artist Sean Kenney.

The Louisville Zoo provides a unique and stunning backdrop for Sean's artwork, creating an unforgettable experience for visitors.

This exhibit features over 15 sculptures made from more than 200,000 LEGO® bricks. Nature Connects® will leave you in awe and inspire a deeper connection to the natural world while also enjoying the playful and imaginative world of LEGO® bricks.



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INFORMATION!**

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