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ZOO ZOOM REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

BALTIMORE, MD – Registration for *Zoo Zoom*, The Maryland Zoo's wild 8K race, is now open! Zoo Zoom will take place on Sunday, November 22, 2015 at 8:30 am. The race begins in front of the Zoo's Mansion House, winds through Druid Hill Park and the Zoo, before racers take that one last hill passing the Mansion again before crossing the finish line back inside the Zoo. It's a wild race! However, if you are looking for something a little tamer, register for the one-mile CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield Family Fun Run, scheduled to begin at 9:30am.

"This is such a fun and unique race in that it brings people through the Zoo and in close proximity to some of our most fascinating animals," said Nancy Hinds, executive vice president of Institutional Advancement at the Zoo. "Our partners at Mission Media and Falls Road Running Store always make sure this is an exciting race."

Zoo Zoom 8K awards will be handed out for both male and female top overall finishers, and awards will also be given out by age group. Registration for the 8K race includes bib, chip-timing, long-sleeve commemorative T-shirt and all day admission to the Zoo on race day. Once again this year we encourage you to come dressed as your favorite animal and you could win a prize! The post-race party will include food and refreshments by the Corner Bakery Cafe, prize drawings, and visits from some of the Zoo's animal ambassadors.

Zoo Zoom registration is available at <u>www.marylandzoo.org</u> and will be limited to the first 1,750 entrants. Registration for the 8K is \$45. Registration for the CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield Family Fun Run is \$20 without a premium or \$35 with the premium; Zoo members receive a \$5 discount on all registrations. All proceeds will support The Maryland Zoo and its many conservation project efforts.

"We continue to have positive response to Zoo Zoom, and we anticipate selling out this year's race as well," said Jay McCutcheon, principal, vice president of Marketing & Development at Mission Media, LLC. "We are always happy to partner with the Zoo to help with their education and conservation efforts in such a distinctive way."

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 the new Penguin Coast, 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 <u>www.marylandzoo.org</u>.