



# ZOOGRAM

The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore

SUMMER 2017



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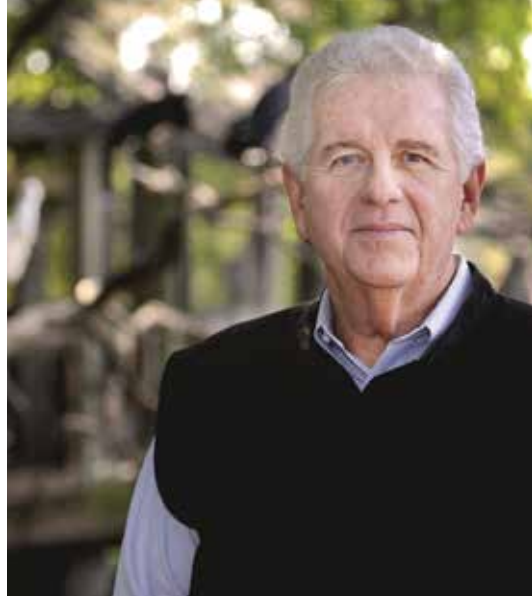
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Giraffes and grizzlies are great reasons to visit the Zoo this summer, but we'll give you plenty more!

She's Baltimore's tallest baby—and then some! In February, we were overjoyed to share the news that Juma, one of our reticulated giraffes, had given birth to Willow, her first calf. Willow was born on February 6 and stood 6'1" tall. Juma is a first-time mother but you would never know it—she's an absolute natural. Visitors have been streaming to the Zoo to get a glimpse of the first baby giraffe born here in 20 years, and Willow has taken easily to all of the attention. You can read all about her birth and how giraffes care for their young in this issue of *Zoogram*.

Meanwhile, elsewhere at the Zoo, our two young grizzly cubs continue to explore and play and check out everyone who stops by to see them. It is gratifying to see so many visitors observing the bears, learning their story, and taking pictures. "Nova" and "Nita" must be the most photographed bears in the state! Their new names topped the polls in a public naming contest and we want to thank everyone who took the time to cast a vote. Both names come from Native American languages. "Nova" means "chasing butterflies" and "Nita" means "bear."

Giraffes and grizzlies are great reasons to visit the Zoo this summer, but we'll give you plenty more! Our "Wild About..." animal series continues all summer long, as does the "Constellation Presents Breakfast with the Animals" series. We're feeling our "downward dog" this summer, too, with an innovative new series to be hosted at *Penguin Coast*. We're excited to introduce Yoga at the Zoo, with bi-monthly classes running through September that are geared for beginner-to-intermediate practitioners aged 15 and up. Sign up now for an unforgettable yoga experience in a uniquely beautiful outdoor setting.

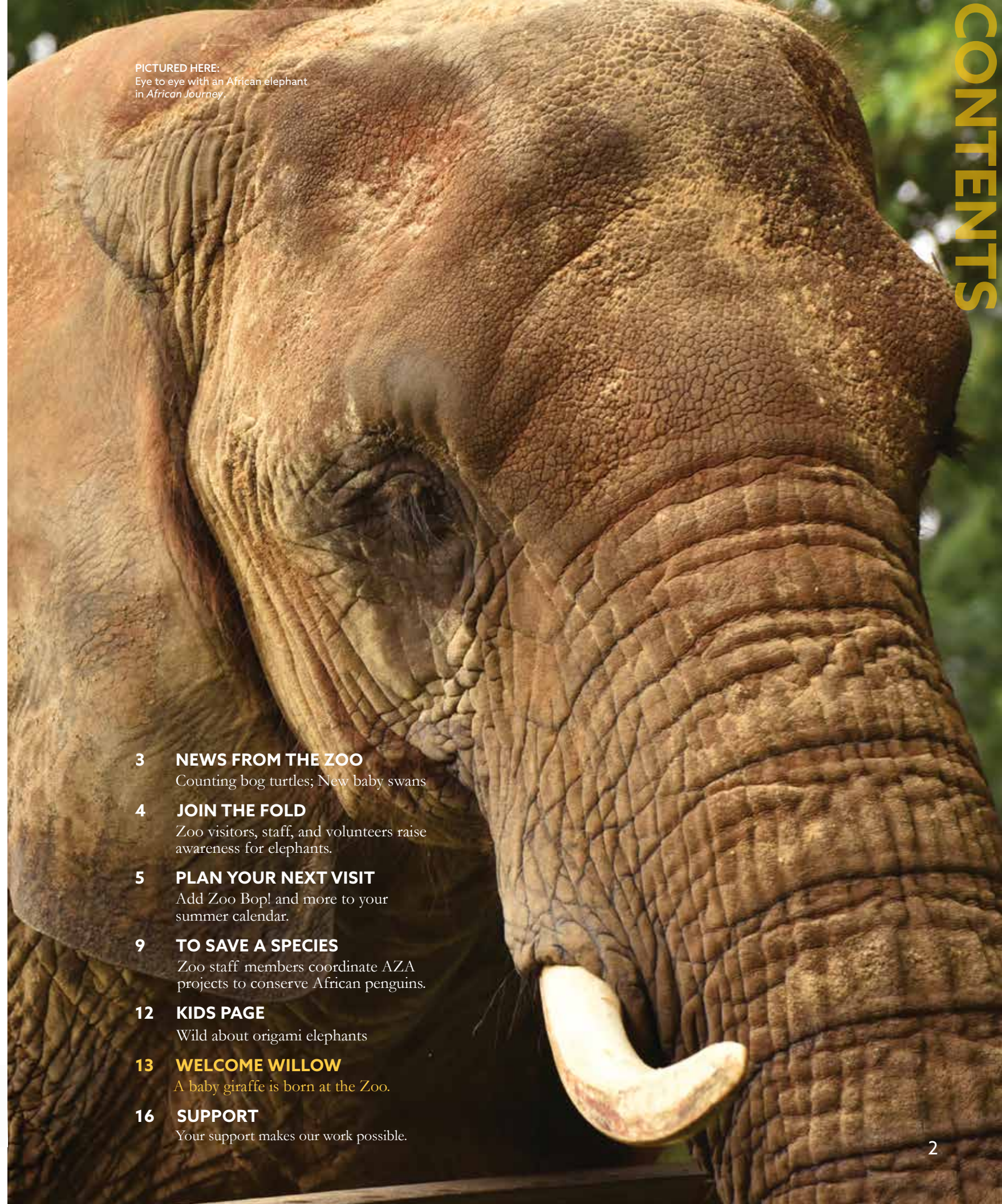
And last but not least, we're kicking off a fantastic new family concert series this July called Zoo Bop! Bring your kids to Waterfowl Lake for an afternoon of fun that will include two live performances from kid-approved rock stars—Baltimore's own Baby Beats (featuring Max and Root) and 2016 Latin Grammy Winner 123 Andrés! Get all the details in this issue of *Zoogram*.

Have a great summer, and I'll look forward to seeing you at the Zoo.

Don Hutchinson  
President/CEO



PICTURED HERE:  
Eye to eye with an African elephant  
in *African Journey*



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### BOG TURTLE SURVEYS

This spring, the Zoo sent reptile keepers and managers into the squishy muck of Maryland swamps and bogs to search for one of the rarest, tiniest, and most elusive turtles in North America. To find a four-inch bog turtle, you have to know where to look and you have to be brave. You will stick your arm into the muck and grope around for the tiny turtles while warding off snakes, wolf spiders, and ticks. Last year and this year, though, Zoo staff rose to the occasion in order to contribute to an important and ongoing local conservation effort.

Bog turtles are threatened in the U.S. and in Maryland. For more than two decades, federal and state biologists have been working with private landowners and conservation partners such as the Zoo to conserve bog turtles and restore their vanishing habitat. Each year, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) conducts a state-wide survey to monitor bog turtle populations and assess habitat sites. Zoo staff volunteer to help with the survey work. In 2016, the Department counted 96 bog turtles at 12 of the 22 sites surveyed. Field work for this year's survey concludes in June with results to follow.



### SWAN CYGNETS

The pair of trumpeter swans in the Farmyard are parents for the second year in a row! Five baby swans, called cygnets, hatched over a 24-hour period beginning on May 17. "So far they are doing great, and the parents are doing exactly what they should, being attentive, protecting and caring for them," says Jen Kottyan, Avian Collection and Conservation Manager. Trumpeter swans are the largest waterfowl breed native to North America and the largest swan in the world. They were hunted nearly to extinction in the early decades of the 20th century but their population in the wild now numbers in the 16,000s, thanks to federal protection and concerted conservation efforts. The Zoo is partnering with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to help bolster the wild population. Our cygnets will be released to the wild in Iowa next spring after a year of head-start growth.

### ARCTIC FOX EXHIBIT RENOVATIONS

In the wild, Arctic foxes may snuggle in a single snow burrow or start a family inside a complex, multi-resident earthen den with dozens of different entrances. They adapt to big and small. The Zoo's two Arctic foxes are equally adaptable and have taken well to their newly renovated exhibit space in *Polar Bear Watch*. The two foxes explore the outdoor yard with gusto and den up indoors when they choose. The building attached to their exhibit is now outfitted with heat, plumbing, and extra storage space, providing keepers with improved options for husbandry and care. Most significantly, the exhibit now has an outdoor vestibule that keepers can enter in order to interact with the foxes while they are in their yard. This allows keepers to engage the foxes in regular training sessions that facilitate care and management while also providing enrichment. Stop by and have a look!



## RAISING AWARENESS for AFRICAN ELEPHANTS

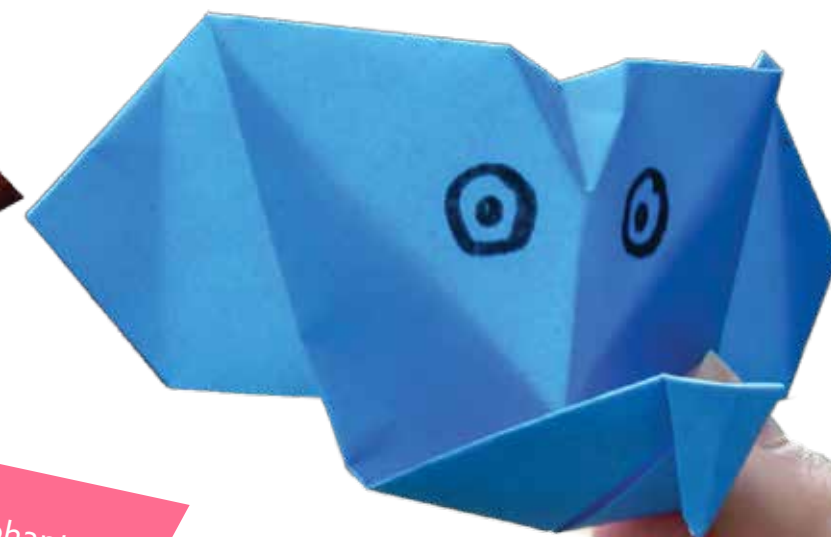
Last August on "Wild About Elephants Day" at the Zoo, hundreds of guests busily folded squares of colorful paper into pachyderm likenesses. Public Programs Manager Hannah Rupert and a team of artistic educators guided the impromptu origami artists. Over the next few weeks, Hannah cajoled Zoo staff and volunteers to continue folding until 500 origami elephants had been produced. She then carefully sorted, boxed, and shipped the paper creations to the Bronx Zoo in New York City where they were put on stunning display.

The Baltimore elephants joined many thousands more in an exhibit entitled "Join the Fold" that was produced by the Bronx Zoo's Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS). All were created in response to the Origami Elephant Project, a co-production of 96 Elephants and Origami USA. 96 Elephants is a WCS campaign that aims to stop the ivory trade, stop poaching, and save elephants.

The goal of the Origami Elephant Project—to make and display 35,000 origami elephants—was both whimsical and serious. All those origami elephants in one room would break the Guinness World Record for "largest display of origami elephants" and would honor the 35,000 very real elephants killed each year in Africa by poachers.

The project far exceeded its goal. People all over the world folded and shipped a total of 78,564 origami elephants. They arrived at the Bronx Zoo from all 50 states in the U.S., 40 other countries, and 45 AZA zoos. Together, the paper pachyderms made a powerful visual statement; each participant in the project, including The Maryland Zoo, received a certificate stating that "together, we raised awareness and took a stand for elephants."

To make a difference for wildlife, you have to get people to tune in. Talo Kawasaki, a master artist who contributed to the project, said this of origami: "You're not just changing the paper, you're changing something inside of you." If this is true, then perhaps thousands more people around the world are now tuned in to the plight of African elephants.



Join the fold. Make your own origami elephant in honor of a real African elephant. Turn to page 12 to learn how.



# PLAN

## YOUR NEXT VISIT

Spend a day this summer in the company of animals. Wake up early to have breakfast with your favorite species, spend a “Wild About” day with us, or come for a campout and see what Zoo animals do after dark. Looking for even more Zoo fun? Put on your dancing shoes and come to Zoo Bop!

As you plan your next visit, please check the Zoo’s website—[www.MarylandZoo.org](http://www.MarylandZoo.org)—for timely updates on events, programs, exhibits, and improvements.

## DAILY ACTIVITIES

Please check the Zoo information board in Schaefer Plaza for updates on the day’s activities.

**Goat Corral:** Brush, pet, or just visit with goats in the Farmyard.

**Creature Encounters:** See Animal Ambassadors up close and enjoy other activities at the Zoo’s outdoor education center.

**Education Stations:** Stop by stations throughout the Zoo to engage in fun learning activities.

**Penguin Feeding:** It happens twice a day—talk with a Zoo educator about black-footed penguins while keepers dole out fish!

**Keeper Chats:** Keepers talk about the animals in their care and are happy to answer your questions.

**Jones Falls Zephyr:** All aboard the Zoo train. Open daily, weather permitting. \$

**Carousel:** Take a spin on our vintage carousel. \$

**Giraffe Feeding Station:** Feed a giraffe. Unforgettable. \$

\$: fee to participate

### JULY

#### Where the Wild Things Art Paint Night

Bring a friend and create your own fun.

June 14  
5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
Penguin Education Center  
\$ R

#### Animal Craft Safaris

Hands-on crafting.  
June 15 & 25  
11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.  
Penguin Education Center  
\$ R

#### Breakfast with Penguins

No tux required.  
June 17  
8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.  
\$ R

#### Wild About Giraffes Day

Come see Willow!  
June 18  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

#### Stroller Safari

Zoo fun for little ones.  
June 22  
11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.  
\$ R

#### Wild About Enrichment Day

What is it and why does it matter?  
June 24  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

#### Breakfast with Giraffes

Did we mention Willow?  
June 25  
8:30 a.m. - 10 a.m.  
\$ R

### JULY

#### Breakfast with Chimps

Charismatic morning companions.  
July 1  
8:30 a.m. - 10 a.m.  
\$ R

#### Red, White and Zoo!

4th of July enrichment day.  
July 4  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

#### Animal Craft Safaris

Creative animal learning.  
July 13 & 30  
11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.  
Penguin Education Center  
\$ R

#### Zoo Snooze Adult Overnight

A campout for ages 21+.  
July 15 - 16  
6 p.m. - 9:30 a.m.  
Waterfowl Lake  
\$ R

#### Where the Wild Things Art Paint Night

Art with a cocktail twist.  
July 19  
5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
Penguin Education Center  
\$ R

#### Stroller Safari

On the move with our youngest visitors.  
July 20  
11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.  
\$ R

#### Breakfast with Elephants

Hay with your eggs?  
July 22  
8 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

#### Zoo Bop

Kid-friendly music fest at Waterfowl Lake.  
July 29  
12 p.m. - 4 p.m.  
\$ R

### AUGUST

#### Where the Wild Things Art Paint Night

Creative after-work fun.  
August 2  
5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
Penguin Education Center  
\$ R

#### Breakfast with Giraffes

Willow will be there!  
August 5  
8 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.  
\$ R

#### Zoo Snooze Family Overnight

Under the stars at the Zoo.  
August 5-6  
6 p.m. - 9:30 a.m.  
Waterfowl Lake  
\$ R

#### Where the Wild Things Art KIDS Paint Night

Let the kids paint!  
August 9  
5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
Penguin Education Center  
\$ R

#### Wild About Elephants Day

Pachyderms, front and center.  
August 12  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

#### Panamanian Golden Frogs Awareness Day

Amphibian appreciation day.  
August 13  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

#### Animal Craft Safaris

Art + Animals = Fun learning.  
August 17 & 27  
11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.  
Penguin Education Center  
\$ R

#### Breakfast in Africa

Next best thing to being there.  
August 20  
8 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.  
\$ R

#### Stroller Safari

Zoo fun for little ones.  
August 24  
11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.  
\$ R

### SEPTEMBER

#### Breakfast with Elephants

Say hello to Samson.  
September 2  
8 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.  
\$ R

#### Breakfast with Penguins

Dine with the colony.  
September 9  
8 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.  
\$ R

#### Zoo Snooze Family Overnight

Flashlight tour and more.  
September 9-10  
6 p.m. - 9:30 a.m.  
Waterfowl Lake  
\$ R

#### Trucks for Tots

Why? Because kids love trucks!  
September 10  
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

#### Where the Wild Things Art Paint Night

Make an animal-inspired masterpiece.  
September 13  
5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
Penguin Education Center  
\$ R

#### Animal Craft Safaris

Creative Learning.  
September 14 & 24  
11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.  
Penguin Education Center  
\$ R

#### Breakfast with Chimps

No food fights, please.  
September 16  
8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.  
\$ R

#### Musical Petting Zoo

Cue up the Baltimore Gamers Symphony Orchestra!  
September 16  
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

#### Stroller Safari

On the move with our youngest visitors.  
September 21  
11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.  
\$ R

#### Wild About Primates Day

Get to know your animal cousins.  
September 23  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

#### Wild About Rhinos Day

Horned-snout wonders.  
September 23  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

\$: fee to participate  
R: reservation required





# To SAVE a SPECIES

By Sarah Evans, *Zoogram* Editor

*Over the past four years, Jess Phillips has dived deep into the world of African penguins. As area manager of the Zoo's Penguin Coast exhibit, he leads the team that oversees the largest colony of African penguins in North America while also tending to white-breasted cormorants and pink-backed pelicans. "I'm a horse guy," he says with a grin, but he knows full well that he is also now a bird guy.*





Area Manager, Jess Phillips collects feeding data on the Zoo's African penguins.



While on the job at the Zoo, Phillips has become expert at handling and caring for penguins and other seabirds. He is also familiar with each species' biology and quest for survival in the wild. Nothing quite compares with going to the source, though, and Phillips had that opportunity last September. He travelled to South Africa for the first time to attend the Ninth International Penguin Conference.

While there, he met with front-line conservationists working on a daily basis to save endangered African penguins from extinction. These encounters inspired him like never before. "Until you actually get there and see what's going on and see what these people are doing," says Phillips, "you don't really grasp it completely. I can't say enough about the great work that is happening [in the field]. I felt like I really wanted to be more involved."

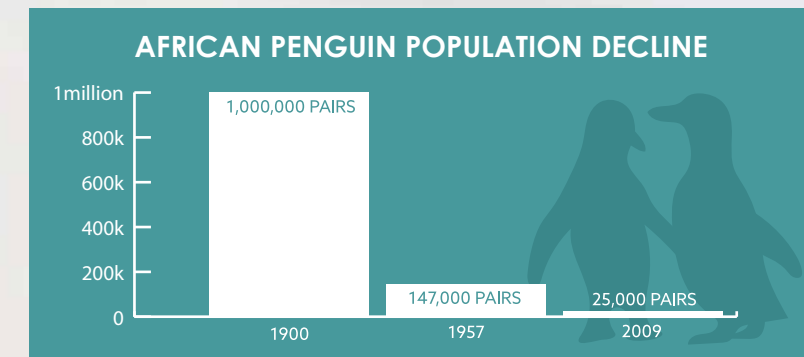
And so Phillips returned to Baltimore, contacted the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) SAFE program, and has since become coordinator of its African Penguin Disaster Response Project.

### SAVING ANIMALS FROM EXTINCTION

AZA SAFE—Saving Animals From Extinction—was launched in 2013 to leverage expertise and resources within the AZA community in support of already-existing *in situ* conservation programs around the world. SAFE adopts a comprehensive "one plan" approach. For each of its 10 signature species, it surveys all contributors, identifies and prioritizes conservation needs, and develops three-year conservation action plans (CAPs) with clear-cut goals and projects. The idea is not to go to the source and *tell* people who have devoted their lives to saving a particular species what needs to be done. The idea is to *ask* them what needs to be done and then help bring resources and expertise to bear.

African penguins are one of SAFE's signature species because numbers don't lie; these birds are in trouble. In the 1920s, their population in the wild was estimated at 1 million

breeding pairs. (Breeding pairs are the gauge because those are the birds that will perpetuate the species.) Since then, this number has declined precipitously: 147,000 pairs in 1957, 75,000 pairs in 1978, 63,000 pairs in 2001, and 25,000 pairs in 2009. The present population is only 2.9% of what it was 80 years ago.



In late 2014, SAFE worked with its partners in South Africa to develop a conservation action plan for African penguins. Eight projects were advanced, including Disaster Response and Marine Movement. Phillips heads up Disaster Response; Mike McClure, the Zoo's General Curator, coordinates Marine Movement; and Zoo staff is involved in several of the other projects as well.

"The cool thing for us here at The Maryland Zoo is that we've become an important part of the SAFE program," says Phillips. "We're one of the leading breeders of African penguins [in the world], and people are starting to recognize that we can be leaders in conservation as well."

### HOPE FOR THE BEST, PLAN FOR THE WORST

When in South Africa, Phillips heard about a recent oil spill near Port Elizabeth, east of Capetown. Rescuers arrived on the scene and went straight to the local supermarket to clear the shelves of Dawn dish detergent, which they use to clean oiled birds. This was the correct thing to do, but



not the optimal thing to have to do. Those working in the field recognize this and, when asked, suggested that support from SAFE focus on two main areas: training volunteers and providing each colony site with the necessary supplies and equipment to respond immediately to rescue, triage, and treatment of distressed birds.

Each colony now has its own disaster relief plan in place. Phillips will return to South Africa this summer to continue working with *in situ* partners to finalize a list of supplies and equipment. Next come fundraising, purchase, and distribution to each location. The training piece will occur on site in South Africa and at AZA institutions able to send volunteers to South Africa in the event of an emergency.

### FOLLOW THE PENGUINS, FOLLOW THE FISH

Meanwhile, McClure made his own trip to South Africa last summer to help on a different SAFE project that involved inserting PIT-tag (passive integrated transponder) identification chips into wild African penguins so that researchers can track and monitor them. "I hadn't had my hand on a penguin in over 10 years—regularly, anyway," says McClure, "but when I got in the field, [the handling] came easily." It's muscle memory to McClure (pictured at right), who in addition to managing the Zoo's African elephant program and serving as General Curator once managed the Zoo's African penguin colony. "My background is throughout the whole zoo," he notes, "and I'm a biologist so I'm fascinated by all life."

While in South Africa, McClure also acted as an AZA SAFE ambassador of sorts, making contacts, building relationships, and determining the feasibility of all eight African Penguin projects. "Part of the mission was to demonstrate to those working in the field that AZA members and professionals have a lot to contribute to what they are doing," he says. "We have knowledge that is beneficial and resources available to us that they didn't even know about."

As coordinator of the Marine Movement Project, McClure is working with many scientists studying the movement patterns of African penguins in the ocean. His job is to facilitate communication, collaboration, and sharing of resources in order to get as much data as possible on each and every penguin. Knowing how far out the penguins are swimming, where they are moving in search of fish, and where they are stopping on land has tremendous implications for the future viability of each colony and the species as a whole. "There's agreement that it would be great to have expanded data, and I think we're moving in the right direction," says McClure. "Basically, if you're catching a bird, you should put a GPS unit and a camera unit on it and you should insert a PIT-tag identification chip near its back leg."



The Maryland Zoo's General Curator, Mike McClure, holding a juvenile African penguin in the nesting area on Boulders beach in South Africa.

So what does it take to save a species? There is no easy answer to that question or easy formula for success, but these two projects demonstrate that it is important to coordinate efforts and bring all resources and expertise to bear.

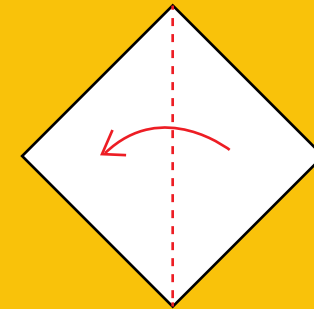
"SAFE provided an excellent opportunity for our involvement," says McClure, "because it perfectly leverages our expertise with African penguins." That expertise has been decades in the making and encompasses animal care, public education, contributions to scientific knowledge of the species, and ongoing partnerships in the field. Now more than ever, the Zoo is prepared to impact the future of African penguins in the wild.

# WILD ABOUT

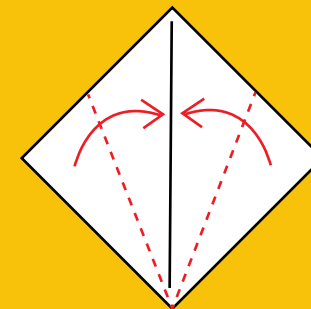
Every day of the year, we are wild about wildlife. On "Wild About" days, though, we go wild for a particular species. This summer, we're going to be wild about giraffes, elephants, and rhinos. You too? Then hustle to the Zoo and join the herd (or crash, if you're a rhino or rhino lover.)

Fold an origami elephant in honor of a real African elephant.

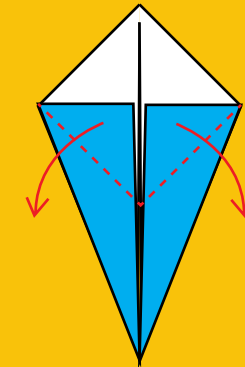
WILD ABOUT ELEPHANTS DAY IS ON AUGUST 12.



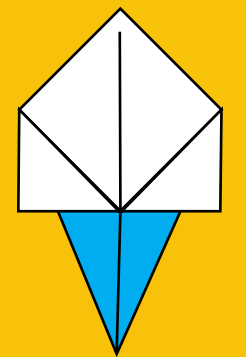
**1** Begin with a square plain side up. Fold in half and then unfold.



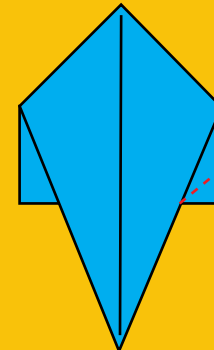
**2** Fold sides to meet the center crease.



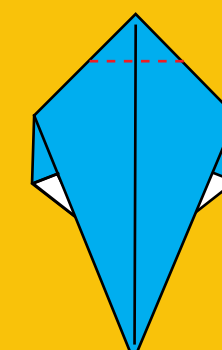
**3** Fold the corners outwards so the side edges are straight.



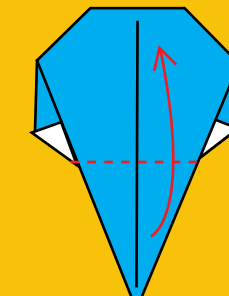
**4** Turn over.



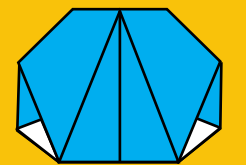
**5** Fold the corners to meet the edges.



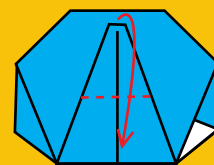
**6** Fold the top corner behind to taste.



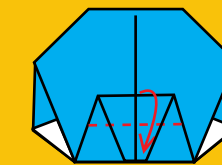
**7** Open up the fold you just made.



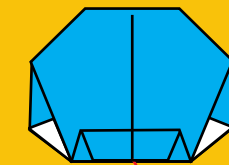
**8** Fold the tip in a little bit.



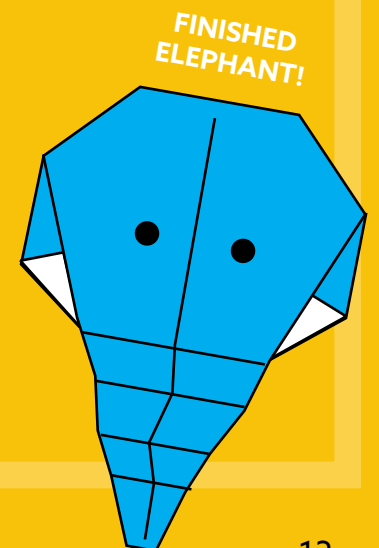
**9** Fold the trunk in half.



**10** Fold the trunk in half again.



**11** Pull out the trunk.



FINISHED ELEPHANT!

Origami artwork courtesy of Marc Kirschenbaum



# WELCOME WILLOW

By Sarah Evans



*For being the world's tallest animal, giraffes are remarkably quiet and unassuming. They are neither territorial nor aggressive. They have no interest in being King of the Jungle or even Master of Their Domain. They simply want to browse treetops and hang out with other giraffes. "I've never seen a giraffe that likes to be alone," says Erin Cantwell, the Zoo's Mammal Collection and Conservation manager. "They definitely want that safety in numbers."*

Giraffes are quiet about birth, too. When the time comes, an expectant female leaves the group and brings her calf into the world privately, away from prying eyes. She returns to the group about two weeks later with her calf trailing along beside her. Drama is kept to a minimum.

## AN HISTORIC BIRTH

But, wow, let's not underestimate this: a giraffe birth is a big deal! Few would know because few have witnessed it, but on the afternoon of February 6, two witnesses attended the birth of Willow the giraffe here at the Zoo and reacted with proper amazement. They were Anuli and Kesi, reticulated giraffes who watched closely as their herd mate, Juma, delivered her calf. The moment was historic, as this was the Zoo's first giraffe birth in 20 years.

When Willow hit the ground, it was loud. That's what 150 pounds of newborn giraffe dropping six feet sounds like. "All three adult females scattered in different directions," reports Cantwell.

"They seemed shocked and surprised at first, but Juma figured it out within a second and immediately started grooming her calf." Anuli and Kesi soon calmed down as well.

Meanwhile, keepers crept out of hiding to quickly check on mother and calf before leaving them alone again. They would have liked a front-row view of the birth, but apparently this is a deal breaker with giraffes. "You need to leave them alone," says Cantwell. "We monitored the birth by camera and whenever we had to go sneak a peek, Juma would stop everything and just wait for us to leave."

Being secretive about birth is an important adaptive behavior for female giraffes, designed to conceal their

own vulnerability and to protect newborn calves from potential predators. After all, the African savannah can be a dangerous place. More than half of giraffe calves are killed by lions, spotted hyenas, or leopards in their first few days or months, despite the protection of their mothers. Juma had no lions lurking about, but her natural instincts were intact.

## KEEP CALM AND CARRY ON

Giraffes conceal pregnancy well, just as they conceal birth well. A female may start to look a bit thick over the course of her 14-month pregnancy, but not dramatically so. She doesn't behave all that differently either so short of a blood test, human observers cannot definitively confirm pregnancy until the final few weeks when it becomes clear that the expectant mother is storing up milk.

Juma kept the Giraffe Team guessing until almost her due date, but Caesar (Willow's father and the only male in the Zoo's herd) gave keepers a strong hint. Months earlier, he began ignoring Juma. Males lose interest in females when they become pregnant, stop cycling, and stop issuing hormonal invitations to breed. When Caesar lost interest in Juma, the Giraffe Team took notice and launched a birth management plan.

The team did remarkably well calculating, observing, and responding appropriately to every stage of Juma's pregnancy. They studied the Zoo's records of previous giraffe births, solicited advice from AZA colleagues, and relied upon their own extensive, cumulative experience with hoof stock. They paid close attention to Juma's bodily changes, began to monitor her overnight by camera, increased her diet shortly before the birth, and prepared a calving stall by laying down thick mats and an extra foot of wood chips. When Juma's water finally broke, the team was ready.

The birth itself went smoothly and took less than two hours. Soon thereafter, Willow was on her feet. She stood 6'1" tall but looked petite alongside her 14-foot mother. In the wild, baby giraffes have to get on their feet quickly in order to keep up with their mothers as they move around the savannah. Willow soon began to nurse, Juma allowed it, and in that moment keepers felt reassured that mother and calf had bonded.





WILLOW NUZZLES UP TO MOTHER, JUMA.

### SHARE THE CARE

In fact, Juma's maternal instinct has been spot on. She has been attentive, nurturing, and protective of Willow. In the early days, she would let it be known if she thought keepers were getting too close to her calf and she would body-block Willow from any perceived threat. Meanwhile, the Giraffe Team took all necessary measures to keep Juma and Willow calm and comfortable. They closed the Giraffe House for several days after the birth and then, while mother and calf were adjusting to curious visitors at the viewing window, tightly controlled the flow of people into the building.

After about two weeks, Juma began to express interest in being with Kesi and Anuli again. Once she became comfortable with them near her calf, the companionship seemed to reassure her. This, too, is in keeping with how wild giraffes behave. Females with calves often hang out together in a group. The young giraffes form a crèche and play together while the mothers jointly protect them. With help from other females, a mother can wander off for stretches of time between feedings.

Giraffe mothers nurse their calves for about one year and guard them for almost two years. Female calves may stay near their mothers for life, while males usually assert their independence at about three years of age. They go off on their own and may loosely associate with a bachelor herd.

Come to the Zoo this summer and see Willow, the youngest member of the Zoo's giraffe herd, exploring her new world in the company of her mother and "aunts."



## HELP GROW the family

*As any parent knows or quickly learns, growing the family requires financial planning. That may not be as fun as decorating a nursery, but it's critical. The same is absolutely true here at the Zoo.*

Every year, we welcome new animals to the Zoo that were either born or hatched here or that came to us from somewhere else. As an AZA-accredited institution, we participate in carefully managed breeding programs for many species. We also cooperate with fellow AZA zoos and aquariums and other partners in wildlife conservation in the acquisition and transfer of individual animals. Our animal family is large and dynamic.

Over the past several months, it has been exceptionally dynamic. Twelve African penguin chicks hatched in *Penguin Coast*, two grizzly cubs arrived from Montana, one southern white rhino crossed the country to our African Watering Hole, and the first baby giraffe in 20 years was born here at the Zoo. Meanwhile, two senior staff from the Animal Department made separate travels to South Africa to participate in important conservation work on behalf of endangered African penguins. That's a lot of coming and going!

Imagine the logistics of transporting two grizzly bears by truck from Montana to Maryland or of escorting a 3,700-pound rhino cross country through the night.

Imagine the careful preparation and ongoing flexibility needed to manage chick season at *Penguin Coast* or to pave the way for a successful giraffe birth.

Now imagine the associated costs. Welcoming new animals to the Zoo this past year—through birth, hatching, or acquisition—literally cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. And when working with wildlife, it is a truism that you can't always anticipate all costs in advance. Your generous support allows us to respond professionally to developing situations, participate in important wildlife conservation work, and act always in the best interests of the animals in our care.

We are extremely grateful to each and every one of our generous donors. We could not do this work without you. Thank you for your ongoing support of the Zoo and its dynamic animal family in the weeks, months, and years to come.

**To find out more about giving to the Zoo, please call Michelle Boyle at 443-552-5290 or email [development@marylandzoo.org](mailto:development@marylandzoo.org).**





Students at Garrison Forest School display a "welcome banner" for the Zoo's grizzly cubs.

This spring, two local schools became Maryland Zoo exhibit sponsors. Their goal? To reach new audiences while helping to support a statewide community asset. We worked with each school individually to customize sponsor benefits designed to engage students, families, and alumni.

To design your group's custom sponsorship package, please call the Development Office at 443-552-5290.



Frostburg State University President Ronald Nowaczyk and FSU alumni, including our very own Don Hutchinson, visit the bobcats in their new exhibit while attending the University of Maryland System's "College Night" at the Zoo on April 27.



Bring the kids and bop the afternoon away! Join us for Zoo Bop, a fun-loving, kid-friendly outdoor music festival at the Zoo. This year's concert features live performances from kid-approved rock stars: Baltimore's own **Baby Beats** (featuring Max and Root) and 2016 Latin Grammy Winner **123 Andrés!**

Andrés Salguero, better known as 123 Andrés!, is one of the most exciting new voices on the family music scene in the U.S. and Latin America. A native of Bogotá, Colombia, Andrés brings joyful sound, passion for bilingualism, and a high-energy love of music to every performance. Kids will be on their feet, dancing and singing along with him to songs in Spanish and English. His most recent album, entitled *Arriba Abajo*, won the Latin Grammy for best children's album in 2016 as well as the Parent's Choice Gold Award.

Max Bent and Jamaal Black Root Collier, better known as Max and Root, are beloved locally by the 0-6 crowd (and by those who like to bop along with the 0-6 crowd). Bent and Collier are human beat-boxers trained in the field of arts integration. They were inspired by the curious and active minds of children to create "Baby Beats! With Max and Root," a live music and movement program for the youngest movers and shakers among us.

Don't miss this great afternoon of singing, dancing, food that kids love, artisan vendors, and fun activities (think bubbles)! Zoo Bop tickets include day-of admission to the Zoo and are available online now at [www.marylandzoo.org](http://www.marylandzoo.org).

**CONTACT THE ZOO**

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Administrative offices are open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Zoo is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily during the months of March through December and Friday-Monday during the months of January and February. The Zoo is closed Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

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# MARYLAND ZOO

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## MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP *this summer!*

New animals, new events, and new experiences make now a great time to be a Zoo member.

**This summer, enjoy all the wild benefits including:**

- **25% off guest passes** - Bring the extended family and save big on extra tickets.
- **Connect with penguins for less** - Get members-only savings on a Penguin Encounter.
- **Discounts on events** - This includes tickets to Zoo Bop, our new kids music festival!
- **Members-only experiences** - Take a Sunbeam Sunday walk on the wild side.

Get the most out of your Zoo membership—check out the hottest members-only offers this season at [marylandzoo.org/memberbenefits](http://marylandzoo.org/memberbenefits).

