The Impact of Your Support: An Update on the Tragic Australian Bushfires

Inside this issue:

- Cotton-Top Tamarins
- Gentoo Penguins
- Panamanian Golden Frogs
Spring Brings Exciting Changes to the Zoo!

Spring is coming, and we’re ready for it! We hope you’ve been able to enjoy the Zoo this winter and watch as our cold weather-loving animals have frolicked in the frigid temperatures and snow. But, we also know that for many of you, spring heralds your return to the Zoo and we can’t wait to welcome you.

You need only to look to our elephant renovation to see what we’ve been up to this winter. In fact, FOTZ members can join us for a sneak peek at that construction project on Saturday, March 7. We are on track to be able to re-open this area, now named Elephant Expedition, by the end of May. A pathway along the entire length of the habitat, a new waterfall and pool for the elephants, and many additional guest amenities are going to make Elephant Expedition an exhibit that you won’t want to miss. One of the most significant changes is the addition of an African Tram stop near the north end of Elephant Expedition, where you’ll be able to get on or off as you come and go from Africa. And remember, Premier level memberships always ride free no matter how many tram stops you use!

Besides caring for the animals in our care, our most important work here at the Zoo is caring for wildlife and its habitats globally. It became very clear that our supporters share that passion with the recent devastation occurring in Australia. We were simply astounded and humbled by the outpouring of donations when we launched a Facebook fundraiser for Zoos Victoria and its Bushfire Emergency Wildlife Fund. Our Zoo members and fans care deeply about what is happening to animals everywhere. We will continue to monitor the situation in Australia for additional ways we may be able to help in the future. Inside this issue, you’ll learn about some other conservation efforts that we’re very excited about, like the birth of Panamanian golden frogs at the Zoo!

With spring also comes field trips and planning for summer camps. Our education team has been working hard to ensure that your kids will have the best time imaginable when they attend one of our programs. (There’s no need to tell them that they’re learning a lot, too!) We’ve added some new offerings as well with additional birthday party options, overnights, and more. There really is something for everyone to do at the Zoo!

If your perfect night at the Zoo includes a night out without the children, we’ve got that, too! Jazzoo, our largest fundraiser of the year, is featuring the elephant this year. At 31 years and counting, this event is one that only gets better with age! Buy your tickets now and join me there for eating, drinking, and entertainment that will provide lots of merriment!

Looking forward to seeing you at the Zoo soon.

Randy Wisthoff, Zoo Director

2019–20 Friends of the Zoo BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Hayley Hanson, Chairperson
Husch Blackwell LLP

Wesley Fields, Secretary
Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP

David Sanchez Jr., Treasurer
PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP

Karen Begeller, Sprint Corporation
Brad Bodamer, Shook, Hardy & Bacon L.L.P.

Dr. Yolanda Cargile, Hickman Mills C-1 School District

Sharon Cleaver, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City

Jeff Dillon, VanTrust Real Estate LLC
Wes Dixon, Keywest Technologies, Inc.

Jan Francis, Heartland Golf Development
Ana Nubia Hernandez, La Mega Spanish Radio

Audrey Hill, Saint Luke’s Health System
Gayle Kriegel, Community Volunteer

Julius Lai, AMC Theatres
Todd LaSala, Sinnson Leonard Street LLP

Jill Marchant, Hallmark Cards, Incorporated
Jill McGee, Community Volunteer

Yvette Miceli, Construction Brokers, Inc.
Joe Prenger, ECCO Select

Tony Rennhart, Ford Motor Co.
Terry Riley, Transformation Consultants, LLC

Terryn Rynard, KC Parks and Recreation
Kathy Smith, Community Volunteer

Michele Vance, Service Management Group
Tom Waggoner, HOK Architects

David Yeamans, Burns & McDonnell Engineering Co., Inc.

Representing the City of Kansas City

Kevin McManus, City Council
Terry Rynard, Director of Parks and Recreation

Zoological District Commissioners

Greg Canuteson, Clay County
David Mecklenburg, KC Parks & Recreation Rep

Jerry Nolte, Clay County
Dan Tarwater III, Chair, Jackson County

Randy Wisthoff, KC Zoo Representative

Open daily, year round. Closed only on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year’s Day.

www.KansasCityZoo.org 816.595.1234

The Kansas City Zoo is a non-smoking environment except in designated areas which are indicated on the Zoo Map and on grounds with signs and ash trays.

The Kansas City Zoo, a private, non-profit organization is operated in agreement with the Kansas City, MO Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners, partially funded by the Zoological District in Jackson and Clay Counties in MO, and is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.
It’s two times the joy as we celebrate a cotton-top tamarin birth at the Kansas City Zoo! Twins were born to mom Sara and dad O’Brien. They are the first offspring for these parents, who are helping them get acquainted with their new home. As we don’t yet know the genders of the youngsters, we haven’t named them, but two pairs of winning names have been selected through social media.

The twins are growing fast, and these small monkeys will reach adult size at just a few months of age. In the beginning, dad carried the babies most of the time and handed them off to mom for nursing. It wasn’t long before our babies were swinging and jumping from tree limb to tree limb just like mom and dad.

Cotton-top tamarins are critically endangered. They are found in Columbia and are easily distinguishable by their long fan-like fluffy white hair at the top of their head. They eat mostly fruit, seeds, and insects. This family can currently be found in the Tropics building.

Field Trips are Coming!

Each spring, the Kansas City Zoo hosts thousands of students visiting on field trips from all over the KC metro area. Field trips are incredible educational opportunities for students of all ages, who get to experience our animals and extend their learning beyond the classroom. Here are some tips for a successful visit to the Kansas City Zoo when field trip season is in full swing:

1. **Plan your date** — Our busiest days for field trip visits are Thursdays and Fridays. Your patience is appreciated as we welcome all of our visiting schools, rain or shine!

2. **Plan your time** — We expect most field trips to arrive between 9:30 and 10:30am each day. If you are planning on arriving to the Zoo during these times, please be mindful of unloading buses and busy crosswalks!

3. **Remember that safety is our top priority** — Our field trip facilitation team is dedicated to overseeing a safe entrance into the Zoo for all school groups and independent guests. Thank you to all Zoo patrons who help make the Kansas City Zoo a great place for students to learn!
Hope for Australia

Kansas City Zoo, along with the rest of the world, has been witness to the heartbreak in Australia as fires destroyed communities and wildlife. Across that nation’s bushfire-affected areas, it is estimated that more than one billion animals, including critically endangered species, have perished with the full impact impossible to determine.

Based on updates from our conservation partners in Australia, what is needed most right now are funds to aid in the rescue and recovery effort. The Kansas City Zoo has made an initial donation of $5,000 from its Conservation Fund to support the Zoos Victoria’s Bushfire Emergency Wildlife Fund. The Kansas City Zoo’s Conservation Fund includes money raised from a portion of admission and membership sales, round-up programs in retail shops, education programs, events and more.

In addition, the Zoo opened a fundraiser on Facebook to help raise funds to support Zoos Victoria. Initially we thought a matching goal of $5,000 could be raised, but we were shocked when just a week later fans had donated more than $25,000!

Our 501c3 nonprofit status allows us to raise money through Facebook without paying any transaction or credit card processing fees. We were able to pass along 100% of these funds to those who are directly assisting with the rescue and rehabilitation efforts.

If you’d still like to give, please visit zoo.org.au/fire-fund
Special Experiences

**TWILIGHT TOURS**
$10 per person | 7–9pm
March 12 and April 9

**SUNLIGHT STROLLS**
$20 per person | 8–10am
March 1 and April 5

**YOGA NIGHTS**
$25 per person | 7–9pm
Feb 26 Stingrays
Mar 11 Sloth
Mar 25 Camels
Apr 8 Elephants
Apr 22 Penguins
May 13 Camels
May 27 Elephants

**GIRL SCOUT WORKSHOPS**
$20 per Scout, pre-registration is required
March 21 Environmental Stewardship
March 28 Naturalist
April 11 Art in the Outdoors
April 25 Think Like A Citizen Scientist
May 9 Environmental Stewardship
May 16 Naturalist

NEW! Camping Options at Kansas City Zoo

Ever wondered what happens at the Zoo after the gates close? Snooze with stingrays, dream with dromedaries, rest with red pandas, or hibernate with hippos at Kansas City Zoo! Streamline your overnight experience by reserving our platform tents or yurts. Platform tents and yurts come with bunk beds set up for you, so all you need to bring is your sleeping bag and flashlight. Platform tents and yurts will be available to add to your Elephant Extravaganza, Nocturnal Safari or Slumber Down Under beginning Spring 2020.

NEW! Glamping at Kansas City Zoo

Come relive your summer camp days during this 21+ overnight experience at Kansas City Zoo. We’ll create enrichment for our animals, go on a night hike, take a glimpse behind the scenes, and meet some Animal Ambassadors. Friendship bracelets and ukuleles are optional, but s’mores over the fire are a must. For more information, email our Group & Youth Programs Supervisor at jessicapackard@fotzkc.org.

NEW! Birthday Party Packages

A birthday party at Kansas City Zoo guarantees a wild time for all your guests! With three party packages, four themes, morning and afternoon time slots, and plenty of venues to choose from, there’s a party for everyone. Continue to personalize your party with plenty of fun add-ons and upgrades! Order pizza and popcorn, add party favors and an interactive photo booth. You can even book an hour with a face painter. To learn more about these birthday party options and more, reach Reservations at education@fotzkc.org or (816) 595-1765.

www.kansascityzoo.org
Species Survival Plans and Gentoo Surrogacy

In the world of Zoo matchmaking, we rely on pairing recommendations from the Species Survival Plan (SSP) for select groups of animals in Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) accredited facilities. This group of experts manages each animal population across all member institutions. They know the pedigree of every animal in their SSP as far back as records exist for their species. The goal of the Species Survival Plan is to maintain 90% genetic diversity for 100+ years to ensure the long-term health of the species in human care. There are currently over 500 individual SSPs managed by the AZA!

Each animal is given a score which ranks how important its genetics are to a population. The SSP then makes annual recommendations as to which animals would be best suited genetically. These pairings don’t always work out, but usually they go swimmingly! Occasionally though, a pair is just too successful and while they may start out as a highly important pair, over time that score decreases as their offspring mature and reach breeding age. These “super parents” are then sometimes utilized as surrogates for pairs that are genetically valuable to their species.

This sometimes is the case in our gentoo penguin flock. The Kansas City Zoo has a large and diverse population of gentoo penguins at Helzberg Penguin Plaza. While some of our pairs are rockstar parents, gentoos typically lay two eggs but only raise one chick. Each year during breeding season (early winter here) our animal care team monitors which pairs are showing interest in one another. This year, like in some previous years, we had a pair of genetically important gentoos that laid two eggs. Unfortunately, pairs rarely raise both chicks successfully. To ensure their success, our Zookeepers removed one of the eggs and fostered it with a pair with proven parenting chops. Happily, both chicks hatched and have been raised successfully! You can visit our gentoo penguins flock and the two new chicks at Helzberg Penguin Plaza.
Recently, the Kansas City Zoo hosted a talented young veterinary preceptor from Brazil. Gabriel de Assis Duarte is a student at the School of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science of University of Sao Paulo, Brazil. After spending six months in the United States, he recently returned to Brazil, though he hopes to return to the States for his career.

Gabriel spent time at Bronx Zoo, Detroit Zoo, Omaha Zoo and here in Kansas City learning from veterinarians and animal health teams at each institution. We sat down before he left to talk about his time in the states and especially here at the Kansas City Zoo. According to him, his English was not strong when he arrived in the United States but the immersive experience resulted in fluency and a great appreciation for the regional differences present in the US. Gabe remarked that his experience here in Kansas City was his favorite among the Zoos he worked at. He really enjoyed working with our staff and liked the Midwestern hospitality he received. Gabe was very complimentary of our knowledgeable and talented medical team, noting that we were truly lucky to have them.

The Kansas City Zoo has hosted 140 veterinary preceptors and two 3-year residents from Germany, Ireland, Brazil, Peru, Japan, Taiwan, Canada, Mexico, and the United Kingdom as well as most of the United States over the years.

Our expanded registered veterinary technician (RVT) internship program has seen more than 100 students, and our Dental Hygiene Practicum with UMKC. Dr. Kirk Suedmeyer, the KCZoo’s chief veterinarian and director of animal health has championed our programs as an invaluable learning experience that benefit wildlife and exotic animals worldwide. Veterinarians who have spent time at our Zoo have gone on to work all over the country as head veterinarians in some of the most prestigious institutions such as the Pittsburgh Zoo and Aquarium (Dr. Ginger Sturgeon and Dr. Alicia Hahn), Jacksonville Zoo (Dr. Meredith Persky), Saint Louis Zoo (Dr. Sathya Chinnadurai), Albuquerque Zoo (Dr. Carol Bradford), Louisville Zoo (Dr. Zoli Gyimesi), Oklahoma City Zoo (Dr. Gretchen Cole), Zoo Miami (Dr. Rodney Schnellbacher), and the Great Plains Zoo (Ann Burgdorf). Each of them practices the same high quality, innovative care they learned at the zoo and helps provide better health care for the animals. When you visit the zoo, not only are you learning about the animals here, we are learning from them too!
Asia

Asian Small-Clawed Otter
Ian & Conner (parents), Han, Luke & Leia
born 10/18, Cai & Clover born 3/18

Africa

Stuhlman’s Blue Monkey
Indigo & Abby

White-Cheeked Gibbons
Smithers & Kit

Cape Porcupine
Bic & Titan

Mona Monkey
Spicolli & Gilda

Asia

Africa
Central and South America

Cotton-Top Tamarin
O’Brien & Sarah, Twins born 11/9/19

Von der Decken’s Hornbill
Tsavo & Kenya

Prehensile-Tailed Porcupine
Scotty

White-Faced Saki
Conan, Gizmo, Reuben & Yanni

Crested Screamer
Louie

Capybara
Ripple
Welcome, Macaroni Penguins!

For the first time ever, we have macaroni penguins at the Kansas City Zoo! Our animal care team is once again on the cutting edge of innovation. Instead of moving adult penguins via refrigerated truck, which is expensive and not without potential risk, our senior curator was able to transport eggs back to Kansas City Zoo on an airplane. The eggs even had their own seat!

Hatched in incubators, eight fluffy chicks were hand-raised by zookeepers behind the scenes. Our macaroni penguin chicks averaged only 92 grams at hatching but grew fast, gaining 10 to 15% of their body weight daily.

The monumental challenge of raising eight hungry penguin chicks included up to five feedings daily of a herring, krill and vitamin “smoothie.” They graduated to small fish like capelin and smelt before they were able to tackle their adult diet. They made their public debut at Helzberg Penguin Plaza at approximately four weeks old in a special “playpen” near the front of the exhibit. Penguin chicks are unable to swim and are covered in a thick layer of fluffy down. If the chicks were to accidentally enter the water they would likely not survive, so the playpen kept them safe while allowing guests a closer look.

The chicks have now molted their juvenile feathers which are watertight. Swimming lessons, under the watchful eye of their zookeeper “parents,” allowed the chicks to learn to swim, which doesn’t always come naturally!

Macaroni penguins are listed as vulnerable to extinction, are native to the Sub Antarctic, and named for the bright yellow crest of feathers above their eyes. In the 18th century, a gentleman who wore flashy feathers in his cap was called a “macaroni” and English explorers thought the name fit with these flashy birds. They’ll eventually grow to be around 10 pounds and around 2 feet tall.

It will be several years before our young birds sport the elaborate headdresses they’re named for. We hope to grow our colony in subsequent years and increase their population in AZA-accredited Zoos and Aquariums. You can see our penguins on the penguin cam at youtube.com/KansasCityZoo and visit them daily at Helzberg Penguin Plaza.

Free Conservation Lecture

Yara de Melo Barros, Ph.D., Executive Coordinator of Project Jaguars of Iguacu will speak on Monday, February 17, 1–2pm in the Auditorium. Dr. Barros was the 2019 winner of ZCOG’s Ron Magill Conservation Heroes Award for her work in researching and protecting the remaining jaguar populations in the Atlantic Forest of Brazil’s Iguacu National Park. Come learn more about her efforts to save this endangered species!
**ZOO EDUCATION EVENTS**

**PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS**

**CRITTER CLUB**
Join our preschool science hour for children ages 3-5 and their chaperones. Each class, we highlight an animal related topic with songs, stories, crafts, animal encounter, and a brief science/animal lesson. Every session includes a carousel ride (weather permitting). Select days | 10:30am-12:00pm

**March 4 & 5** Teeth Investigation Science
- Where’s Teddy
- Where’s Teddyl
- Strictly No Elephants
- The Biggest House in the World

**April 8** Scoop on Poop
- Growing Gardens
- Earth Day Art
- Master Builders

**April 15 & 16** All Cracked Up
- Hanging Out
- Pollinators
- Catch a Wave

**April 29 & 30** Top Dog

**May 6** Home on the Range
- Mighty Minis

**Mighty Minis**
Join our preschool science hour for children ages 3-5 and their chaperones. Each class, we highlight an animal related topic with songs, stories, crafts, animal encounter, and a brief science/animal lesson. Every session includes a carousel ride (weather permitting). Select days | 10:30am-12:00pm

**March 4 & 5** Teeth Investigation Science
- Where’s Teddy
- Where’s Teddyl
- Strictly No Elephants
- The Biggest House in the World

**April 8** Scoop on Poop
- Growing Gardens
- Earth Day Art
- Master Builders

**April 15 & 16** All Cracked Up
- Hanging Out
- Pollinators
- Catch a Wave

**April 29 & 30** Top Dog

**May 6** Home on the Range
- Mighty Minis

**CREATIVE CRITTERS**
Do you love to color and draw? Well, we do! Throw in some animals and we will definitely have fun!

The Kansas City Zoo would like to welcome Young Rembrandts to preschool story time. In this 45-minute class, we will read a story, learn about some animals and enjoy a step-by-step drawing class. By the end of class, your preschooler will have their own Animal Art Masterpiece.

Select days | 10:30am-11:30am

**STORYTIME STEM!**
What do books and science have in common? STORYTIME STEM! If you love science and are looking for a fresh new take, then this is the class for you. In each class, we will look at different science concepts, couple them with stories, and get hands-deep in experimentation. We have everything: kitchen chemistry, physics, states of matter; weather, animals and more!

Select days | 11:00am-12:00pm

**GOODNIGHT ZOO**
This exciting evening program is designed for your little ones ages 3 to 5 years old. Enjoy a night of exploration stations, songs, educational games and activities, themed lessons, crafts, snack, and animal encounters at the zoo. You can wear your jammies and even bring your favorite stuffed animal. Each child must be accompanied by an adult!

Select days | 5:00pm-7:00pm

**OVERNIGHTS**
Ever wonder what happens at the zoo after dark? Come sleep with the penguins, snooze with a polar bear, wake up with lions or join one of our other amazing programs! Each overnight experience includes a hands-on animal investigation, an encounter with animal ambassadors, and a night hike to visit our nocturnal animal collection! Don’t see the date you wanted? Gather 20 of your closest friends and email education@fotzkc.org or call 816.595.1765 to schedule a private overnight.

Select Weekends | 7:00pm-8:00am**

**SCHOOL’S OUT SAFARI DAY CAMP**
Keep the learning alive at the zoo! Come on an out-of-school adventure to learn about the wild world around you. Day camp includes guided tours, animal ambassador encounters, crafts, games and more!

Select Weekdays | 8:30am-3:30pm

**Cost:** $15 per child*
- https://www.kansascityzoo.org/education/program/creative-critters/

- March 11
- Where’s Teddy
- April 8
- Strictly No Elephants
- May 6
- The Biggest House in the World
- May 21
- Master Builders

**Cost:** $7 per child*
- https://www.kansascityzoo.org/education/program/storytime-stem/

- March 26
- Growing Gardens
- April 23
- Earth Day Art
- May 21
- Master Builders

**Cost:** Starting at $35 per person*
- https://www.kansascityzoo.org/education/program-type/overnights/

- March 14
- Girl Scouts: Think Like A Citizen Scientist
- Girl Scouts: Naturalist
- Girl Scouts: Environmental Stewardship

- April 25
- Penguin Pole-oza
- Slumber Down Under

- May 1
- Polar Bear PJ Party
- Art in the Outdoors

**Cost:** $10 per person*, Adults are free
- https://www.kansascityzoo.org/education/program/critter-club/

**March 11, 17, & 18** Animal Champions
- *8:30am-3:30pm | $150 per child
- *8:30am-3:30pm | $50 per child
- *8:30am-3:30pm | $50 per child
- *8:30am-3:30pm | $50 per child
- *8:30am-3:30pm | $50 per child

**March 19** Ocean Predators
- *8:30am-3:30pm | $50 per child

**March 20** Slow it Down
- *8:30am-3:30pm | $50 per child

**March 23** “Ton” gues of Fun
- *8:30am-3:30pm | $50 per child

**April 10** Baby Boom
- *8:30am-3:30pm | $50 per child

**U.S. Department of the Interior Plaquemines National Wildlife Refuge**
- **ACA certification means the Zoo’s camps have met or exceeded industry standards of excellence in over 300 categories.**

Most education events require a reservation. To register, please visit kansascityzoo.org/education or call 816.595.1765.

**www.kansascityzoo.org**
Have you ever wanted to become more involved in the Zoo? Are you passionate about helping others, working around animals, or making the Zoo a more beautiful place? Becoming a Kansas City Zoo Volunteer means engaging in a deeper connection to the world and people around us while having fun!

If you are curious or want to know more about our Volunteer Programs, please join us at one of our 2020 Volunteer Open Houses:

- **Sunday, February 23**: 1–2pm
- **Thursday, February 27**: 6–7pm
- **Sunday, April 26**: 1–2pm
- **Thursday, April 30**: 6–7pm

Please reserve your spot on our KC Zoo Volunteer Webpage! You can direct any questions to Sara Cooper, Volunteer Programs Supervisor at 816.595.1768, saracooper@fotzkc.org

**Here are the opportunities we offer:**

**ANIMAL VOLUNTEERS**

Animal volunteers work under the direct supervision of the animal care staff. They will perform routine work assignments involving maintenance and care of Zoo exhibits and enclosures. They may also participate in research and/or behavior studies. While there is no direct animal contact for any of our volunteers, animal volunteers get to know the ins and outs of animal husbandry by assisting our keepers with important tasks such as diet prep and building enrichment!

**DOCENT**

Our longest-running volunteer program, Zoo Docents are dedicated volunteers who serve as educators and interpreters at animal habitats throughout the Zoo. In addition, they provide tours and assist with a variety of educational programs both inside the Zoo and in the local community all year long.

**TEAM HABITAT AND ZOOSCAPER VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS**

Our Team Habitat volunteers assist with projects for all the departments at the Zoo. Projects range from light physical duty such as planting bulbs and painting doors, to more physically challenging projects such as moving deadfall, cleaning/reorganizing Zoo areas after big special events, pruning and clearing brush. Our Zooscapers help the Horticulture department to make the Zoo look beautiful, working on projects such as mulching and watering.

**GUEST AMBASSADORS VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**

Guest Ambassadors assist guests by answering their questions, directing them to various attractions in the zoo, and make suggestions for more satisfying visits. Guest Ambassadors serve the public throughout the grounds providing basic information, directions and Zoo history. Guest Ambassadors also help with exhibit openings and special events!

**Requirements for all adult volunteer programs:**

- Must be 18 years or older
- Must complete Adult Volunteer application
- Must register for and attend one Volunteer Open House
- If accepted, attend one Volunteer Orientation Session
- Meet all additional individual program requirements
- Agree to work one special event shift in October each year
- Submit the required information and successfully pass a background check.
- Pay the fee for training materials, shirt and background check

---

*FOTZ Sneak Peek!*

Friends of the Zoo members can get a sneak peek at the progress of our new Elephant Expedition on **Saturday, March 7, from 9–11am.**

*Thank You, US Bank!*

Thank you to US Bank for sponsoring Sea Lion Splash! Catch a show featuring our five sea lions at 10:30am, 1:30pm or 3:30pm daily.

*Thank You to US Bank for sponsoring Sea Lion Splash! Catch a show featuring our five sea lions at 10:30am, 1:30pm or 3:30pm daily.*

---

*Thank You, US Bank!*

Thank you to US Bank for sponsoring Sea Lion Splash! Catch a show featuring our five sea lions at 10:30am, 1:30pm or 3:30pm daily.
A Toast to Tusks

June 5, 2020
7:30pm-Midnight

Proceeds from the event feed the Zoo’s animals for the year, and provide funds for the Zoo’s education programs.

For tickets and more information, visit JazzooKC.org
### March

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat/Sun, Mar 7 &amp; 8&lt;br&gt;10am–3pm</td>
<td><strong>Photo Scavenger Hunt</strong></td>
<td>Head out to the Zoo for some family adventure! Pick up your clue sheet as you enter the park and see the Zoo from a new perspective as you try to match our photo clues to their locations in the Zoo. Find all the photos and drop your clue sheet back off on your way out to be entered into a drawing for some Zootastic prizes!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat/Sun, Mar 7 &amp; 8&lt;br&gt;10:30am</td>
<td><strong>Cheetah Enrichment</strong></td>
<td>On the first weekend of the month, head to the cheetah exhibit and see our boys engage with some very special enrichment. Our brothers, Rhaegal and Viserion, will receive this enrichment at 10:30am at the cheetah exhibit in Africa. A Zookeeper will also be on hand to chat with guests about the cheetahs and the various enrichment they receive. Special thanks to Eyemart Express for sponsoring the Cheetah Enrichment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat/Sun, Mar 14 &amp; 15&lt;br&gt;10am–3pm</td>
<td><strong>St. Patrick’s Day at the Zoo</strong></td>
<td>Head out to the Zoo and see our animals enjoying festive St. Patrick’s Day enrichment items and get your picture taken with a leprechaun on Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 2pm. On Sunday, enjoy our very special St. Patrick’s Day Parade at the Zoo at 1pm. Our llamas, goats, and many more animals will parade through the Zoo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat/Sun, Mar 21 &amp; 22&lt;br&gt;10:30am</td>
<td><strong>Cheetah Enrichment</strong></td>
<td>Our cheetah brothers, Rhaegal and Viserion, will receive enrichment at 10:30 a.m. at the cheetah exhibit in Africa. A Zookeeper will also be on hand to chat with guests about the cheetahs and the various enrichment they receive. Special thanks to Eyemart Express for sponsoring the Cheetah Enrichment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat/Sun, Mar 28 &amp; 29&lt;br&gt;9:30am–5pm</td>
<td><strong>Royals Weekend</strong></td>
<td>GO BLUE for the boys in blue! Join us on Saturday, March 28, and Sunday, March 29, as we celebrate the KC Royals. Our animals will be enjoying special KC Royals enrichment items like t-shirts, cups, scarfs, and rally towels. Bring your camera on Saturday and have your picture taken with Sluggerff from 10am to noon and again from 12:30pm to 2:30pm. Wear your KC Royals gear and save $3 off the regular admission price all weekend.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat/Sun, Mar 28 &amp; 29&lt;br&gt;11am</td>
<td><strong>Humboldt Penguin March</strong></td>
<td>Join us on the fourth weekend of each month as our birds parade around the Helzberg Penguin Plaza, enjoying the fresh outdoor air. Get an up-close encounter with Humboldt penguins as they strut their stuff for all Zoo guests to see.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### April

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat, Apr 4&lt;br&gt;10am–3pm</td>
<td><strong>Girl Scout Day</strong></td>
<td>Girl Scouts in their uniforms will receive FREE admission and those accompanying them will receive a reduced admission of $7. Girl Scouts can participate in activity stations in the lobby from 10am-3pm and the first 200 Girl Scouts will receive a special patch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat/Sun, Apr 4 &amp; 5&lt;br&gt;10:30am</td>
<td><strong>Cheetah Enrichment</strong></td>
<td>On the first weekend of the month, head to the cheetah exhibit and see our boys engage with some very special enrichment. Our brothers, Rhaegal and Viserion, will receive this enrichment at 10:30am at the cheetah exhibit in Africa. A Zookeeper will also be on hand to chat with guests about the cheetahs and the various enrichment they receive. Special thanks to Eyemart Express for sponsoring the Cheetah Enrichment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat/Sun, Apr 11 &amp; 12&lt;br&gt;10am–3pm</td>
<td><strong>Easter Egg Safari</strong></td>
<td>Bring the kiddos for egg hunts, photos with the Easter bunny, games, prizes and much more! Easter Egg Safari is included with Zoo admission.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat/Sun, Apr 18 &amp; 19&lt;br&gt;10am–3pm</td>
<td><strong>Party for the Planet</strong></td>
<td>We are celebrating Mother Earth with a Party for the Planet. Learn about conservation through a Dr. Seuss favorite, The Lorax. Want to help the environment and save? Bring in your old cell phones, iPods, iPads, tablets, mp3 players and all accessories to be recycled, and receive $3 off regular Zoo admission and a reusable Zoo bag. Learn how to attract pollinators to your garden by making a native plant seed ball. The Little Blue River Watershed Coalition will also be presenting Blue at the Zoo including interactive, fun, and educational activities related to water quality. Our famous compost, ZooManoo, will also be on sale. Take home a bucket and see what it can do for your garden!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat/Sun, Apr 18 &amp; 19&lt;br&gt;10:30am</td>
<td><strong>Cheetah Enrichment</strong></td>
<td>On the third weekend of the month, head to the cheetah exhibit in Africa and see our boys engage with some very special enrichment. Enrichment includes anything out of the normal routine for these cats. Special thanks to Eyemart Express for sponsoring the Cheetah Enrichment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat, Apr 25&lt;br&gt;8–10am</td>
<td><strong>FOTZ Premier Breakfast</strong></td>
<td>Join us for a FREE, exclusive, Premier level breakfast! Saturday, April 25, from 8-10am, we’ll be serving Premier level FOTZ families a delectable selection of breakfast foods.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat/Sun, Apr 25 &amp; 26&lt;br&gt;10am–2pm</td>
<td><strong>Meet Daniel Tiger at the Zoo</strong></td>
<td>Meet KCPT’s most popular PBS Kids character, Daniel Tiger at the Zoo. Daniel Tiger will be stopping by from 10am–2pm. Be sure to bring your camera and take a photo with Daniel Tiger!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat/Sun, Apr 25 &amp; 26&lt;br&gt;11am</td>
<td><strong>Humboldt Penguin March</strong></td>
<td>Get beak to beak with our Humboldt penguins on the fourth weekend of each month. Our birds will parade around Helzberg Penguin Plaza, enjoying the fresh outdoor air.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We are honoring teachers, administrators or home school educators with free admission. Just bring your teacher ID for admittance. Those accompanying them will receive $3 off regular admission. This event is rain or shine.

Cheetah Enrichment On the first weekend of the month, head to the cheetah exhibit and see our boys engage with some very special enrichment. Our brothers, Rhaegal and Viserion, will receive this enrichment at 10:30 a.m. at the cheetah exhibit in Africa. A Zookeeper will also be on hand to chat with guests about the cheetahs and the various enrichment they receive. Special thanks to Eyemart Express for sponsoring the Cheetah Enrichment.

What better way to celebrate Mom than with a relaxing day at the Kansas City Zoo? Moms will receive complimentary admission and a complimentary beverage on Mother’s Day. Visit the Zoo’s doting moms and see them interact with their adorable babies. Bring Mom to the Zoo for a wild time with her cubs!

Do you know who at the Zoo is endangered? Grab a passport and follow the clues correctly. Navigate your way to these endangered species exhibits to collect and stamp and win a prize!

Join us on the fourth weekend of each month as our birds parade around the Helzberg Penguin Plaza, enjoying the fresh outdoor air. Get an up-close encounter with Humboldt penguins as they strut their stuff for all Zoo guests to see.

Check out our calendar of events online at KansasCityZoo.org to find out more information and to make reservations or call 816.595.1234 for more assistance.
Panamanian Golden Frogs

Some of the most important work the Kansas City Zoo conducts is with the smallest of our residents. Amphibians worldwide have been under assault from amphibian chytridiomycosis *[Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis; Bd]* commonly known as the chytrid (kit-rid) fungus.

We’re not entirely certain why this fungus has reached such plaque proportions over the last few decades, but it has decimated amphibian species around the globe. Our Zoo, along with other institutions, is playing a vital role as an ark for these amazing creatures.

Panamanian golden frogs are native to Panama and live within tropical cloud forests, and breed in clean forest streams. This prehistoric species’ brilliant coloration serves as a warning to potential predators that it’s actually highly toxic. Given their home near loud forest streams, they evolved a unique form of communication. They communicate largely by waving their hands to signal rivals and potential mates as their vocalizations would likely not be heard over the sound of running water.

Over the last few years, our team has been working with these animals to establish a breeding group behind the scenes. With a few false starts they were able to create the ideal breeding setup to finally achieve success. This winter we were delighted that our pairs successfully produced fertile eggs. Originally, we estimated around 100 tadpoles had hatched but now believe that number to be over 300!

This is a great step forward for our animal care team as they have worked so diligently to ensure the survival of this iconic species.