

Your Zoo Renewed & Rejuvenated!

he generous support from our wonderful patrons brought forth a year of inspirational growth and transformation at the Zoo. We revamped and renovated habitats, presented new events, contributed to vital conservation work worldwide, and welcomed numerous animals.

Our most astounding newcomer was Baron, the first flamingo chick ever to be hatched at your Zoo, thanks to the Birmingham Barons baseball team providing field clay for our nesting flamingos. We also welcomed nine other new birds to our population of 492 animals, along with additions to 13 other species, including a new lion and the birth of Mani, the cotton-top tamarin.

To help revive the endangered Eastern black rhinoceros population, the Daniel Foundation Alabama Rhino Habitat was renovated for two new arrivals due out on exhibit next year. The Brock Conservation Cabin in the Alabama's Wilds area was revitalized for educational purposes and to showcase local conservation efforts. In addition, red-tailed hawk Vulcan and black vulture Wakinyan now enjoy a new raptor habitat.

Your Zoo not only helped to restore waning diversity within zoos, but participated in crucial conservation work that directly impacts wild populations, as well. In addition to lending global support, select staff members utilized the Zoo's PiCA grants to study aging in elephants, reinvigorate a butterfly waystation, and bolster giraffe tracking in Africa.

Our celebrations also held a sense of rejuvenation after several years of remote events, and we even introduced two new ones. Wild at Heart, the gala presented by First Horizon Bank, was our largest fundraiser of the year.

One of the most fun additions to the Zoo? A gleaming new electric train! Donated by Red Diamond Coffee & Tea, the quiet, lithium battery-powered train offers Zoo guests a resplendent ride in an energy-efficient manner. To keep that authentic train experience, passengers still hear the traditional rail sounds and see puffs of steam as they tour your Zoo in style.

All of your Zoo's renewal and revitalization are thanks to continued community support from our patrons. We are mindful and appreciative of the unwavering backing we receive to inspire passion to conserve the natural world.

Chris Pfefferkorn
President & CEO





REPLENISH POPULATIONS

KODO THE RED PANDA

The Zoo welcomed Himalayan red panda Kodo from Buttonwood Park Zoo in Massachusetts. An arboreal species, her distinctive red coat matches the moss found on the trees where wild populations are endangered. Two-year-old Kodo joined the Zoo's resident male Gizmo as part of the Red Panda SSP to fortify the population.

JOSH THE AFRICAN LION

That iconic, primal roar of the African lion returned in June with the introduction of Josh. When the 6-year-old lion came from the San Antonio Zoo, his youthful demeanor and charisma made him an instant hit with his care team and Zoo guests.

MERCUTIO THE CROWNED LEMUR

Mercutio arrived in June to live with Azizi, the resident crowned lemur, and two ring-tailed lemurs, Philocles and Apollonus. Primarily active from sunrise to sunset, Mercutio will hang with his new troop in the canopy of his habitat browsing fruits and leaves.

RUBY THE GIRAFFE

The three-year-old arrived in October from the Lincoln Children's Zoo in Nebraska. She quickly bonded with 12-year-old Zuri, one of the two females in the Zoo's reticulated giraffe herd. Within a few weeks, Jalil, the herd's 16-year-old male, was gently vying for her attention as well. With fewer giraffes in Africa than there are elephants, Ruby will play a vital role in the Reticulated Giraffe SSP to keep zoo populations diverse and healthy.

JAFAR & IAGO THE BLOOD PYTHONS

The Zoo's Reptile House became home to two of these captivating pythons native to the swamps and forests of Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia. With heavy, stout bodies that end in a stubby tail, their beautiful red color can shade from a deep red to rust to a muted orange. The two males will be most active at dusk and dawn and spend most days hiding.



L TO R: Kodo the red panda, Josh the African lion, Jafar the blood python, Mercutio the crowned lemun



RENOVATE & REVITALIZE

PREPARING FOR THE BLACK RHINOS

To welcome two new eastern black rhinoceros, the Zoo renovated the Daniel Foundation Alabama Rhino Habitat, transitioning it from the home of white rhinos Laptop, Ajabu, and Max. The white rhino trio had moved to a private habitat in the southern U.S. to live with a larger herd, which can increase breeding success. Renovating the habitat for the black rhinos and moving the white rhinos supports the Species Survival Plan for both types of rhinoceros.

NATIONAL WELLBEING WORKSHOP

Zoos and aquariums from across the nation sent representatives to attend the Growing Your Animal Wellbeing Program, hosted by the Birmingham Zoo. Some 26 participants from 15 different institutions participated in the interactive, 3-day workshop. Lectures, discussions, and activities conveyed scientific concepts and practical tools for providing optimal wellbeing for animals in zoos and aquariums. Content focused on Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) accreditation standards, building interdisciplinary animal wellbeing programs, developing assessment tools, and strengthening needed interpersonal skills.

NEW RAPTOR HABITAT

A new habitat accommodates Vulcan, the Zoo's red-tailed hawk, and Wakinyan the black vulture.

Vulcan had been living behind the scenes recovering from a wing injury sustained in the wild. Once the habitat was completed, he was once again outside in the new space, rotating with Wakinyan, a representative of the most abundant vulture species in the Southeast.

BROCK CONSERVATION CABIN OPENS

The public received a warm welcome to the Jane H. Brock Cabin, part of the revitalized Alabama Wilds area. Besides hosting the Zoo's eastern indigo snake, the cabin now serves as a place for immersive educational opportunities and an interpretive center highlighting local conservation efforts and partnerships with Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Nature Conservancy. The cabin honors Brock's love of animals, philanthropic spirit, and her family's ongoing support.

ORANGUTAN RESEARCH

Zoo volunteers and staff collected data for an orangutan habitat study designed and coordinated by Charles Ritzler at the San Antonio Zoo. His research looks into orangutan habitats in zoos and explores how the great apes use their space. Zoo volunteers tracked the behavior and location of the orangutans repeatedly for a month.

A TRIBUTE TO AKILI

Beloved Africa lion Akili was mourned after being fatally injured in July during introductions to male lion Josh. Even with immediate intervention, the veteran lion succumbed to her injuries. Both staff and patrons grieved at the unexpected loss of this long-time favorite and member of the Zoo family. Born in 2005 at Cheyenne Mountain Zoo in Colorado, Akili came to Birmingham when she was two to live with resident lion Kwanza. In 2011, the pair had five cubs. Akili was a dynamic ambassador for the Zoo and will be deeply missed.





KEY

Conservation

Action (PiCA)

Zoo-funded

grants to

MONARCH WAYSTATION

Under a 2-year PiCA grant, Conservation Manager Terra Manasco continued enhancing the Zoo's certified Monarch Waystation which supports the North American Monarch butterfly life cycle, from caterpillars to adulthood. Such pollinators are experiencing environmental threats including habitat loss, climate change, overuse of pesticides, and disease.

CHIPANGALI LARGE CARNIVORE PROJECT

The Zoo continues its ongoing and integral support of the Chipangali Wildlife Orphanage and Research Centre in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. The nonprofit rescues and cares for orphaned, injured, abandoned, abused, or confiscated wildlife found in southern Africa. CEO Chris Pfefferkorn serves on its board, and Zoo staff continue their work on the Chipangali Large Carnivore project, conducting biodiversity studies on leopards and brown hyena populations near Matopos National Park.



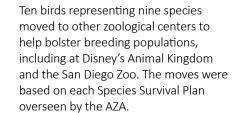
SOING GREEN

REACHING THE WORLD

The Zoo provided financial support for eight conservation efforts around

- International Elephant Foundation
- Tarangire Elephant Project
- International Rhino Foundation
- Giraffe Conservation Foundation
- Turtle Survival Alliance
- African Lion AZA SAFE
- Orangutan AZA SAFE
- African Penguin AZA SAFE

SPECIES ON THE FLY



SAVING ALABAMA ANIMALS FROM EXTINCTION

The Zoo participated in three AZA Save Animals From Extinction (SAFE) programs that impact Alabama species.

- North American Monarch Butterfly
- Eastern Indigo Snake
- North American Songbird

GOPHER TORTOISE HEADSTART PROGRAM

Nearly 100 gopher tortoises were released in the fall as part of this Alabama conservation program. The Zoo had spent the last year raising 29 of those hatchlings received from the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Since research shows hatchling size plays a key part in survival, young wild hatchlings were brought under expert care at several facilities for a year or two, before being released back into their natural habitat. This hands-on effort will conserve a significant keystone species found only in the southeastern

RESTORE THROUGH

GLOBAL

CONSERVATION



United States.

Lead Elephant Care Professional Shay Hoffman received a PiCA grant to assist in an international study to identify factors that alter health and aging in juvenile and adolescent elephants.

ALABAMA BIODIVERSITY

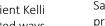
Education Manager Anne Krichten, a PiCA recipient, worked to improve the Zoo's educational programs in coordination with the Alabama Aquatic Biodiversity Center and Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. The outcome will more fully represent local biodiversity, especially for freshwater mussels and snails.

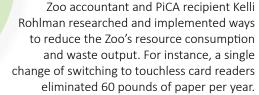
GIRAFFES -

Animal Care Professional Annie Butchko received a PiCA grant to travel to Namibia to assist the Giraffe Conservation Foundation in tracking, recording behavior, and biopsy darting to collect DNA samples.











species managed

by Association





CAYENNE'S EYE

At about 10 years old, screech owl Cayenne suffered an anterior lens luxation, in which the lens slips in front of the pupil. With the lens now removed, Cayenne was relieved from the inflammation and pain.



JALIL'S INJECTIONS

To ease his arthritic mobility challenges, the seventeen-year-old reticulated giraffe received cutting-edge stem cell injections. The treatment works to improve the cartilage in joints and lessen the progression of the disease. The injections were old hat to Jalil, since he routinely participates in blood draws while enjoying treats.



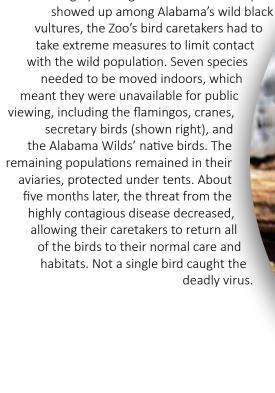
KHAN'S DONATION

While anesthetized as part of a normal reproductive evaluation, the 10-year-old jaguar's semen was collected with assistance by Cincinnati Zoo reproductive specialists. It could play a vital role in growing the diminishing jaguar population.



VULCAN'S WING

Red-tailed hawk Vulcan severely injured his right wing in the wild. No longer able to fly, he came to the Zoo. But his wing continued to cause him difficulty. After veterinary staff pinioned the wing, it allowed him easier movement around his habitat.



When Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)

BIRD FI

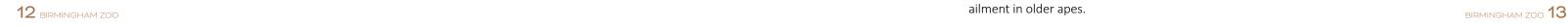


OLIVER'S TUMOR

The oldest Sumatran orangutan in the U.S. zoo population, 42-year-old Oliver had a benign testicular tumor removed after his caretakers noted a swelling, and an ultrasound subsequently confirmed a mass. Oliver did exceedingly well under extra care by staff to compensate for his heart disease, a common ailment in older apes.



THE ZOO USES POSITIVE
REINFORCEMENT TO TRAIN OUR
ANIMALS TO PARTICIPATE WITH
US IN PROVIDING THEM WITH
EXCELLENT VETERINARY CARE.
IT TAKES DEEP DEDICATION AND
SKILL BY OUR ANIMAL CARE
PROFESSIONALS TO TRAIN AND
BUILD THAT TRUST WITH THE
ANIMALS.





BULWAGI, the Zoo's patriarch of the African elephant bachelor herd, had one remaining tusk as he reached a venerable 41 years of age. Zoo veterinary staff had been monitoring the broken tusk for years. When he began packing it with mud and touching it with his trunk, his obvious discomfort

> Besides the removal of the tusk itself, the anesthesia in such a large and aged animal lends new layers of complexity and risk. The Zoo brought in two known experts on this procedure from the University of Pretoria in South Africa to put Bulwagi in the best of hands.

Drs. Gerhard Steenkamp and Adrian Tordiffe made the trip across the ocean having worked together on numerous tusk extractions. Dr. Tordiffe handles anesthesia while Dr. Steenkamp leads the physical extraction of the tusk.

Bulwagi during the surgery. LEF



RESURGENCE OF CELEBRATIONS

2022 MARKED THE RETURN TO ONSITE EVENTS AFTER THE PANDEMIC SHUT DOWN MUCH OF OUR OUTREACH TWO YEARS AGO.

WILD AT HEART

A new addition to the Zoo's celebrations, Wild at Heart was the largest fundraising effort of the year. Held September 8th and presented by First Horizon Bank, the event enticed guests to deck themselves out in "wild chic" attire — feathers, stripes, spots, and scales — and offered animal encounters, food, an open bar, and live music.

ENDANGERED SPECIES DAY

Giveaways, family fun, and educational talks connected zoo-goers with helping conserve wildlife in Birmingham and around the world through AZA's Saving Animals From Extinction (SAFE) programs. Held May 20th, participants learned about pollinators, making seed pods to attract them, counting caterpillars, and the Zoo's butterfly habitat.

FARM DAY

Zoo guests learned about the care of farm animals as well as conservation efforts for native wildlife at the annual affair held the third Saturday of April. The event included sheep shearing, identification using biofacts, wool spinning, and farm-related events from ALFA young farmers and 4-H Clubs. Even the Zoo's tractors were showcased.

ZOO BREWS

The seventh Zoo Brews in mid-April showcased beer from a dozen craft breweries as well as tasty fare from local food trucks and the Zoo's Wild Burger restaurant. Delighted adults sampled each brewery's offerings for a penny each, donated to the Emergency Animal Fund. Full-size brewskies were also available.

HOOTS & HOWLS

Hoots & Howls, the Zoo's daytime Halloween event, delivered a 5-star boo rating for three consecutive weekends in October. Sponsored by Publix Super Market Charities, the celebration invited guests to come costumed and ready to ride the Haunted Red Diamond Express Train, hop on the Protective Cobweb Carousel, collect sweets on the Candy Trail, and do the Monster Mash at a DJ-led dance party. Naturally, the Zoo's ambassador animals put the "treat" in the trick-or-treat fun.

'TAILS IN THE TRAILS

Specialty cocktails, live music, delicious food, and a silent auction marked the May 6th event hosted by the Birmingham Zoo Junior Board. Guests reveled in such animal encounters as Flamingo Mingle, Giraffe Feeding, Elephant Enrichment, Lion Bone Feeding, and Bongo Keeper Chat. Proceeds benefited the new Cougar Crossing habitat.

OKTOBERFEST

Seasonal autumn brews, live polka music, enticing food, and the crowning of Mr. and Mrs. Oktoberfest charmed guests at this inaugural event. German fare included a build-your-own bratwurst station hosted by Nourish 205, as well as food truck offerings and concessions from the Zoo's Wild Burger. Lawn games added to the festivities.

WILD AT HEART | L TO R:
Alex Morton, First Horizon
Birmingham Market
President; Rosemary
Alexander, Event CoChair; Chris Pfefferkorn,
Zoo President & CEO;
Birmingham Mayor Randall
Woodfin; Event Co-Chair
Stephanie Cooper; Nancy
Collat Goedecke, representing the
Collat and Goedecke families as Event
Honorary Chairs; and Event Co-Chair
Anthony C. Hood.

2022 **VOLUNTEERS**

WE CANNOT SAY ENOUGH ABOUT THE COMMITMENT OF THESE 149 VOLUNTEERS. THEY GAVE OVER 16.483 HOURS THIS YEAR TO HELP THEIR ZOO.

teen volunteers

Kaashvi Anand Jeaneya Andrews Josue Anzueto Leo Baker Colin Bennett Caitlyn Bingel Sriram Birur Ethan Brasher Adriana Britt Alivia Button Jakayla Byrd Alexis Carmichael **Taylor Carmichael** Homero Castillo Krish Chintareddy Chandler Diamond Lila Discua Jake Dunn Maggie Dutton

Kayla Evans Katie Ezekiel Haley Forester **Edward French** Lily Fu Mo Gard Amelia Goeman Poppy Grant **Sunny Grant** Sophia Green Braedon Hall Sunni Harkley Kennedy Harris Maddie Hazelrig Noah Hendrix Jackson Herron Morgan Hjetland William Hofer Hailey Howard Rebecca Howard Ejatou Jallow Maryam Khan

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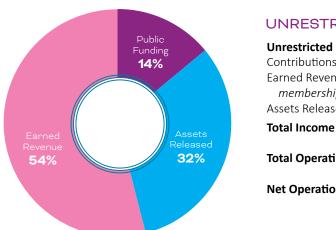
Kristina Valladares

Steven Williamson

Becki Vance

Cynthia Brooks

2022 FINANCIALS



UNRESTRICTED DOLLARS

Unrestricted Income for Operations Contributions and Public Funding

\$2,066,350 \$8,102,615 Earned Revenue (admission, membership, rides, events) \$4,765,150 Assets Released from Restrictions

\$14,934,115

\$12,494,916 **Total Operating Expenses**

Net Operational Income \$2,439,199

RESTRICTED DOLLARS FOR **DESIGNATED PROJECTS**

Restricted Income \$2,000,314 Release of Restricted Income \$4,765,150



L TO R: tawny frogmouth birds; Plump Sidney the shingle back skink; American alligator; Bob the bobcat





Anonymous ABC 33/40 Dr. and Mrs. James M. Abroms Alabama Adventure & Splash Adventure Alabama Ballet Alabama Hoops Alabama Power Company Alabama School of Real Estate Alvs Stephens Center Art by Margaret Anne At Home Furnishings Atlanta Braves Avondale Animal Hospital B. Bayer & Co. Monogramming and Gifts **Bandwagon Sports** Barber Motorsports Park Ms. Linda M. Barnard Biiou Birmingham Legion FC Birmingham Zoo Volunteers Birmingham Zoo, Inc. Blueprint on 3rd Brick & Tin Brixx Pizza Bromberg & Company, Inc. **Brookwood Shell Gas Station Butter Gourmet Cookies** Cahaba Brewing Co. Caldwell-Flake Interiors, Inc. Carrie Pittman Hill Art Carrigan's Public House Downtown Cavenne Creative Christen Colvert Art Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Collier Collier's Nursery Concepts & Associates Cook Store of Mountain Brook Country Club of Birmingham Cox Pools Service **Curated Birmingham** Dear Southern Ladv **Dentons Sirote Design Supply** Details by Liz Hand Woods **Details Lawn Care**

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* deceased

Zulu Nyala Group

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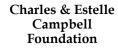




























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Fairytales and Frogs 2022

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Beeson Wildlife Legacy

The Beeson Wildlife Legacy recognizes those who have made lasting gifts to the Birmingham Zoo through their bequest or other planned gift. The name honors Mrs. Lucille S. Beeson, a lawyer and philanthropist known for her incredible generosity, and for whom the Beeson Way walkway around Henley Park was named. She thoughtfully donated the Zoo's first planned gift, demonstrating her abiding love for all animals.

We gratefully recognize these members of the Beeson Wildlife Legacy —

- Anonymous
- Linda Barnard
- Lucille S. Beeson Charitable Trust
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THE ZOO STAFF CONTINUOUSLY BROADEN
THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS TO MAINTAIN
THE EXPERTISE NEEDED FOR THE ANIMALS IN
THEIR CARE.

Amy Toman advanced her farrier skills in the Zoo Hoofstock Trim Program.

Annie Kaspar and Kelsey Moore traveled to the Cheyenne Mountain Giraffe Workshop in Colorado Springs.

Dr. Rachel Turner attained the veterinary board certification.

Scott Kayser attended the Felid Taxonomic Advisory Group (TAG) which provides leadership for maintaining healthy, sustainable populations of wild cat species in AZA-accredited facilities worldwide.

Amanda Polsen and Vaughan Moore attended the virtual Advancing Bear Care Conference.

Amy Toman was elected to the Rhinoceros Taxonomic Advisory Group (TAG) Steering Committee of the AZA conservation plan to manage rhino populations in AZA-accredited facilities worldwide.

Steph Beard and Mya Montrella passed the state licensing Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE).

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A spicebush swallowtail in the

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