



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
25 November 2013

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**MARYLAND ZOO WELCOMES TWO NEW GIRAFFE**  
*- Two young female giraffe have taken up residence in Africa this fall-*

**BALTIMORE, MD** – The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore is pleased to announce that Anuli (a-noo-lee) and Juma (joo-ma), one-year-old reticulated giraffes (*Giraffa camelopardalis*), have recently moved into the Giraffe House at The Maryland Zoo. “We are very happy to welcome these two animals to our Zoo,” said Don Hutchinson, president/CEO of The Maryland Zoo. “These girls will create a new dynamic within their herd, and we hope that our visitors will enjoy watching them as they begin to explore their new home at the Zoo.”

Anuli, whose name means “daughter who brings happiness,” arrived at the Zoo on Monday, October 21 from Utah’s Hogle Zoo in Salt Lake City, Utah. “Anuli arrived at the Zoo after a two-day road trip from Hogle Zoo, and she is in excellent health,” said Carey Ricciardone, mammal collection and conservation manager. “Our transporter turned right around, and made the trip to the North Carolina Zoo to pick up Juma.” Juma, whose name means “born on Friday,” arrived at the Zoo on Wednesday, October 23 and joined Anuli in quarantine at the Giraffe House. Juma has darker patches and is the more curious of the two new arrivals. “We are very happy to have them join the herd here with Kesi, Angel and Caesar,” said Ricciardone. “The two young females have been acclimating nicely to the Giraffe House and are very cooperative with the keepers. They are both very interested in the other giraffe; however they have not been fully introduced to the rest of their new herd just yet.”

The two young giraffe have completed their 30-day quarantine, which kept the Giraffe House closed to visitors. “Normally we quarantine new arrivals at the veterinary hospital,” said Ricciardone. “But of course, the only building that can accommodate 11-foot-tall animals is the Giraffe House, so the building has been closed for the last month. Luckily the weather has been fairly mild so the other giraffe and the okapi have been outside for guests.”

The new giraffe are not yet used to visitors inside the building, so the building will be open briefly each day in order to gradually introduce them to the public. This week zoo-goers can visit them in the Giraffe House from 10:00 am until Noon. “As they acclimate to their new environment, and get used to seeing people inside the Giraffe House we will extend the hours,” commented Ricciardone. “Anuli and Juma will be slowly integrated with the other giraffe, and once that integration process is over, they will be on view outside with the herd, weather permitting.”

### **About The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore**

Founded in 1876, The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore is the third oldest zoo in the United States and is internationally known for its contributions in conservation and research. More than 1,500 animals are represented in the Zoo's varied natural habitat exhibits in areas such as Polar Bear Watch, the Maryland Wilderness, African Journey and the award-winning Children's Zoo. Situated in Druid Hill Park near downtown Baltimore, the Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums. For more information, visit [www.marylandzoo.org](http://www.marylandzoo.org).

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