

CONSERVATION & EDUCATION

OAKLAND ZOO

2016 ANNUAL REPORT



EAST BAY ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY



Our mission is to inspire respect for and stewardship of the natural world, while providing a quality visitor experience.

OAKLAND ZOO • EAST BAY ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY



Photo: Gage Zamrzla

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Cover photo: Steven Gotz, one of our three new lion brothers (see page 8)

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Photo: Leslie Cohelan

Thank You From the Board and CEO



Oakland Zoo President and CEO, Joel J. Parrott, DVM. East Bay Zoological Society Board of Trustees Co-Chairs, Sebastian DiGrande and Secil Watson.

Thank You Oakland Zoo Supporters and Friends!

Because of your generous help we can mark another milestone year bringing animals and people together. This connection is the first step toward cultivating public understanding and protection of wild animals in some of the world's most beautiful and endangered areas. We couldn't do our work without your donations of time, talent and dollars.

Your contributions to the Zoo's annual fund help "where the need is greatest." Because you step up when we need you, we maintain the excellent animal care for which we are known (page 6) Your generosity continues to make a profound difference in the success of our far-reaching education programs, including our Zoo to Community initiative that serves schools in neigh-

borhoods where most families live at or below the poverty line. (page 14)

Thanks also for helping Oakland Zoo to continue our field work conservation and assisting our organizational partners through our Quarters for Conservation program. Inspiring our visitors to take action to protect species is the great reason we are here (page 10).

We know you join us in sharing concerns about the conservation challenges facing our planet. Are we making a difference? Yes. National polls continually show that visiting a zoo promotes a caring ethic that leads to changed behavior. And we provide a wholesome outing for guests who leave refreshed by spending time with giraffe, lions, lemurs, and all the species here. Visit again soon. You never know what you'll see.

With gratitude,

Three handwritten signatures in black ink. From left to right: Joel J. Parrott, Sebastian DiGrande, and Secil Watson.

Joel J. Parrott, DVM
President and CEO

Sebastian DiGrande
Board of Trustees
Co-Chair

Secil Watson
Board of Trustees
Co-Chair

P.S. Flip to page 26 for a preview of the California Trail construction. Thanks to all who've "Joined the Pack" to support California Trail. Visit www.californiatrail.org to join the pack today – and by summer 2018, we'll be seeing wolves and seven other California native species at Oakland Zoo!

ANIMAL CARE

New Arrivals Made Possible by You

Your annual fund contributions help sustain all Zoo operations, including providing excellent care to all 709 of our animals. That includes everything from making sure our lemurs enjoy their healthy lunch of cantaloupe, bananas and blueberries, to providing enrichment such as puzzle boxes stuffed with vegetables for our Hamadryas baboons. We vary the food and activities appropriately to mimic conditions in the wild and keep our animals physically and mentally active.

All that hard work to ensure quality care results in healthy and content animals. And healthy, content animals make... well, babies! An abundance of exciting births drew thousands of curious visitors to Oakland Zoo last year and also contributed to important animal programs coordinated by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA).



Zachary is the newest baby born to our troop of Hamadryas baboons.

BIRTHS

October 2015

The arrival of a male joey brought our wallaroo group to a dozen. Jarli, born the size of a kidney bean, took eight months to emerge – with much fanfare – from her mother’s pouch.

January 2016

Born just three weeks apart, two litters totaling six North American river otter pups joined mothers Rose and Ginger and dad, Wyatt, thanks to a breeding recommendation by the AZA’s Species Survival Plan (SSP). This important conservation-breeding program aims to increase genetic diversity and enhance the health of this species’ population in accredited zoos.

April 2016

A new baby Hamadryas baboon, Zachary, became Oakland Zoo’s seventh baboon birth in three years. He brings the troop’s total to 15 and makes it the second largest baboon troop at a U.S. zoo!

May 2016

We were thrilled to welcome two litters of healthy warthog piglets, the first born here in 16 years. A total of seven piglets arrived just one week apart to first-time moms Frenchie and Alice, and resident male, Simon.



Above: wallaroo joey



Above: otter pup



Photo: Steven Gotz

Three of our six warthog piglets

Helping Hands Bring Us Our Newest Big Cats

An exciting arrival for visitors and Zoo staff this year was a trio of magnificent juvenile lion brothers. Their relocation from Seattle's Woodland Park Zoo was made possible by the generosity of compassionate employees at the local Merrill Lynch Wealth Management offices in Oakland and Walnut Creek.

The coalition of Southeast African lions had recently been pushed out of their pride by their father, which naturally happens between six to nine months of age. The young lions needed their own space. Our expansive lion habitat was perfect for them, but crating and transporting three cats weighing over 250 lbs. each is no easy feat. After a recent staff trip to the Zoo, Merrill Lynch employees learned about the coalition's situation and felt compelled to help. They raised \$7,500

that was then matched by Bank of America for a total of \$15,000 – enough to pay for the flight.

With considerable efforts of keepers from Oakland and Woodland Park zoos, the entire transport process was made as stress-free as possible for the lion boys. Twice-daily crate training sessions from the time they were cubs prepared them to voluntarily enter crates in Seattle and to leave them upon arrival at Oakland Zoo's Veterinary Hospital. After a mandatory quarantine period, the lions were moved – also voluntarily – to the Zoo's Simba Pori habitat. They have settled in and are romping up and down the hillside, chasing balls and tussling with each other. It took a big team to bring the Zoo's newest big cats to their home, and we're grateful for the support that made it happen.



Photo: Steven Gotz

Southeast African lion brothers enjoying their new home here at Oakland Zoo.



Oakland Zoo vets, Dr. Karen Emanuelson and Dr. Andrea Goodnight, look on as UC Davis Veterinary Dental & Oral Surgery students examine the teeth of one of our lions.

Koret Wildlife Vet Teaching Program

Whether it's the tiniest tree frog or a 550-lb. tiger, Oakland Zoo's veterinary care staff are equipped with the knowledge that is necessary to provide exemplary care for all our animals. Our Koret Wildlife Veterinary Teaching program, established in 2012, allows our veterinarians to share their expertise with students from UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, who gain valuable clinical experience with real wildlife cases.

Twice a month, UC Davis sends 15 final year students considering a career in zoos for a one-day rotation in the hospital. Students assist in

routine procedures like blood draws, radiology, ultra sounds, infection treatment, administering fluids, endoscopies, and anesthesia monitoring. We also host students and doctors from the Dentistry & Oral Surgery Service of the UC Davis Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital. They are given the opportunity to work on our animals' dental needs – including, for instance, extracting a squirrel monkey's tooth or caring for warthog tusks. This important partnership goes a long way in achieving our mutual goals of improving health and care of animals, providing quality education, and advancing research.

Taking Action for Elephants Together

Ending the Ivory Market

When visiting the Oakland Zoo you most likely stop to enjoy our four awe-inspiring African elephants: Donna, Lisa, M'Dunda and Osh. Our elephants are ambassadors for their wild counterparts facing serious threats to their long-term survival. Your support has enabled us to take action to join the world's leading efforts to combat these threats.

The demand for ivory combined with habitat loss from human settlement results in roughly 35,000 African elephants killed each year – an average of 96 elephants every day. For the third year in a row, we partnered with **96 Elephants**, an international campaign to reduce elephant poaching through a worldwide ban on ivory sales.

Together with you – our donors, volunteers, and friends – we contributed funds, participated in nationwide marches, raised awareness, collected thousands of signatures and met with legislators in Sacramento. We cheered when our work with other groups won passage of a state law banning the sale of ivory in California effective July 1, 2016. Another incredible victory came this year when the Obama administration issued an Executive Order (EO) committing the United States to implement a ban on commercial elephant ivory trade.

While there is still work to do, we invite you to celebrate this victory as we all continue to save elephants.



Photo: Carlo Exmundo

M'Dunda is one of our four African elephants who serve as important ambassadors for their wild counterparts and the habitats in which they live.



Photo: Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Three-year-old gray wolf, OR-25, his mate, and their five pups make California history.

Wolves in California – Home at Last

What was so special about the sighting of a pack of wolves near the Oregon-California border in late 2015? It had been nearly a century since the iconic species had called this state home, and we couldn't be more excited to welcome them. Thanks in part to the extraordinary efforts of our partners at the **California Wolf Center**, wolves are returning to the Golden State and you are helping to make it happen.

During 2016, every time you visited the animals at Oakland Zoo, twenty-five cents went to our Quarters for Conservation (Q4C) program. We sent half of this money, which totaled over \$104,000, directly to three selected projects and the remainder was allocated to our other conservation partners.

The California Wolf Center was carefully chosen as a Q4C partner because of their multi-pronged

approach to eliminating the wolf's number one threat: conflict with livestock owners.

Along with education programs to increase awareness and understanding of wolves, the **California Wolf Center** implemented their Range Steward program. The first program of its kind in the state, Range Stewards patrol on horseback through open land to encourage wolves to move away from cattle or to move cattle away from wolves. Range stewarding has proven to be one of the most successful proactive, non-lethal practices to reduce conflict between wild wolves and livestock.

Your support of Oakland Zoo means you are an armchair range steward, helping to bring these innovative measures to the community, so California's newest wolf pack, and hopefully many more, can flourish here again.

Teen Wild Guides in Yellowstone

Last summer Oakland Zoo Teen Wild Guide (TWG) Nick Karney learned that even the most humbling acts can help protect the health of our planet. Along with 12 other TWGs, Nick had the extraordinary opportunity to participate in a nine-day trip to Yellowstone National Park in June 2016. It was coordinated by the Zoo's Education Department, which runs the TWGs program. The research portion of the trip was put together by Ecology Project International, a national organization that connects teens to scientists doing ecology-related field work.

In Yellowstone, the TWGs worked side-by-side with lead biologists for the National Park Service's Bison Research Project. They collected data and investigated the impact of bison grazing on the greater Yellowstone ecosystem.

The goal: help determine the species' impact on native plant and wildlife diversity. The research required the TWGs to collect pounds of bison dung. "We worked alongside a top bison researcher and botanist and counted grass using a canopy intercept to see if bison are overgrazing and damaging habitats," Nick explained. "Then we collected and weighed bison dung to monitor how much they are producing." The teens spent time in the lab analyzing their results and contributing their data to the conservation research.

All 12 TWGs agreed this was definitely a milestone experience. They returned with an even deeper commitment to conservation and/or animal science studies in their secondary and post-secondary studies.



Teen Wild Guides Lauren Wan, Jahree Hill and Mia Kellner collected pounds of bison dung to analyze the impact of bison grazing on the greater Yellowstone ecosystem.



Up-close animal encounters bring the classroom to life.

Inspiring a Connection to Nature

Before long our younger generations will be responsible for protecting the world's remaining wild places and animals. By supporting Oakland Zoo you enable our Education Department to help prepare them for that challenge. Our passionate staff and dedicated volunteers work tirelessly to provide exciting, conservation educational experiences that connect thousands of children from throughout the Bay Area to nature.

Last year, we served over 70,300 K-12 students who participated in our programs, including ZooSchool, Wildlife Assembly, ZooKids, ZooMobile, and our Teen Field Biology workshops. Whether it's planting native grasses, creating enrichment for our sun bears, pulling debris from the local creek, or using GPS and telemetry to track condors in the wild, our education programs reinforce life science concepts aligned with Next Generation Science Standards taught in California's classrooms.

While students are having fun they are engaging in science education without even realizing it. We call it stealth learning!

Your support of Oakland Zoo is an investment in our community, in the future stewards of our planet, and in the preservation of our earth and the plants and animals that inhabit it. You can be proud of the impact your donations make.



Access to Nature for All Our Children

Living in poverty, particularly in urban areas, can influence children's access to and attitudes about nature, and deny them the many benefits of growing up in and around wildlife. Through our Zoo to Community (ZTC) initiative, Oakland Zoo is helping to fill that gap by making a broad array of inspiring, outdoor experiences with nature accessible to under-resourced schools, children and families. And we simply could not do this without contributions from generous foundation and corporate sponsors.

Thanks to generous support for ZTC, we were able to provide conservation education classes and programs at free or reduced rates to 5,241 students attending Title I schools, and other organizations serving local neighborhoods where most people live at or below the poverty level. Thousands of young people had the experienced guided tours of the Zoo where they explored topics such as animal habitats and adaptations, engaged in assembly programs

with exciting close-up animal encounters, and received stimulating conservation lessons delivered in their classrooms by our education specialists. In addition, more than 5,500 admission vouchers were distributed to the community, each good for six people plus free parking. With your donations to the annual fund and continued funding from our respected partners, we are making a difference to children from cash-strapped schools, their teachers, and parents in the Bay Area.

Our Zoo to Community initiative was made possible last year by:

The Bernard Osher Foundation

City National Bank

Rogers Family Foundation

Wells Fargo Foundation



A hands-on encounter with a sub-Saharan African ball python during a Wildlife Assembly program in the Clorox Wildlife Theater.



Anthony Styles helping rebuild a computer for the Accounting Department. Intern Jade Finch assists with a goat from the Children's Zoo.

Youth Employment Training Internships Made Possible by PG&E

With the continued support of Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E), last year Oakland Zoo launched the fifth year of our Youth Employment Training Internship program. Through this unique paid internship, we offer underserved college students the opportunity to develop skills and get crucial employment experience in our Animal Management, Conservation, Finance, Human Resources, Horticulture, and Information Technology (IT) departments.

Anthony Styles, a 2016 intern, had a lifelong interest in computers, but despite his passion and educational training, he was having trouble landing his first IT job. Thanks to this program he had the opportunity to work with our IT Manager, observing and assisting in the installation and maintenance of the Zoo's infrastructure of computer hardware, software and networks. As Anthony reflected on the experience, "Where else would I have the opportunity to gain invaluable hands-on experience straight from the head of IT without having had any prior work experience, and get paid?!" Even better,

at the end of the summer Anthony continued his internship at the Zoo.

Often the opportunity at the Zoo leads to even larger success. In 2015, Jade Finch, a senior at Tuskegee University majoring in Pre-Veterinary Medicine, interned at our Veterinary Hospital. She was able to shadow the vets and technicians, preparing daily diets for animal patients and observing and recording vital signs of animals undergoing procedures. As Jade expressed, "The most rewarding part of interning at the hospital was the significant amount of information and experience pertaining to my field of study that I gained." Jade is now working towards her Masters of Science Degree in Animal Nutrition, after which she will enter into a doctor of veterinary medicine program to realize her lifelong goal of opening a veterinary clinic.

Thanks to PG&E for supporting career path experience for Oakland Zoo interns.



VOLUNTEERS



Clockwise from top left hand corner: Cheryl Matthews; Loretta Breuning, Eva Lowe, Carol Kerbel and Debbie Grace; Dick Nagle; Docent tour of the Veterinary Hospital.



From left: Horticulture volunteers Maryanne McCleary, Rebecca Chekouras and Renee Dalovisio.



Harry Santi with a young Zoo guest.

Our Inspiring Volunteers

Oakland Zoo is tremendously grateful for our tireless volunteers who are crucial to both our day-to-day operations and our ability to provide a quality visitor experience.

2016 Volunteer Impact by the Numbers

A total of 574 volunteers contributed 79,092 hours of work to the Zoo. Equivalent to 38 full-time employees, the combined efforts of these dedicated individuals saved the Zoo over \$1 million last year.

The Zoo also benefits from enthusiastic volunteers who dedicate days to working here as part of a team from their place of work or civic organization. We had 186 of these groups last year with nearly three thousand team members. Together they gave the Zoo 8,740 hours of service to help complete vital habitat restoration, animal enrichment, and landscape management projects.

Harry Santi has been a docent at the Zoo since 1993. “Having been interested in animals since I was a child, being a docent is where my love of wildlife and my love for interacting with the public come together perfectly. Many kids do not get to see wild animals very often, which alienates them from the natural world. It is gratifying to be able to educate children about our wildlife knowing that in turn they will be much more likely to be passionate about protecting it as they get older.”

Rebecca Chekouras volunteers for the Zoo’s Horticulture Department. She explains, “More than beautiful grounds or comfortable rest areas, the Horticulture team maintains the natural boundaries that move people through the Zoo and complement the animal enclosures. We also keep the Zoo safe with improved sight lines so parents can always see their kids. When our guests leave, we want them to have had a great experience and remember the Zoo as an asset to Oakland.”

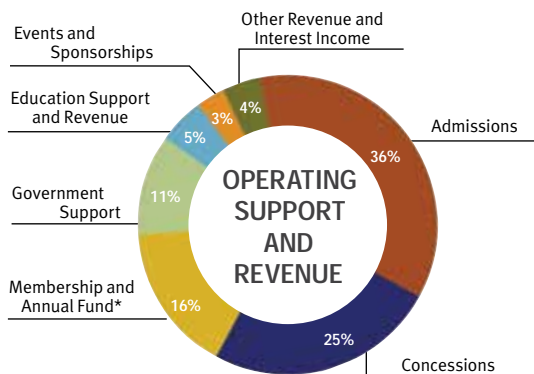


Roland Zeiser and Harry Santi displaying elephant biofacts.

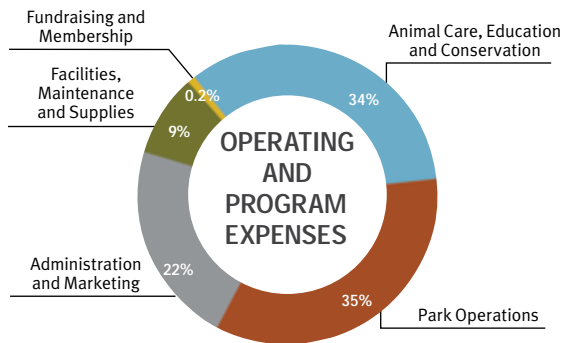


Photo: Steve Goodall

Fiscal Year 2016 Financial Overview



*Includes bequests and other unrestricted gifts



\$6,354,400	Admission
\$4,464,255	Concessions
\$2,732,545	Membership and Annual Fund
\$1,934,857	Government Funding
\$ 868,304	Education Support and Revenue
\$542,926	Events and Sponsorships
\$634,302	Other Revenue and Interest Income
\$17,531,589	Total

\$5,511,900	Animal Care, Education and Conservation
\$5,587,034	Park Operations
\$3,512,676	Administration and Marketing
\$1,419,665	Facilities, Maintenance and Supplies
\$31,409	Fundraising
\$16,062,684	Unrestricted Expenses Prior to Depreciation
\$2,170,759	Depreciation
\$18,233,443	Total after Depreciation

CORPORATE ALLIANCES: Oakland Zoo is grateful to the following for their partnership and support







					
Generous supporter of Zoo events, habitats, the sun bears live webcam, and Animals Asia, our conservation partner	Generous funder of summer internships at Oakland Zoo See story on page 17	Supporting Oakland Zoo's customer services	Providing a media partnership to broadcast our important conservation stories	Keeping Zoo guests happy with the latest ice cream treats	Helping families save for education



Photo: Steven Gotz



THANK YOU to the generous donors who came together to name the San Francisco Bay Overlook in honor of Dr. Joel Parrott and his three decades of leadership to make Oakland Zoo what it is today.



Visitors will board the gondola to California Trail at the new California Station that was made possible by a gift from Dick and Beth DeAtley.



Doppelmayr USA spent the winter installing the gondola system, and the fully accessible gondola cabs are now on the line.



The visionary donors to Oakland Zoo's California Trail are making it possible for us to open this exciting new experience in 2018. Here is a sample of progress you helped accomplish this year.



Architect's rendering of finished Overlook



Photo: Luke Matejka

In fall 2015, Overaa Construction began building the Kaiser Permanente Visitor Center, a three-story building for the hilltop gondola station and restaurant opening in 2017.



Photo: Joel Satore

This impressive animal is from the bison herd Oakland Zoo helped move from Canada to Blackfeet Reservation lands in Montana last winter. In 2017 we will move 18 bison from this herd to Oakland Zoo for the California Trail, where they will help illustrate the importance of restoring bison grazing lands.

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