

Annual Report

2022-2023

CINCINNATI ZOO & BOTANICAL GARDEN





Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden

3400 Vine Street, Cincinnati OH 45220

2022–2023 Annual Report

Fiscal Year: April 1, 2022–March 31, 2023

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Northern monkshood,
p19, by Mike Johnson

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It was another exciting year full of surprises at the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden. The surprises of our new baby hippo, Fritz, our corpse flower blooming for the first time, and that we met our big \$160 million More Home to Roam goal three years early!

Nature is also full of surprises, and we are fortunate to witness that firsthand here at the Cincinnati Zoo. We are continually surprised and humbled by the contributions of our incredible Zoo supporters, which enable us to remain a world-class Zoo and a beloved treasure to the Cincinnati community.

Thank you for supporting this year's surprises and the future excitement that is yet to come for our Zoo!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thane Maynard". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Thane" and last name "Maynard" clearly legible.

Thane Maynard
Zoo Director

The past year at the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden reinforced why we remain a national leader in animal care and conservation. Thanks to the generosity of our Zoo community, we completed the *More Home to Roam* capital campaign fundraising goal ahead of schedule. It has been immensely gratifying to serve as Board Chairman during this transformational initiative and to see firsthand the community's enthusiasm for our Zoo.

While my service as Board Chairman has ended, it has been an absolute honor, and I am very proud of all we accomplished for the next generation of wildlife advocates. In January of 2023, I confidently turned over the reins to our new Board Chairman, George Molinsky, and look forward to his leadership of our amazing Zoo!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Francie S. Hiltz". The signature is written in a cursive style, with the first name "Francie" and last name "Hiltz" clearly legible.

Francie S. Hiltz
Board Chairman

More Home to Roam **GOALS MET!**

Thanks to the support of 3,955 donors, we met our transformational \$160 million *More Home to Roam* goal three years ahead of schedule!



More Home to Roam is the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden's ambitious campaign to celebrate our 150-year history by transforming our Zoo with fourteen new leading-edge animal habitats, thirteen new visitor experience features, inspirational community outreach, and sustainability improvements in energy, water, and waste, including 1 million gallons of stormwater capacity. *More Home to Roam* is creating better homes for our animals and a better Zoo experience for our visitors. Here are the exciting changes and upgrades that your support has already brought to our Zoo:

ROO VALLEY

The Zoo's Australian-themed Roo Valley, beneath a lush canopy of trees, is where Zoo guests walk with kangaroos and get up close with little blue penguins. Visitors can stroll along a winding, naturalistic 15,000-square-foot Kangaroo Walkabout, which leads to a significantly expanded water feature with up-close aboveground and underwater views of the little blue penguins. The Roo Valley habitat has also received Platinum LEED certification!

◀ AFRICAN PENGUIN POINT

The new African penguin habitat at the Zoo has three times more space for our flock of endangered African penguins and offers a variety of new habitat features to maximize their welfare, including: a dynamic pool area to encourage natural swimming behavior and exercise, natural substrates to dig into and to promote improved foot health, outdoor heating and cooling so that penguins can stay outside longer in the year.

ERKENBRECHER PARKING LOT & ENTRY

We added an additional Zoo entry, featuring ten new ticket windows and added queuing space, which has dramatically streamlined entry into the Zoo. We also have a new parking lot and a second pedestrian bridge that is ramped with no elevators or escalators to make getting into the Zoo much easier for our guests.

ACCESS FOR ALL FEATURES

The Zoo has added several features to improve our visitors' experience, including a Nursing Nest, accessible and family-style restrooms, calming rooms for families with developmental disabilities, more storage space for strollers and wheelchairs, sensory maps, and sensory bags filled with oral motor chewy tubes, fidgets, noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, and more.

CAROUSEL

The new Zoo Carousel is twice the size of our previous one and is situated on the edge of Swan Lake. Housed in a vintage-inspired, open-air gazebo with an old-fashioned boardwalk, it offers views along the lake, providing a familiar, nostalgic experience.

DORNETTE KANGA KLIMB

Our exciting new adventure course offers 58 different elements and challenges appropriate for any skill level. Kanga' Klimb is above Roo Valley, and climbers can see kangaroos down below from the elevated course. Activities range from an easy stroll across an elevated bridge to challenging tests of balance and climbing skills. Parts of the course are ADA-accessible.

HOPS BEER GARDEN

At Hops, Zoo guests can relax in the beer garden's multi-tiered deck and have an incredible view of Roo Valley and Kanga Klimb. Guests can enjoy craft beers from a variety of local breweries and many delicious menu options. Hops also offers grab-and-go menu items for visitors who would rather snack as they stroll around the Zoo.

MAI THAI'S MARKET

The Zoo has added a new 3,500-square-foot dining and retail addition called Mai Thai's Market. The indoor restaurant and dining space is a dramatic transformation of the building, using reclaimed red oak throughout the restaurant to create a warm and inviting dining environment. Inside Mai Thai's Market, visitors can purchase food, coffee, ice cream, and retail items at multiple ordering locations.

PICNIC SHELTER PAVILION

The Zoo now has a much larger pavilion area with four new shelters that seat 250 guests each and have the flexibility to be combined for large gatherings. It also includes an overlook deck that will give a commanding view of Elephant Trek valley once it is completed.



ROO VALLEY



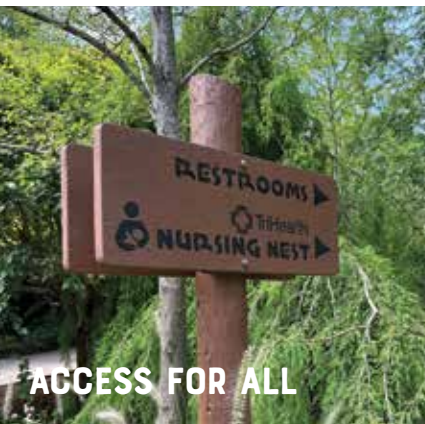
DORNETTE KANGA KLIMB



CAROUSEL



PICNIC SHELTER PAVILION



ACCESS FOR ALL



HOPS BEER GARDEN



MAI THAI'S MARKET



ERKENBRECHER PARKING LOT & ENTRY

We are currently in progress on these exciting campaign components, thanks to our donors:

ELEPHANT TREK

This new habitat will be a spectacular five-acre landscape of habitat and gardens with engaging features for animals and humans alike. At five times the size of our current elephant yards, it will include four acres of grass and sandy terrain, with natural features that mimic the Asian elephant's native habitat. At the center will be a 22,000-square-foot Elephant Barn, featuring communal and off-habitat spaces for elephants and areas for visitor viewing, events, and staff offices. Keeper support areas, individual elephant holding rooms, and special maternity dens, ensure this building will be on the leading edge of elephant care.

Elephant Trek will support a multi-generational Asian elephant herd and put our Zoo on the leading edge of elephant care, research, and management with next generation elephant management and facilities, a world-class breeding program enriching indoor and outdoor herd environments, a naturalistic park-like habitat, optimal visitor experiences, and environmentally sustainable design.

BEAR RIDGE & SEA OTTER COAST

Our former "bear hill" area is being transformed to incorporate the new habitats of Bear Ridge and Sea Otter Coast. The upper area of the hill will be redesigned to provide a great home for black bears. The lower grotto area, which will become Sea Otter Coast, features a massive underwater viewing area where visitors will get close-up opportunities to see sea otters play, eat, swim, and engage in enrichment activities.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Our already completed upgrades have been constructed with our goal of Net Zero Energy, Water & Waste by 2025 in mind. Once Elephant Trek is completed with the additional 1 million gallons of stormwater capacity, we will be using 100% filtered rainwater in our habitats around the Zoo. We will also soon begin construction on a new, 2.25 MW solar array canopy over the new Erkenbrecher parking lot.



Plus, we still have a few more exciting habitat updates from this campaign yet to come:

GIRAFFE'S TOWER

This new area will be built around the historic Elephant House and expand towards the Entry Village. This new, larger habitat creates vistas of the Elephant House and accommodates a much larger giraffe herd, along with another species or two. It will also include a spectacular elevated visitor experience that is literally built around a "treehouse" with a giraffe feeding station, leisurely resting spots, and group event space.

RHINO RESERVE

This new area will redesign habitats for flamingoes, okapi, bongos, zebras, and black rhinos and will give visitors expansive vistas across species, like we currently have in our Africa habitat. It will include outdoor yards for mixed species, new holding areas, paths and viewing decks.





Conservation Impact Team

Our Conservation Impact Team aims to advance Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden conservation leadership and impact through collaboration, and by supporting the Zoo's capacity through our team, we can inspire Cincinnati,

regional, and global communities to save wildlife and create healthy landscapes.

In 2022, the Zoo increased our local and global impact by creating the Conservation Impact Fellowship Program. Four Fellows and a Coexistence Scientist were hired to lead in situ conservation projects focused on saving species while engaging and uplifting local communities. Through this program, the Zoo is able to invest in local leaders with a wide range of experience and expertise, further facilitating direct impact with our field partners and increasing accessibility to the conservation field.

The team of Fellows includes Isadora Aguirra from Brazil, Kai Davis from the Midwest USA, T'Noya Thompson from the Bahamas, and Steiner Sempeta from Kenya, as well as our Coexistence Scientist from India, Dr. Mahi Puri.

Conservation Impact also welcomed the first ever Green Team in 2022 as part of our efforts to engage local communities in conservation. Through a partnership with MadTree Brewing, the Zoo worked with Groundwork Ohio River Valley to create a new Avondale Green Team. This program pays teens a living wage as they engage in professional development and learn transferable skills in the green industry. Over the course of 8 weeks during the summer, the Green Team teens joined our Horticulture Team doing gardening and landscaping work outside the Zoo and around Avondale, broken up with enrichment days focused on fun and professional development and culminating with a Green Career Fair.



The ZooTeen program is another way the Zoo creates pathways to conservation for young people. Teens support Education programs, engage with visitors at habitats around the Zoo, and contribute to on-ground pollinator research while also leading Zoo celebrations such as the Monarch Festival. With about 75 year-round volunteers and over 250 volunteers in the summer, this program continues to prove successful in giving teenagers opportunities to build knowledge, gain confidence and leadership experience, and develop professional skills.



Kai Davis from Louisville, Kentucky, studies Midwest native wildlife, including songbirds, pollinators, and native plants. Through his work as a Fellow, Kai is comparing songbird presence in different habitats and levels of human land use at sites at Bowyer Farm and urban parks in Cincinnati.





Supporting Education at the Zoo

The Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden is lucky to have our Ambassador Council, a group of young professionals from the Greater Cincinnati area who support our mission, vision, and values. The Council is an energetic group of emerging leaders who are passionate about the Zoo. Started in 2009, this group has made a huge

impact on our Zoo, specifically our Education Department, by raising over 2 million dollars since its inception.

The Ambassador Council has worked on several initiatives to support the Zoo's mission. They have worked with local schools to recycle cell phones that contain coltan, a metallic ore that is mined in endangered habitats in Africa and causes gorillas to be displaced or poached due to the destruction of their homes. They championed a grassroots effort to support the Zoo's *More Home to Roam* Capital Campaign through the expansion of the 1875 Founder's Circle and the development of a custom bourbon to boost publicity. They have also conducted donor club membership drives to engage new Zoo donors.

Their biggest initiative each year is hosting Zoo La La, an annual fundraising event that supports the Zoo's Education Department. Zoo La La brings close to 2,000 people to the Zoo for a wild evening of fun to support education at the Zoo. This event provides yearly support to Educa-

tion Programming, including the Zoo's Living Classroom Education Access Fund (LCEAF).

The LCEAF program was founded in November 2012 with the goal of financially supporting the ability of all schools in the Greater Cincinnati area to access the Zoo and its nationally recognized programs. By providing teachers with programs that meet educational standards and promising to cover the cost of admission for schools in need, the Cincinnati Zoo and LCEAF are working to ensure that every Tri-State area child has the opportunity to experience the excitement of learning at the Zoo.

The Zoo's Living Classroom Education Access Fund sends 12,000 Cincinnati area kids to the Zoo for FREE annually. The LCEAF program is making a real difference in leveling the playing field for under-resourced schools in our 16-county service area by making the Zoo's quality educational programs available at no cost.

The Cincinnati Zoo's nationally recognized school programs continue to draw in students and their educators with authentic, inquiry-based experiences that support classroom curriculum. Now, with the help of the LCEAF program, the Zoo is able to support more school participants than ever before and give students the opportunity to learn from the Zoo's amazing animals regardless of financial need. Thanks, in part, to the Ambassador Council, the Zoo's Education Department can continue to do this amazing work!



LCEAF was created in response to the exacerbation of already-disproportionate achievement gaps in underserved schools, worsened by the economic downturn that began in 2008. These gaps were apparent in students' poor science literacy and academic engagement, as evidenced by low science proficiency test scores in economically disadvantaged schools. At a time when schools and teachers were under increased pressure to meet requirements for 21st Century learning, they also had fewer resources to take students on the kind of enriching field trips that could amplify their classroom experience.



Serving Community

The Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden has been a proud member of the Cincinnati community since 1875. We understand that when the community thrives, we thrive—what is good for the community is good for the Zoo.

The fourth pillar of our Mission Statement is Serving Community, which recognizes our responsibility to partner with and support under-resourced communities in our daily work. We are constantly strengthening relationships, building trust, and connecting our neighbors to conservation and wildlife. We have continued to push forward with this part of our mission during this past year.

In 2022, our Zoo's Horticulture and Education Teams were hoping to revitalize urban green space to create a pocket park that would serve not only pollinators, but people. A city park on Irving Street in dire need of revitalization, just a block from the Zoo, was selected as the project site and the project continued into early 2023. The plan included planting trees and hundreds of pollinator plants that were grown at our own Urban Learning Garden. We know that community green spaces are more than just lots with grass and a few flowers; they are meeting spots for neighbors, recreation areas for youth, refuges for wildlife. They bring the natural world into the urban environment. Community spaces foster connections not only with wilderness, but between residents, making friends from strangers. Community green spaces can be as simple as a grassy lot, but they can be more: parks, playgrounds, and gardens.



The Urban Learning Garden at Rockdale Academy continues to be a success in the community. The garden includes vegetables, fruiting trees, herbs, flowers, native plants, and plants known to attract pollinators. It is a living classroom that continues to nourish, educate, and inspire students and community at Rockdale through horticulture, science, and the outdoors.

We have also engaged our community through our Plant for Pollinators Challenge, a campaign to increase pollinator habitat in the Greater Cincinnati region and beyond. Managed by the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden, the campaign launched in March 2019 with a goal to register at least 500 pollinator gardens annually. As of January 2023, we have registered over 3,000 gardens.

From butterflies and bees to hummingbirds and moths, pollinators are critical to the health of our environment in our community. They're also important in our food production systems, as they

pollinate one-third of the world's crops. People can provide beautiful, vital habitat for pollinators by adding pollinator-friendly plants to their yards and landscapes while enjoying colorful blooms and butterflies all season long.

Another team that is serving our community is our Sustainability Team. Over 4,000 people a year hear from this team about the Zoo's green initiatives and, most importantly, are inspired to make conservation changes themselves in their homes, schools, and businesses. Through our sustainable rainwater catchment system, the Zoo has improved stormwater management for our neighbors in Avondale. We have also provided two solar panel arrays and provided energy efficient lighting to homes and public buildings, impacting over 8,000 Avondale residents. By connecting to our neighbors, we are supporting our community with our expertise, connections, passion, and resources to be as safe, healthy, sustainable, and wildly natural as possible.





Animal Excellence in Action

Donor support provides resources to the keepers in our Animal Department here at the Zoo, who are responsible for upholding the highest standards of animal welfare—what we call Animal Excellence! So, this support is directly impacting the wellbeing of our animals every day. Here's how we are putting Animal Excellence into action each day with some of our newest Zoo residents!

There was big news from Hippo Cove on August 3, 2022, as Fiona's little brother, Fritz, was born! Bibi successfully carried Fritz to full term, and his birth weight was estimated to be around 60 pounds. This was a vast difference from his sister, who was born 6 months premature and only weighed 29 pounds at birth. Fritz looked huge to the keepers compared to Fiona at her birth, and they were excited to see him walking almost immediately. Donor support helped prepare our keepers for this birth with the ability to do ultrasounds and provide Bibi with the best care during her pregnancy.

Bibi took charge of bloat after his birth, and the keepers followed her lead as she showed Fritz around his new habitat and set boundaries when he was introduced to Fiona and his dad, Tucker. Fiona and Tucker stayed on their best behavior and followed Bibi's cues to make sure that introductions went well, and before long they were a happy hippo bloat of four! Fritz has a lot of personality, just like Fiona. He loves to play and can be a bit feisty at times. If you're lucky, you might catch him and Fiona zooming around Hippo Cove!

FRITZ



SOLEIL, CALLIOPE & PICCOLINA

Thanks to donor support, the Zoo has been participating in the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's Manatee Rescue & Rehabilitation Partnership for the past two decades and has cared for 23 manatees at our Manatee Springs. After 18 months of rehabilitation, our last set of orphaned manatees, SwimShady, Alby, and Manhattan, returned to their native Florida waters in early October 2022. However, the Zoo was not without manatees for long, as three young females, Soleil, Calliope, and Piccolina, arrived in Manatee Springs in early November.

These three females were rescued by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission from different areas of southwest Florida in the spring and summer of 2021 and had been cared for together at ZooTampa for the previous year. They came to Cincinnati to finish their rehabilitation, and once they weigh at least 600 pounds, they will be considered for release back into the wild. The Cincinnati Zoo is one of only a handful of places outside of Florida where people can see manatees and learn more about what can be done to protect them.





ROZI

In May 2022, Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden announced the arrival of a singleton cheetah cub named Rozi. Our cheetah team hand-reared the cub with the help of the Zoo's neonate staff. Rozi came to us from Wildlife Safari in Oregon as a single cub who couldn't be cared for by her mom because cheetah moms do not receive enough stimulation from a single cub to produce an adequate milk supply. So, the Cheetah Species Survival Plan identified the Cincinnati Zoo as the best place for the cub to be raised.

Because Rozi was a single cub and cheetahs normally grow up with siblings, her caregivers knew she needed a puppy companion. Soon, we adopted an adorable puppy, Daisy, from one of our local animal shelters to be Rozi's new companion. Daisy was the smallest puppy in her litter, but she was the most playful and loved chasing her siblings! Thanks to the wonderful care of our animal department staff, Rozi is being raised as a healthy, happy, and successful ambassador cheetah!



Exceptional Plant Conservation

The Lindner Center for Conservation and Research of Endangered Wildlife's (CREW) Plant Research Division specializes in Exceptional Plants, which are those that cannot be conserved long-term using conventional seed banking methods—this includes iconic species such as oaks and cycads. Such species require alternative conservation technologies, which rely heavily on cryobiotechnology and in vitro methods. Conserving threatened exceptional plant species through these alternative technologies is more costly and labor-intensive than traditional seed banking. During the 2022–2023 fiscal year, donors gave to support the important work of our CREW Plant Research Division.

In the past year, the Plant Research Division team has seen the first development of somatic embryos germinating from our cycad cultures. They have also initiated the first cultures of Manasota pawpaw, a species found in only two counties in Florida. In addition, the team is propagating stocks of Northern wild monkshood and Kentucky clover for restoration projects in Ohio and Kentucky.

CREW is also extending their knowledge around the globe by establishing the Exceptional Plant Conservation Network. This program is helping to train and connect researchers from around the world who work on exceptional plant conservation with the goal of focusing attention and facilitating research, connection, and collaboration on exceptional plants. This past year, the team presented their work at an international conference in Oslo, Norway.

Currently, forty percent of the world's plant species are threatened with extinction from habitat loss, unsustainable harvesting, and climate change, but CREW is working hard to propagate endangered plants to restore populations in the wild. CREW has over 200 plant species in the Frozen Garden of the CryoBioBank and is at the forefront of developing cryopreservation methods for these exceptional species to preserve them into the future. Together, we are protecting biodiversity and increasing our understanding of crucial plant species.

Opposite (clockwise, from top left) — cycad embryo, northern monkshood, northern monkshood at CREW, Arkansas oak in tissue culture, Manasota pawpaw in tissue culture, Kentucky clover



Veterinary Hospital Updates



Back row (L to R) – Mike Wenninger, Jenny Kroll, Barbara Henry, Jenny Nollman, Jessica Heinz

Front row – Amy Long, Joy Cooper, Janell Duvall

This past year brought a few new faces to our Animal Health Team: Dr. Mike Wenninger, the new Director of Animal Health, Dr. Jess Heinz, a new Associate Veterinarian, and Joy Cooper, a clinical and EEHV lab veterinary technician. The animal health team now consists of three zoo veterinarians and four veterinary technicians who provide preventative, medical, surgical, and emergency care, and a nutritionist who ensures optimal nutrition and dietary management for the 1,550 animals and 375 species in our care. Maintaining animals' health through excellent veterinary care and nutrition is an important pillar of animal excellence and welfare.

The team performs over 1000 physical exams yearly which usually include additional diagnostics or procedures such as bloodwork, radiographs, ultrasound, dentals with dental specific radiographs, infectious disease screening, or endoscopy. Regular diet analyses are also performed to ensure the animals in our care

receive nutritionally complete diets of the highest quality. They have formed collaborative relationships with other zoo professionals and outside specialists to share information and ensure the highest level of veterinary care. The animal health team also participates in training for medical procedures to allow animals to voluntarily participate in their own healthcare.

This newly formed team is building upon our current program to create one that is even more progressive and collaborative. They consistently work to innovate and upgrade to ensure the highest quality of care. For example, thanks to funding from a generous donor, they are developing an elephant endotheliotropic herpesvirus (EEHV) PCR lab to enable early detection of this deadly elephant disease. Because of generous zoo supporters and a matching gift from another thoughtful donor, the hospital was able to make some much-needed equipment upgrades which will continue to enhance the medical and nutritional care of our animals. In the future, the Animal Health team hopes to add a CT machine – a pinnacle of a modern zoo's veterinary program and one that only a few zoos have acquired.

Our Veterinary Team in Action!

Opposite (clockwise, from top left) – Alligator ultrasound, Victoria crowned pigeon recovery, armadillo CT scan, processing penguin bloodwork, python exam





Around the Zoo

CORPSE FLOWER

Our rare corpse flower, named Morticia, bloomed on July 23, 2022, in the Discovery Forest! Blooms from this plant only appear once every five to ten years and are said to smell like rotting flesh. Once the plant started blooming, our teams at the Zoo got right to work to gather as much information as they could from Morticia during the short bloom window. Scientists from Cincinnati Zoo's CREW set up an infrared camera to catch the thermal changes in the corpse flower's bloom over the course of flowering. The time lapse from this camera showed us how the temperature of the bloom changes over time. They also worked with the Zoo's horticulture department to collect pollen, check its viability, and set up an experiment to compare conventional freezing and cryopreservation for storage. We hope we will learn a lot from the data that was collected during this bloom, and we cannot wait for the next bloom in a few years!



IT'S ELECTRIC!

This year, we upgraded our Safari Train. The Zoo's new electric train opened in December and will save the Zoo about \$35,000 on fuel and maintenance costs annually and get us closer to our goal of being NetZero Energy by 2025. The solar panels that visitors park under are basically powering the train. It charges overnight and during loading and unloading, so it's always ready to take passengers for a fun ride. The cars offer more leg room for visitors and are a little wider than they were on the old train. It's also a different color—green, perfect for the Greenest Zoo in America®!

SENSORY-FRIENDLY SANTA

During PNC Festival of Lights in our new Santa's Village, we offered Sensory-Friendly Santa experiences. The Zoo, Macy's, and Cincinnati Children's Hospital partnered to offer visitors with sensory sensitivities and/or developmental disabilities the ability to reserve 10-minute meet-and-greets with Santa. This Santa has received training on developmental disabilities from Dr. Jen Smith of the Children's Hospital Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and related Disabilities (LEND) program. We worked closely with our partners at LEND to create an experience with fewer distractions, less noise, and customized interactions with Santa. To make the whole experience as easy as possible, those who booked a meet-and-greet received our Sensory-Friendly Santa Social Narrative, which provides a detailed description of what to expect and a map showing directions to Santa's Village, located in our new Picnic Pavilion.



CREW DISCOVERY STATION

After a yearlong renovation, we announced the completion of the new Lindner Center for Conservation and Research of Endangered Wildlife's (CREW) Discovery Station, a gateway into the scientific marvels of CREW. On the way into CREW, visitors can enjoy the unique, endangered species garden, and once in the Discovery Station, they will learn about CREW's Signature Conservation Projects, view the CryoBioBank, see first-hand why beautiful cats like ocelots are imperiled, learn how

and why volunteers perform overnight animal watches, witness plant tissue culture in process, get up close to a massive male polar bear, and, of course, perform an ultrasound exam on Charlotte, the life-size rhino ultrasound model. The Discovery Station opened in the fall of 2022 to school groups, some of the Zoo's overnight programs, and special Zoo events.

Fiscal 2023 Revenue and Expenditures

Revenue

39%

21%

19%

Gifts, Grants & Donations
\$27,291,557

Admission & Parking
\$14,637,998

Membership
\$13,344,460

TOTAL REVENUE
\$69,773,278

10%

6%

2%

2%

Tax Levy
\$7,000,000

Commissions
\$4,464,042

Other
\$1,673,343

Programs
\$1,733,940

Net Investment
Return
(\$372,062)

Expenses

38%

18%

14%

8%

Animal & Plant Care
\$20,912,174

Facilities &
External Properties
\$10,201,133

Park Operations
\$7,784,976

Administration
\$4,546,163

TOTAL EXPENSES
\$55,420,537

7%

7%

5%

3%

Events & Group
Functions
\$3,828,706

Education
\$3,795,898

Conservation &
Research
\$2,663,456

Fundraising
\$1,688,031

Statement of Financial Position as of 3/31/23 and 3/31/22

March 31, 2023

March 31, 2022

ASSETS

Cash	\$2,930,532	\$9,287,113
Trade & Other Receivables	2,863,053	1,425,172
Pledges Receivable, Net	20,630,314	51,530,611
Prepaid Expenses & Supplies	368,201	544,169
Investments	109,783,257	72,835,332
Beneficial Interest in Trusts	425,802	497,215
Bond Indenture Deposits	0	334,126
Property & Equipment, Net	146,431,161	129,474,816

Total Assets

283,432,320

\$265,928,554

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Accounts Payable	\$5,290,090	\$3,102,194
Accrued Expenses	2,886,372	2,927,768
Bonds Payable	362,909	648,099
Pooled Income Liability	23,111	23,707
Gift Annuity Obligations	83,306	82,591
Deferred Memberships	5,894,997	5,703,242
Other Liabilities	1,933,966	1,668,446

Total Liabilities

\$16,474,751

\$14,156,047

Without Donor Restrictions

189,861,641

172,271,709

With Donor Restrictions

77,095,928

79,500,798

Total Liabilities & Net Assets

\$283,432,320

\$265,928,554

The Zoological Society of Cincinnati's financial statements were independently audited by Clark, Schaefer, Hackett & Co.

Statement of Activities for the Year Ended 3/31/23 with Comparative 3/31/22 Totals

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total March 31, 2023	Total March 31, 2022
ATTENDANCE			1,733,940	1,637,180
REVENUES				
Admissions & Parking	\$14,637,998	\$0	\$14,637,998	\$14,796,480
Memberships	13,344,460	0	13,344,460	12,043,935
Programs	1,673,343	0	1,673,343	909,192
Commissions	4,464,042	0	4,464,042	3,923,566
Tax Levy Income	7,000,000	0	7,000,000	7,000,000
Gifts, Grants & Donations	8,562,212	18,522,230	27,084,442	42,179,414
Net Investment Return - Operating	1,477,491	0	1,477,491	(70,671)
Gain on Forgiveness of Debt	0		0	2,950,000
Other Revenues	2,637,674	0	2,637,674	2,307,007
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	20,056,721	(20,056,721)	0	0
Total Revenues	73,853,941	(1,534,491)	72,319,450	86,038,923
EXPENSES				
<i>Programs:</i>				
Animal Care & Health	18,950,569	0	18,950,569	16,488,569
CREW	2,663,456	0	2,663,456	2,109,250
Horticulture	1,961,605	0	1,961,605	1,697,213
Events & Group Functions	3,828,706	0	3,828,706	3,355,906
Membership and Park Operations	7,784,976	0	7,784,976	6,310,167
Education	3,795,898	0	3,795,898	2,602,347
<i>Supporting Services:</i>				
Facilities & External Property	10,201,133	0	10,201,133	5,637,938
General & Administrative	4,546,163	0	4,546,163	4,908,924
Fundraising	1,688,031	0	1,688,031	2,147,638
Total Expenses	55,420,537	0	55,420,537	45,257,952
Increase (Loss) from Operations	18,433,404	(1,534,491)	16,898,913	40,780,971
ENDOWMENT ACTIVITY				
Gifts, Grants & Donations	85,394	121,721	207,115	482,978
Change in Beneficial Interest in Trusts	(43,085)	(28,328)	(71,413)	(10,708)
Net Investment Return - Non-Operating	(885,781)	(963,772)	(1,849,553)	1,017,720
Total Endowment Activity	(843,472)	(870,379)	(1,713,851)	1,489,990
Change in Net Assets	17,589,932	(2,404,870)	15,185,062	42,270,961
Net Assets Beginning of Year	172,271,709	79,500,798	251,772,507	209,501,546
Net Assets End of Year	\$189,861,641	\$77,095,928	\$266,957,569	\$251,772,507



THANK YOU!

By donating to the Zoo, you support extensive efforts to protect endangered animals and plants, and you help transform communities from across the world to across the street. Your gift means the world.



For a full donor listing for the 2022-2023 fiscal year, scan the QR code with the camera on your smartphone or go to cincinnatizoo.org/donors

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\$500,000 - \$999,999

Institute of Museum & Library Services

Pat Landen

Sherie Marek and Family

The Harold C. Schott Foundation

The Spaulding Foundation

List includes gifts, pledges, and pledge payments received April 1, 2022–March 31, 2023

We apologize for any inadvertent omissions or misspellings.




\$250,000 - \$499,999

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Anonymous (2)
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and Family



\$25,000 - \$99,999

Anonymous	The Thomas J. Emery Memorial	The Heidt Family Foundation
William and Janet Albertson*	Performance Lexus and	Chris and Dawn Hock
altafiber	Performance Lexus RiverCenter	Horizon Community Funds of
Ameritas Life Insurance Corp.	Frisch's Restaurants, Inc.	Northern Kentucky
Elizabeth and Chris Bevacqua	Susan and Ben Fry	Dave and Debbie Horn
Linnea and Tim Bonacci	General Electric Credit Union	Paul Isaac
Beth and Doug Brendamour	Hank Gerdson*	Robert A. Johnston
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Greater Cincinnati/Northern	Grippio Foods, Inc.	Dorothy M.M. Kersten Trust
Kentucky Chick-Fil-A	Louis M. Groen Foundation	Kodiak Cakes
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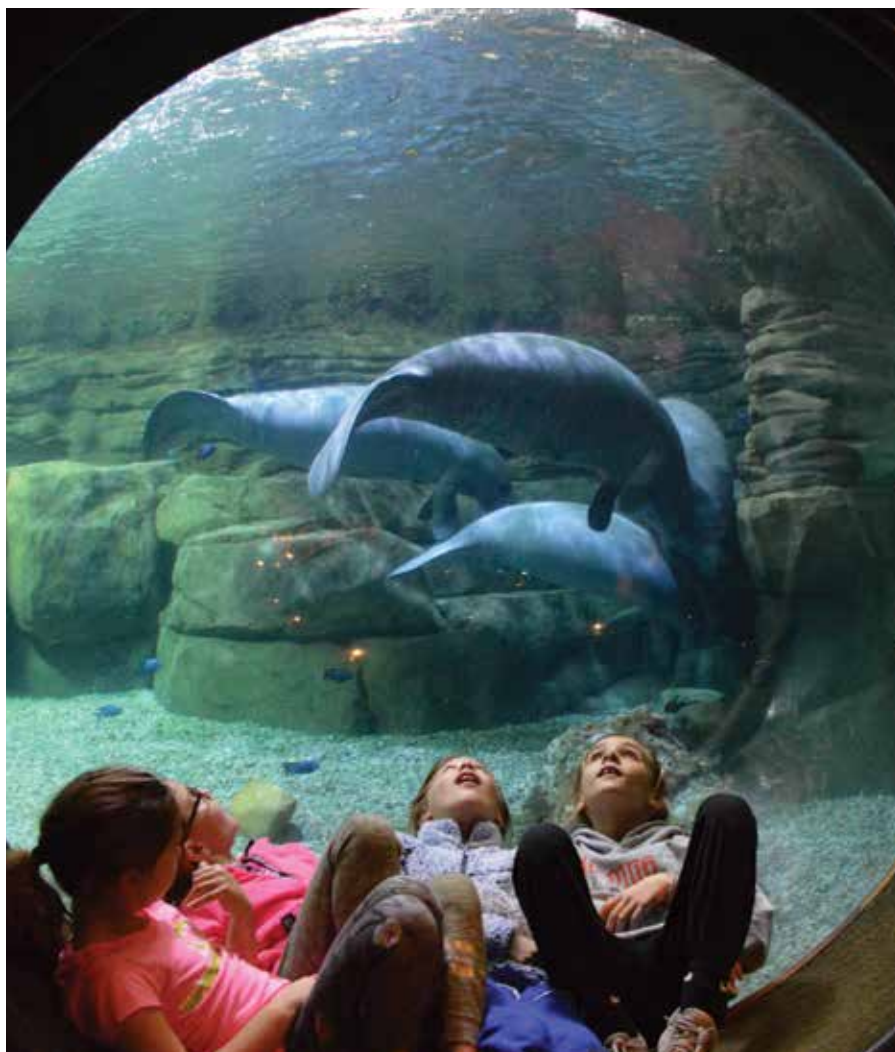
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The Martha Wolf and
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Louise C. Yeiser, in memory of her
parents, Eric and Joslin Yeiser

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* Deceased





Our Mission

Creating Adventure
Conveying Knowledge
Conserving Nature
Serving Community

Our Strategic Objective

Inspire Every Visitor With Wildlife Every Day!



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