



our mission

engaging people with the wonder of the living world through personal encounters that foster lifelong harmonious relationships with nature

When visitors come to The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore, they see animals whose wild cousins are walking across frozen sea ice at the top of the world, congregating on rocky islands off the African coast, chilling at the bottom of fast-running streams in western Maryland, prowling the open savannah, and adapting to life everywhere in between. These animals inspire visitors to think beyond the streets of Baltimore, imagine a vast and varied world, and wonder at the Earth itself, the only planet known to sustain life.

The Zoo's mission is not only to inspire wonder but also to inspire action on behalf of wildlife and wild places. That is a mission that Zoo staff puts into practice every day. We provide the best possible care to all animals at the Zoo, we educate hundreds of thousands of people annually about issues that affect wildlife and the environment, and we are working harder than ever to advance conservation efforts around the globe. Guided by the Zoo's Conservation Department, we tie exceptional in-house husbandry, medical care, research, and education programs to conservation action in the field through our Signature Animal Programs, Conservation Action Programs, and Wildlife Response Fund.

This annual report catalogues the work of the Zoo over a 12-month period from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. During that time, 430,223 guests visited the Zoo and more than 13,500 member families supported the Zoo.



JAMES WITTY
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Letter from the Chairman

These are currently very exciting times at The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore. During 2018, we started the largest construction project in our history, the upgrade and expansion of the elephant, lion and giraffe habitats. It has been over 30 years since the Zoo moved its elephant exhibit from the Main Valley to the existing location, and we now have one of the premier African Elephant programs in the country. Another highlight of 2018 was the hatching of the Zoo's 1,000th African penguin chick. These two events are prime examples of the Zoo fulfilling multiple areas of its mission: species survivability, conservation, education, staff welfare, and visitor experience.

I have been on the Zoo's Board of Trustees for nine years and am honored to now serve as its Chair. All this time, I continue to be amazed and incredibly gratified by the professionalism and passion that each person in the organization delivers. To a person, staff and volunteers are committed to providing the highest level of care for the animals and an excellent experience to all those who visit the Zoo or participate in a Zoo program in the community. I could not be more delighted to associate myself with such a committed group of people.

I am also grateful to the men and women who serve alongside me on the Board of Trustees. They are committed to the Zoo and its future and they channel their own passion and professionalism in support of this great community asset.

There is always something new to learn about the Zoo. For example, I was thrilled to learn that in FY18, more than 71,000 Maryland school students, teachers, and chaperones were given *free or reduced-price* admission to the Zoo, and more than 67,000 Zoo guests participated in on-grounds educational experiences. If your school has not participated in the free field trip program at the Zoo, your students are missing something special! This past fiscal year, more than 44,000 children and adults also enjoyed interactive education programs delivered by the Zoo's Outreach staff at schools, senior centers, libraries, and other community venues across Maryland. This is a powerful example of the Zoo extending its reach and fulfilling its education mission well beyond the boundaries of our own Druid Hill Park campus.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I also want to acknowledge the tremendous support of the City, the State, and the citizens and leaders of Baltimore and Howard Counties. We remain grateful for their continued support of the Zoo. We also thank the many foundations and corporations that value the Zoo and provide support in the way of grants, sponsorships, and corporate memberships. You have helped propel the Zoo forward in countless ways.

I hope that you enjoy reading about the Zoo's progress in the pages of this annual report and that you will continue to show your support for the Zoo. It is a privilege to serve as Chair of the Board of Trustees, and I look forward to great things to come in 2019.

James Witty, Chair, Maryland Zoological Society, Inc

Letter from the President

Fiscal Year 2018 will be remembered for many reasons, but to my mind the most significant will be breaking ground on new and improved habitats for lions, giraffes, and elephants in *African Journey*. This renovation project represents the Zoo's most ambitious undertaking in our history and will result in tripling the size of the elephant habitat, extending and improving the Elephant Barn, expanding and re-grading the giraffe habitat, and upgrading the lion habitat.

In this case, as with every naturalistic habitat project that we undertake, we have planned carefully and executed strategically in order to address the needs and desires of three different constituencies: animals, staff, and guests. We always prioritize animal welfare and staff safety while doing our utmost to create an engaging guest experience. The current project in *African Journey* furthers our commitment to meeting or exceeding the highest standards established by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). It also represents another step forward in making The Maryland Zoo a leader in conservation and species survival research. After many months of planning, construction is well underway and we expect to complete the project in the summer of 2019.

There are surely dozens of reasons why the Zoo draws so many people, but the #1 reason has never changed and never will. It is the animals. People are amazed by the animals that they encounter here, as are we on a daily basis. We never forget what a privilege it is to care for them. Many new animals were born, hatched or moved to the Zoo in FY 2018. Most notably, fourteen African penguin chicks were hatched at *Penguin Coast*, including our1000th penguin chick, named "Millie" by popular vote. You may know that The Maryland Zoo has the largest African penguin colony in North America and has hatched significantly more African penguin chicks than any other zoo or aquarium in the United States. *Penguin Coast* provides a great home to our colony and is truly the centerpiece of our zoo.

I have always said that our staff and volunteers bring incredible passion and professionalism to every aspect of their work, be it guest services, veterinary and animal care, marketing and public relations, events, or education. They all truly care, and for that I am grateful.

I am also grateful to those who support the Zoo and help it remain a vibrant and vital part of Druid Hill Park, the city of Baltimore, and the state of Maryland. I say this often because it's true. We could not do it without you, so thank you for your support, and we hope to see you here in the months and years to come.

Donald P. Hutchinson, President/CEO



DONALD P. HUTCHINSON PRESIDENT/CEO

new at the zoo

Between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018:

- The Zoo began construction on what is arguably the most extensive exhibit renovation in its history, encompassing the lion, giraffe, and elephant habitats in *African Journey*. This project will nearly triple the elephant habitat, increase the giraffe habitat by 33% and open up the lion habitat with a new cul-de-sac pathway to increase viewing, as well as provide a training wall where guests can learn how we use positive reinforcement to train animals to participate in their own healthcare.
- "Millie," one of fourteen penguin chicks hatched during the 2017-18 "chick season" at *Penguin Coast*, became the 1,000th African penguin chick ever to hatch at the Zoo.
- Several other animals were born or hatched at the Zoo, including 4 sitatunga, 2 Von der Decken hornbills, and scores of Panamanian golden frogs.
- Many new animals joined the Zoo's collection, including 1 tawny frogmouth, 1 zebra,
 1 prehensile tailed porcupine, 1 blue duiker,
 8 Nigerian goats, 2 kunekune pigs, and
 1 chimpanzee.
- The Zoo's Commissary team introduced new feeding programs for Zoo animals, including large carcass feedings for carnivores and more extensive browse feedings made possible by a new partnership with BGE.

- The Zoo hosted its first-ever kids concert, Zoo Bop!
- The Zoo added to its popular
 Breakfast with the Animals series with
 two new breakfasts, Celebrity Birds
 and Animal Ambassadors.
- The Zoo launched Field Talks, a lecture series hosted on the Mansion House Porch that features real-life field biologists, wildlife conservationists, and Zoo staff talking about the work that they do around the world on behalf of wildlife.
- The Zoo hosted its first-ever adult summer camp, which quickly sold out!



animal report



Between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018:

- "Millie," the 1,000th African penguin chick to hatch at the Zoo, was one of 14 chicks to hatch during the 2017-18 chick season at *Penguin Coast.*
- Two Von der Decken hornbills hatched in the African Aviary and were hand-reared by Animal Embassy staff in order to prepare the brother-and-sister pair for their new roles as Animal Ambassadors.
- Several other animals were born or hatched at the Zoo, including 4 sitatunga and scores of Panamanian golden frogs.

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 1 zebra, 1 prehensile tailed porcupine, 1 blue duiker, 8 Nigerian goats, 2 kunekune pigs,
 and 1 chimpanzee.
- A young trumpeter swan that hatched at the Zoo in 2017 was released in Iowa in spring 2018 in support of that state's ongoing trumpeter swan reintroduction program. This was the second trumpeter swan from the Zoo to be released in Iowa.
- The Zoo's lions were moved to off-exhibit holding for the duration of exhibit

renovations in African Journey.

- Veterinary and animal staff teamed up with Cincinnati Zoo reproductive specialists to perform a second artificial insemination of polar bear "Anoki." In 2016, Anoki became the first polar bear to undergo artificial insemination at the Zoo, at the recommendation of the AZA's Species Survival Plan (SSP) for polar bears. Polar bear pregnancy is difficult to achieve and has been minimally investigated; this novel procedure will contribute greatly to the science of polar bear reproduction and aid in developing a successful protocol for the species.
- Veterinary and animal staff, again in conjunction with reproductive experts from the Cincinnati Zoo, also performed an artificial insemination on Amur leopard "Sofiya." Amur leopards are the rarest cats in the world, and zoos play a significant role in maintaining and hopefully propagating this endangered sub-species of leopard.
- Behavioral training programs continued to be an essential component of animal care at the Zoo, providing enrichment and facilitating husbandry and medical care for numerous species including lesser kudu, American badger, sitatunga, Von der Decken hornbill and polar bear.
- Staff veterinarians examined 837 animals at the Zoo and successfully anesthetized 130 individual animals for either wellness or

- diagnostic examinations. This work included a complex anesthetic procedure in August 2017 on the Zoo's young rhinoceros in order to perform diagnostics and treatments for pneumonia.
- Veterinary staff cared for over 20 wild animals, including birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians rescued within the Zoo, Druid Hill Park, or elsewhere in the state of Maryland. Wild patients ranged from a tiny and colorful tropical Mourning Warbler to an osprey with a complex wing injury.
- The Zoo's four veterinary technicians examined 1,811 blood and tissue samples from Zoo animals, searched for parasites in 796 fecal samples, and took 92 animal x-rays. Many of the blood samples analyzed came from African penguin chicks hatched at the Zoo each year. The Zoo employs a unique protocol for screening penguins for one of their most important and serious diseases, avian malaria, which is carried by native birds and transmitted by mosquitoes.
- Veterinary technicians also continued to collect air samples around and within Penguin Coast to test for the presence of Aspergillus, a common environmental mold that can cause a deadly fungal disease to which African penguins are very susceptible. The Zoo is actively involved in research studies to help understand and mitigate this disease in our penguin colony.

animal report (continued)

- Five veterinary students and four veterinary technician interns benefitted from on-the-job training with the Zoo's veterinary team. The Zoo is committed to helping train the next generation of zoological experts.
- The Zoo's commissary team, aided by several dedicated volunteers, prepared and delivered a variety of diets to the many animals in the Zoo, ranging from hay to vegetables to fish and even invertebrates, including crickets and locally-sourced worms. Fun fact: Zoo animals eat 100,000 crickets per week!
- The Zoo is now partnering with BGE to receive approved, donated tree clippings trimmed near power lines for animals that eat browse as part of their diet. The BGE Browse Program saves the Zoo thousands of dollars each week by reducing the need to purchase browse from farms out of state.
- This year, the commissary also expanded its carcass-feeding program for Zoo carnivores.
 Receiving whole carcasses encourages natural feeding behaviors in carnivores and promotes good health.
- The Zoo hosted a two-day HAZWOPER (Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response) workshop to certify zoo professionals, including four Maryland Zoo staff, to respond to disasters such as oil spills affecting wildlife.
- Two Zoo staff members one veterinary technician and one Animal Hospital



keeper – were trained at The National Aquarium in Baltimore (NAIB) to respond properly to turtles stunned by cold. Weeks later, these same Zoo staff members assisted at NAIB with the processing and treatment of 24 sea turtles found in the Atlantic late in the season that were suffering from the effects of unusually cold weather.

- Many other Animal and Veterinary staff members leveraged professional skill and experience to fulfill important roles in animal management beyond the Zoo.
- Avian Collection and Conservation
 Manager Jen Kottyan was elected to
 another 3-year term on the AZA's African

- Penguin Species Survival Plan (SSP) Steering Committee.
- Area Manager Pam Carter serves on the Chimpanzee SSP Steering Committee.
- Area Manager Danielle Regan serves as Egyptian Tortoise SSP coordinator and studbook keeper.
- Mammal Collection and Conservation
 Manager Erin Cantwell serves as the AZA's
 Giraffe studbook keeper.
- Amphibian and Reptile Collection and Conservation Manager Kevin Barrett serves as Panamanian Golden Frog studbook keeper.
- Area Manager Julie Grove serves on the board of the Animal Behavior Management Alliance.
- Veterinarian Ellen Bronson serves as the veterinary advisor for the Felid TAG (Taxon Advisory Group), African Penguin SSP, and Panamanian Golden Frog SSP.

conservation report

Led by Dr. Ellen Bronson, Director of Animal Health, Conservation, and Research, the Conservation Department engaged staff from across the Zoo to participate in its strategic planning process. This resulted in a new conservation mission statement – "Saving Wildlife and Protecting Wild Places" – and discrete goals, listed below:

- 1. Integrate a culture of conservation and sustainability throughout the Zoo by aligning Zoo messaging, programming, partnerships, and operations.
- 2. Establish The Maryland Zoo as a leader in research and conservation within the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) community by expanding and strengthening the Zoo's Signature Animal Programs, or SAPs.
- 3. Build capacity inside and outside of the Zoo by exchanging best practices and staff resources with conservation partners.

The Conservation Department has now defined six Signature Animal Programs, or SAPs, upon which Zoo conservation efforts will center. They are African Penguin, Panamanian Golden Frog, Polar Bear, African Elephant, Great Apes, and Native Maryland Species. Each SAP focuses on one or more species for which the Zoo has long excelled in husbandry, breeding, education, medical care, and/or research. All SAPs include strong ties to conservation partners in the field. Highlights of the Zoo's

conservation work in FY 18 and an overview of our conservation partnerships follows.

African Penguin

In November 2017, Jen Kottyan, Avian Collection and Conservation Manager, and Maria Luongo, *Penguin Coast* keeper, traveled to South Africa to volunteer for two weeks at the Southern African Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds (SANCCOB), a longstanding conservation partner of the Zoo that is dedicated to seabird research, rescue, rehabilitation, and education. Kottyan and Luongo arrived at the height of "chick season" to participate in SANCCOB's Chick Bolstering Project. They helped care for dozens of orphaned African penguin chicks being readied for release back to the wild.

A few months later, in March 2018, the Zoo hosted Stephen van der Spuy, Executive Director of SANCCOB. While in Baltimore, he met with the Zoo's *Penguin Coast* team and veterinary staff; learned firsthand about the Zoo's husbandry, medical, and breeding programs for African penguins; and spoke to Zoo staff and guests about his work at SANCCOB as a participant in the Zoo's Field Talks lecture series.

Meanwhile, Zoo staff continued their seminal work on African Penguin conservation projects advanced by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums' (AZA's) SAFE program. AZA



SAFE, short for "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 has identified 10 signature species, including African penguins. For each of the 10 signature species, SAFE surveys all contributors, identifies and prioritizes conservation needs, and develops three-year conservation action plans (CAPs) with clear-cut goals and projects. There are eight conservation

projects being pursued for African penguins, and Zoo staff contributes to several of them. Most significantly, General Curator Mike McClure serves as project manager for the African Penguin Marine Movement Project and *Penguin Coast* Area Manager Jess Phillips serves as project manager for the African Penguin Disaster Relief Project.

Panamanian Golden Frog

In August 2017, Dr. Bronson and Kevin Barrett, Amphibian & Reptile Collection and

conservation report (continued)

Conservation Manager, traveled to Panama to help plan a new breeding and husbandry facility for Panamanian golden frogs. The Zoo has been intimately involved in Project Golden Frog (PGF), a multi-national conservation initiative aimed at saving this highly endangered amphibian species, since the late 1990s. Currently, Bronson serves as veterinary advisor for the AZA's Panamanian Golden Frog Species Survival Plan (SSP) and Barrett as the SSP's Vice Program Coordinator, studbook keeper, and population manager. The Zoo maintains its own Panamanian Golden Frog Conservation Center and has arguably the most successful breeding program for this species in the world. While in Panama, Bronson and Barrett met with Panamanian colleagues and were on hand to celebrate the country's annual Golden Frog Day.

Polar Bear

In March 2018, the Zoo's veterinary and animal teams worked with reproductive experts from the Cincinnati Zoo to perform a second artificial insemination of female polar bear, "Anoki." Artificial insemination of polar bears is still in its early stages of development and has yet to be successful. However, performing the procedure successfully is, in and of itself, an accomplishment and an important scientific contribution to this cutting-edge research.

Throughout FY 18, the Zoo also continued its close and collaborative partnership with Polar



Bears International, the world's leading polar bear conservation organization. PBI's research, education, and action programs address issues that are endangering polar bears, including vanishing sea ice in the Arctic due to global warming. The Zoo supports PBI through funding, on-grounds collaborations, and staff expertise. In FY 18, polar bear keepers Tanya White and Becky Lynagh spearheaded two PBI

conservation initiatives at the Zoo: water bottle refilling stations and tree plantings.

African Elephant

In FY 18, the Zoo continued to support its two primary African Elephant conservation partners, Elephants for Africa (EFA) and International Elephant Foundation (IEF). Working in Botswana, EFA conducts research to understand the ecological and social requirements of African elephants, puts this research into the context of human-wildlife conflict, and delivers scientific data to local decision makers. The Zoo supports EFA through funding, information sharing, and collaborations to better understand the threats to African elephants in their range countries. In November 2017, Dr. Kate Evans, founder and director of EFA, visited the Zoo to meet with the Elephant Team and to talk with guests and staff as a participant in the Zoo's Field Talks lecture series.

IEF supports and operates elephant conservation and education programs both in managed facilities and in the wild, with an emphasis on management, protection, and scientific research. Since 1999, IEF has provided support to over 80 elephant conservation projects worldwide and over \$3 million in direct financial assistance. The Zoo has supported IEF since 2008 and participates in the development of its research initiatives.

Great Apes

In FY 18, the Zoo continued to support the Goualougo Triangle Ape Project (GTAP), which promotes the long-term conservation of chimpanzees and gorillas in Africa. The Zoo's volunteer-led Conservation Club donated the proceeds of its cell phone recycling drive to GTAP.

conservation report (continued)



GTAP operates in an extremely unique area: the Goualougo Triangle, a 100-square mile region of protected, pristine forest outside of and at the southern end of Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park in the Democratic Republic of

the Congo (DRC). GTAP's "action-oriented" research is intended to assist the Congolese government in managing forest resources particularly vital to remaining groups of great apes in the region.

This fiscal year, the Zoo also maintained its longstanding partnership with the Mountain Gorilla Veterinary Project (MGVP), a.k.a. Gorilla Doctors. MGVP provides health care and lifesaving medical procedures to endangered mountain gorillas living in the mountains of Rwanda, Uganda, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Headquartered at the Zoo for many years, the organization is now run out of UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine. Its founder, Dr. Mike Cranfield, led the Zoo's veterinary department for more than 25 years before devoting himself full-time to MGVP. The Zoo maintains MGVP's Bio-bank and helps process precious gorilla samples for continued research by outside researchers.

Native Maryland Species

In FY 18, the Zoo's veterinary staff drew upon its expertise with native Maryland species to help rehabilitate 34 wild animals from Druid Hill Park and beyond, including a hummingbird, an osprey, a Cooper's hawk, and an injured female bog turtle that was referred to the Zoo Animal Hospital by the Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife. The tiny turtle was successfully rehabilitated and returned to her native bog in Delaware, as was her offspring, a single baby bog turtle that hatched and over-wintered at the Zoo before being released in the spring of 2018.

Zoo staff collaborated once more with biologists from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources on the annual black bear survey of female bears and their cubs in western Maryland. The Zoo also expanded its research study of Eastern box turtles on Zoo grounds and in Druid Hill Park this year.

Other Projects of Note

- The Zoo continued to prioritize sustainability in FY 18, expanding both its composting and on-grounds efforts to source food locally through our Sustainability Garden, which saves the Zoo money and reduces our carbon footprint.
- The Zoo invited the Alaska Sealife Center in May 2018 to host a weekend-long HAZWOPER (Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response) workshop here.
 Three keepers and one veterinary technician on staff attended the workshop and became certified. They are now qualified to respond to hazardous spills (such as the Deepwater Horizon oil spill of 2010) and assist with wildlife care during oil spills.
- The Zoo sent one keeper and one veterinary technician to the TriState Bird Rescue & Research Center in Delaware for emergency response training for oiled wildlife. They are now qualified to respond to a call for rescue personnel.

education report

Between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018:

- The Zoo welcomed 71,736 individuals in association with the Free Admission program supported by the legislature and funded by the Maryland State Department of Education, as follows:
- 56,434 Maryland school children visited for free.
- 5,254 teachers accompanying those students visited for free.
- 10,048 chaperones visited for free.
- An additional 9,916 individuals (5,673 students and 4,243 teachers/ chaperones) attended in association with a field trip at a reduced rate. Those under the age of two entered for free, as all children under the age of two receive free admission to the Zoo.
- School groups came from 23 jurisdictions:
 Allegany County, Anne Arundel County,
 Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Calvert
 County, Caroline County, Carroll County,
 Cecil County, Charles County,
 Dorchester County, Frederick County,
 Garrett County, Harford County, Howard
 County, Kent County, Montgomery County,
 Prince George's County, Queen Anne's
 County, St. Mary's County, Talbot County,
 Washington County, Wicomico County, and
 Worcester County.



- To enhance school field trips, the Zoo's Education Department (staff and volunteers) offered interactive stations and Pop-Up Labs specifically developed for visiting school groups. These programs were free to interested school visitors and encouraged students to engage closely with Zoo exhibits to practice scientific skills such as close observation, data collection, and making hypotheses.
- 2,373 students participated in 109 paid or grant-supported school programs (ZOOlabs and Zoo Introductions) that stimulated students' critical thinking, supported reading skills, and addressed science, math, and life science topics. These programs were aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards and the Maryland College and Career-Ready Standards as appropriate.
- In spring 2018, the Zoo developed and piloted a focused STEM offering for Baltimore City Public School (BCPS)
 3rd graders as part of a new curriculumembedded field trip experience. The pilot included pre- and post-visit materials for teachers and a one-hour ZOOlab on grounds in which students learned what it means to

education report (continued)



- design an exhibit to meet an animal's needs and to accommodate the special adaptations of that species. Education staff provided nine ZOOlabs to three different schools, serving a total of 159 students.
- Education staff also worked with three middle school classes (6th, 7th, and 8th grade) at the Baltimore Leadership School for Young Women (BLSYW) as part of a grant-funded Exhibit Design Partnership. A total of 69 students participated in the program, which concluded with students designing an updated exhibit for animals at the Zoo.
- Zoo educators delivered classes for 24 homeschooled children, ages 5 to 8. The children learned about animal adaptations, with each class session focusing on the characteristics and ecological significance of animals with similar life histories.
- Thirteen adults participated in our first-ever Adult Summer Camp and 24 middle-school campers participated in our brand-new Keeper-in-Training Camp. Seventy-two campers entering grades 3 through 6 participated in our other weeklong summer camp programs.
- Outreach education staff, assisted by Zoo volunteers, delivered 860 outreach programs to 44,001 people in communities across Maryland and beyond. Of those programs, 224 were grant-funded and delivered at no cost to Title I elementary schools, early education centers, and libraries throughout

- Maryland. In addition, Outreach staff attended 43 community programs where they engaged with 1,960 children and 1,955 adults for a total of 3,915 participants.
- Zoo educators on the Public Programs team developed and delivered a variety of on-grounds experiences to engage Zoo visitors and enhance their learning.
- More than 67,000 Zoo visitors participated in Education Stations, family overnights, puppet shows, walking tours, and other animal-centered activities facilitated by Zoo education instructors and volunteers.
- Zoo educators worked with colleagues in other departments to organize and lead seven Wild About Days, with each day focusing on a particular endangered species, its conservation challenges, and action steps that people can take to prevent its extinction.
- Throughout the Zoo, interpretive signage was updated, revised, and added, enhancing exhibits with important information about animals, their habitats, and conservation concerns affecting their survival in the wild.
- Volunteers received in-depth training from Education staff on several exhibit areas to enable them to effectively teach guests in these areas of the Zoo and to deliver the penguin feeding narration.
- Sharon Bowen, Education Manager, served as Education Advisor to the AZA's Maned Wolf Species Survival Plan (SSP).

volunteers

Between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018:

- The Maryland Zoo received the 2017
 Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA)
 Volunteer Engagement Award, in recognition
 of our program's innovative nature.
 Representatives from the Zoo received the
 award at the AZA's national conference in
 Indianapolis.
- 1,090 volunteers gave 40,605 hours of service to the Zoo.
- 345 people volunteered regularly throughout the year, interacting with guests and working behind the scenes.
- An additional 745 people volunteered for one-day projects for special events.
- 88 teens participated in the Zoo Teen program, the Zoo's service-learning program for youth 14-17. These students averaged 71 hours of service each, educating guests about wildlife, beautifying the campus, and caring for animals. Among their projects, they designed a conservation-themed banner for Zoo visitors and maintained nest boxes for bluebirds and other native songbirds in Druid Hill Park.
- 36 college interns worked alongside Zoo staff throughout the year and completed projects in education, animal care, graphic design, new media, veterinary technology, horticulture, visitor services, audience evaluation and volunteer management.

 They represented 18 local and national schools, including Auburn University, Blue Ridge

- Community College, Community College of Baltimore County, Clemson University, Delaware Technical College, Johns Hopkins University, Loyola University of Maryland, Michigan State University, Northern Virginia Community College, Salem State University, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Towson University, University of Maryland, University of North Carolina, University of Kentucky, University of Virginia, Washington State University, and YTI Career Institute.
- A new program called Zoo Partners was created to empower young adults with cognitive or physical disabilities to explore volunteering. Training and resources for current volunteer mentors and staff were created by Towson University's graduate program in Occupational Therapy, and participants were screened and supported by The IMAGE Center, a local non-profit that teaches life skills. In FY 2018, 11 young people served as Zoo Partners on grounds, and the program will continue to grow.
- The volunteer-led Maryland Zoo
 Conservation Club continued to raise
 awareness of the need to live more sustainably
 through special initiatives and pledge drives at
 Zoo events. The club continued its cell phone
 recycling drive, adding many schools, senior
 centers, and other community partners to the
 effort and collecting more than 400 phones in
 FY 2018. The club also continued its "spent
 pen" drive (plus markers and highlighters) and



its waste drive, which resulted in the gathering of more than 1,200 pounds of trash and recyclables along the Zoo's perimeter fence.

 Volunteer Department staff extended their professional contributions beyond the Zoo, with Kerrie Kovaleski, Director of Volunteer Programs, serving as Chair-Elect of the AZA's Volunteer Management Committee, and

- Allison Schwartz, Manager of Volunteers, chairing the Maryland Council of Directors of Volunteer Service.
- Ms. Kovaleski, in her role as Chair-Elect, coordinated the annual benchmarking survey for the AZA Volunteer Management Committee and presented findings at the annual meeting in Indianapolis.

institutional advancement



Between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018:

- The Maryland Zoo continued to receive invaluable support from the State of Maryland, the City of Baltimore, Baltimore County, and Howard County. Together, these governments provided more than half of the Zoo's operating funds and important capital improvements, with the State as the most significant contributor for capital improvements. We remain deeply grateful for government leaders' recognition and appreciation of the Zoo as a high-quality institution serving the community.
- Zoo Membership had a strong year, with over 13,500 membership households supporting The Maryland Zoo, resulting in over \$1,500,000 in membership revenue. In exchange, members received unlimited year-round admission to the Zoo, reduced admission to more than 150 other AZA organizations, special offers at local attractions, and more.
- The Zoo "Perks" program for members added several new partners, including The Baltimore Orioles, The Baltimore Brigade, and Towson University.

- The Corporate Membership program generated \$399,000 in revenue, with support from 119 businesses in the Baltimore region. The Zoo is grateful to all of its corporate members, who not only chose to support the Zoo but also to provide employees with a cost-effective benefit.
- Many generous individual and corporate donors supported the Zoo through gifts to The Maryland Zoo Fund, the ADOPT program, and targeted capital improvements. The Zoo was also the grateful beneficiary of gifts made in honor or in memory of loved ones.
- Individual donors contributed \$760,000 that will directly support general operating expenses.
- The Zoo received its second grant in two years from the Maryland State Department of Housing and Community Development
 Community Income Tax Credit (CITC) program, allowing us to continue to offer donors the opportunity to receive additional tax credits above and beyond standard deductions.
- Foundations and philanthropic funds in the region granted monies for the vital services of day-to-day operations, educational programming, and capital projects.
- The Zoo's Marketing Team continued to generate interest and excitement for the Zoo on many platforms and in many ways.

- In collaboration with the Zoo's advertising agency of record, Mission Media, the Zoo's Marketing Team developed a campaign to support the renovation of the lion, giraffe, and elephant exhibits in *African Journey*. Building on the tagline "All for Animals," the campaign focuses on ways in which habitat improvements will benefit the animals and prioritize their health and welfare.
- The Zoo's social media audiences continued to grow, breaking new engagement records with a Facebook audience at an all-time high of 203,000 at the close of FY 18.
- The Zoo's Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, and Pinterest audiences also grew significantly.
 The Zoo now has over 38,000 Instagram followers, representing an increase of nearly 19% from FY 17.
- The Zoo's Events Team hosted perennial favorites and exciting new offerings, drawing thousands of guests and hundreds of thousands in revenue.
- Events added two new offerings to its "Breakfast with the Animals" series: Breakfast with Celebrity Birds and Breakfast with the Ambassadors. Every "Breakfast with the Animals" sold out in advance.
- Events developed the Zoo's first-ever kids concert, ZooBop, featuring Latin Grammy Award-winning artist 123 Andres! and Baby Beats! With Max and Root. It was a great success and will become a recurring event.

institutional advancement (continued)

- Events partnered with Guinness for a tasty educational event, Guinness Night at the Zoo. Guests enjoyed beer and food pairings while hearing about Guinness's famous animal-themed advertisements.
- Brew at the Zoo, the Zoo's largest annual fundraiser, attracted 7,500 guests and \$440,000 in revenue.
- Group Sales had another solid year, despite the impact of poor weather on rental attendance and consignment revenue. Group Sales successfully booked private, nonprofit, and corporate rentals and retreats; fundraising walks and picnics; group visits, group tours, and behind-the-scenes tours; birthday parties; and visits from consignment ticket holders.
- The Group Sales team has continued to promote wedding ceremonies and receptions very successfully via Zoo's website and Wedding Wire.
- Elopement Packages for short-term wedding ceremonies have proven popular, with 11 Elopement Packages generating significant last-minute revenue in FY18.
- In December 2017, the Zoo was recognized for the fifth year in a row as a winner of Wedding Wire's Couples Choice Award, receiving special recognition for exceptional customer service. The Zoo's average Wedding Wire review rating in FY18 was 5 out of 5, with 14 reviewers giving 5 out of 5.

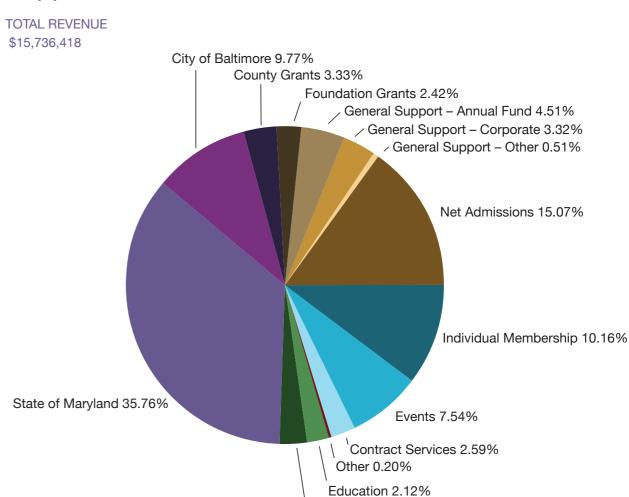
- The Zoo's Public Relations Department continued to share timely and compelling news with a vast audience via local, national, and international news sites.
- Zoo animals and staff were featured in a number of news stories during the year, with exceptional coverage devoted to our Penguin Encounters program. Articles and video news stories online increased the visibility of this program in the Washington, DC area, prompting a major increase in Penguin Encounters sales during the latter half of the fiscal year.



financials

Total General Support Contributed Income		1,313,186 9,381,281	Operating Revenues	\$15,736,418
Other	80,567		Earned Income	6,355,137
Corporate	522,941		Other	31,136
Annual Fund	709,678		Education	334,344
General Support			Attractions	425,621
Foundation Grants		381,300	Contract Services	407,603
County Grants		523,240	Events	1,186,308
City of Baltimore		1,536,174	Individual Memberships	1,598,443
State of Maryland		\$ 5,627,381	Net Admissions	\$ 2,371,682
Contributed Incom	ie		Earned Income	

Support & Revenue



Attractions 2.70%

Net Capital Support – used to fund capital projects

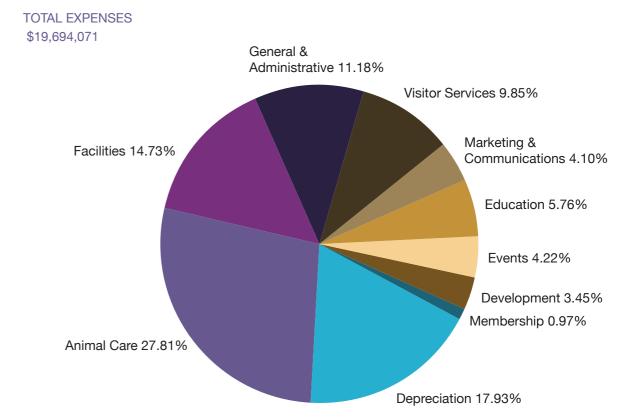
\$3,683,147

financials



Expenses				
Animal Care	\$ 5,476,082			
Facilities	2,900,310			
General & Administrative	2,202,487			
Visitor Services	1,939,545			
Marketing/Communications	806,898			
Education	1,134,433			
Events	831,911			
Development	679,839			
Membership	191,213			
Operating Expenses				
Before Depreciation	16,162,718			
Depreciation	3,531,353			
Operating Expenses	\$19,694,071			

Expenses



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staff research projects and publications

RESEARCH PROJECT PARTICIPATION

Staff-led Research Projects

Pharmacokinetics of the antimalarial drug Primaquine in African penguins (E. Bronson, S. Sander, J. Kottyan)

This project is directed by the African Penguin SAFE (Saving Animals from Extinction)
Sustainability project as a research priority to improve the health of African penguins in human care. Avian malaria is one of the major diseases afflicting this species, and scientific information regarding the antimalarial drugs used to treat it is entirely lacking in any bird species. This study was performed in the summer of 2018 with grant monies from AZA's Conservation Grant Fund and the Association of Avian Veterinarians Companion and Wild Bird Health Fund to determine the correct dose of drug for prophylaxis and treatment of this deadly disease.

Factors affecting abnormal molting in African penguins (M. Golembeski, S. Sander, J. Kottyan)

This project is also an African Penguin SAFEdirected study examining the risk factors, causes, and treatments associated with molting issues in African penguins in North American zoological institutions in order to improve their well-being and overcome this common health issue.

Behavioral changes in lion-tailed macaques following introduction of a singly housed male to an established male-female pair (L. Simpson, J. Grove, E. Cantwell, J. Sohl, E. Bronson)

Detailed observations wereconducted in three macaques a the Zoo's hospital to track behavioral changes throughout the introduction process between a single male and an established male-female pair, analyzing the changes in affiliative, agonistic, and abnormal behaviors exhibited before, during, and after introductions.

Ecology and health study of free-ranging Eastern box turtles within the grounds of The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore (K. Mantzouris, K. Barrett, E. Bronson)

A rejuvenation of the long-standing program of the free-ranging Eastern box turtles in and around The Maryland Zoo has occurred with the help of several smaller grants in order to enhance study of this population's movements, health, and survivorship. Ten radio transmitters were obtained this past year to begin regularly tracking specific individuals with the help of Zoo staff, and in the future, Zoo volunteers.

Use of herbal supplements to decrease anxiety in two adult female chimpanzees (E. Dombrowski, P, Carter, E. Cantwell, E. Bronson)

Two female chimpanzees in the Zoo's troop were observed during four herbal supplement trial studies (a fifth will be the placebo) to determine if the supplements have any effect on specific anxiety-related behaviors in this species.

The pilot study has been completed and a second study is in the planning and design stages.

Okapi Relationships between individuals and conspecifics (R. Sutker)

Research on okapi relationships with multiple males, conspecifics, and the general public does not exist, and this behavioral observation study was performed to provide baseline data and to improve okapi husbandry, training, and enrichment protocols as well as prepare for any future breeding acquisitions/recommendations.

Collaborative projects with outside researchers

Risk assessment for avian malaria transmission in African and Magellanic penguins (C. Efstathion)

The objective of this study is to collect data on the temporal abundance of mosquito species at The Maryland Zoo. This data will help the development of an experimental protocol for risk assessment of avian malaria transmission that will guide the development of a mosquito mitigation program at The Maryland Zoo and serve as a model for other zoos with outdoor penguin exhibits.

Developing genomic tools for North American river otters (D. Hamilton)

This project will generate the first genome-wide survey of North American river otters, which will be used to assess genetic variation, and enable genomics projects in otters to address fundamental questions about individual and population health and species survival. Genetic markers from the otter genome will provide crucial information on the demographic history of our managed populations of otters and will provide detailed estimates of how individuals are related to each other and, eventually, how they are related to wild populations.

Interspecific variation of cutaneous water loss among reptiles and amphibians (C.E. Ouifiero)

More research is aimed at understanding how these animals will respond to a changing climate and often include physiological traits to better optimize mechanistic models. Water loss, including cutaneous water loss, has recently been incorporated into species specific models to help predict distributions and response of ectotherms. The goal of this study is to quantify the interspecific variation in cutaneous water loss, using captive reptiles and amphibians in collaboration with zoos and aquaria.

Population Genomics of white oak (P.F. Gugger)

Through collection of samples from oak trees within the Zoo, this project proposes to identify adaptive genetic variation in the ecologically and economically important tree species, the white oak, using population and landscape genomic analyses. Results will be used to project responses to future climate change and how this species will respond to environmental change.

staff research projects and publications (continued)

PUBLICATIONS

Baker KC, Rettenmund CL, Sander SJ, Rivas AE, Green KC, Mangus L, Bronson E. Clinical effect of hemoparasite infections in snowy owls (*Bubo scandiacus*). Journal of Zoo and Wildlife Medicine, 2018; 49:143-152.

Bauer K, **Sander SJ**, Steeil JC, Walsh T, Neiffer D. Calcinosis circumscripta in three juvenile African lions *(Panthera leo)*. Journal of Zoo and Wildlife Medicine, 2017; 48(3):813-817.

Coughlin P, Bradford C, Montali RJ, **Bronson E.** Pustular dermatitis caused by impetigo in redtailed monkeys *(Cercopithecus ascanius).* Journal of Zoo and Wildlife Medicine, 2018; 49:206-209.

Eustace R, Wack A, Mangus L, **Bronson E.**Causes of mortality in captive Panamanian golden frogs (*Atelopus zeteki*) at the Maryland Zoo in Baltimore, 2001-2013. Journal of Zoo and Wildlife Medicine, 2018; 49:324-334.

Marrow JC, **Sander SJ**, Hallager SH, Sander WE, Hanselmann R, Murray SZ. Comparison of serum iron in captive and wild kori bustards (*Ardeotis kori*). Journal of Zoo and Wildlife Medicine, 2018; 49(2):450-453.

PRESENTATIONS

Jenny Brubaker. Who knew you could train a kudu: the use of operant conditioning to manage hoof health in a lesser kudu (*Tragelaphus imberbis*). Association of Zoo Veterinary Technicians Annual Conference. October 2017.

Erin Dombrowski. Use of herbal supplements to decrease anxiety in an adult female chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*). Chimpanzee SSP Master Planning Meeting. May 2018.

Kerrie Kovaleski. Trends and impacts of volunteer programs at AZA institutions. AZA Annual Conference. September 2017.

Katie Manion. Emerging trends in the field of conservation education and engagement. AZA Annual Conference. September 2017.

Jess Phillips. SAFE disaster response in African penguins (*Spheniscus demersus*). AZA Mid-year meeting. May 2018.

Dr. Christy Rettenmund. Hemoparasite infections in snowy owls (*Bubo scandiacus*). American Association of Zoo Veterinarians Annual Conference. October 2017.

Dr. Sam Sander. Fatalranavirus outbreak in a captive group of Meller's chameleons (*Trioceros melleri*). American Association of Zoo Veterinarians Annual Conference. October 2017.

LECTURES

Kevin Barrett: Panamanian golden frog conservation. Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Johns Hopkins University. Guest lecture. November 2017.

Dr. Ellen Bronson: Comparative physiology of the gastrointestinal tract. Midwestern University College of Veterinary Medicine. Glendale, Arizona. Invited guest lecturer for Veterinary Physiology course. May 2018.

Dr. Ellen Bronson: The zoo veterinarian's role in conservation. University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine. Annual guest lecture. February 2018.

Dr. Ellen Bronson: Diseases of captive and freeranging mammals. University of Maryland College Park.Undergraduate lecture for biology and animal science majors. Annual guest lecture. October 2017.

Dr. Ellen Bronson: Research in the modern zoo. Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Johns Hopkins University. Guest lecture. November 2017.

Dr Ellen Bronson: Health management of zoo populations. University of Maryland College Park. Undergraduate lecture for animal science majors. Guest lecture. March 2018.

Erin Cantwell: Species Survival Plan and giraffes. Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Johns Hopkins University. Guest lecture. November 2017.

Lori Finkelstein, PhD: History of the modern zoo. Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Johns Hopkins University. Guest lecture. October 2017.

Peter Martin: Beyond the field trip: community engagement and education. Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Johns Hopkins University. Guest lecture. December 2017.

Jess Phillips: African penguin conservation and AZA SAFE. Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Johns Hopkins University. Guest lecture. November 2017.

Dr. Christy Rettenmund: Zoonotic diseases. University of Maryland College Park Continuing Medical Education lecture series. April 2018.

Dr. Sam Sander: Breeding and conservation of the African penguin. Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine Theriogenology & Zoo Clubs. October 2017.

Dr. Sam Sander: What's your diagnosis: cardiac disease in a grey wolf. University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine Special Species Club. November 2017.

Dr. Sam Sander: Behind the scenes: conservation of native wildlife. Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Johns Hopkins University. Guest lecture. November 2017.

Dr. Sam Sander: Diseases of fish & reptiles.
University of Maryland College Park.
Undergraduate lecture for biology and animal science majors. Guest lecture. November 2017.

We could not do it without you!

Your generosity allows the Zoo to continue offering excellent animal, education, and conservation programs, to provide an exemplary visitor experience, and to assure a clean and safe environment for our animals, staff, and guests from all over Maryland and the region. Our genuine thanks go to you, our faithful friends, who year after year support the Zoo with your philanthropic donations, enabling us to make the wonders of wildlife accessible to the entire community.

Government Support

The Maryland Zoo continued to receive invaluable support from the State of Maryland, the City of Baltimore, Baltimore County, and Howard County. Together, these governments provided more than half of the Zoo's operating funds and important capital improvements, with the State as the most significant contributor for capital improvements. We remain deeply grateful for government leaders' recognition and appreciation of the Zoo as a high-quality institution serving the community.



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The Maryland Zoo is a nonprofit organization that must raise nearly half of its operating budget from private sources every year. Our heartfelt thanks go out to the following donors, whose sophisticated understanding of the importance of support for daily operations led them to contribute \$100 or more to our Annual Fund between July 1, 2017, and June 30, 2018. Their generosity enabled us to finish our fiscal year in the black for the sixth year in a row.

Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of this listing of donors. We regret any inadvertent omissions or errors and ask that you bring these to the attention of the Development Department by calling 443-552-5293.

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Carrie Wiskman

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1-49 HOURS

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Akshata Almad

Eric Anderson

Tressa Andrews

Paisley Ashland

Timm Baldwin

Valerie Barclay

Edward Barrera

Saskaya Beckford

Ian Bartlett

Rob Bean

Gail Bending

Morgan Bengel

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Maia Allen

Paul Wilson

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The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore is a non-profit organization accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.



MARYLAND ZOO

1876 Mansion House Drive, Druid Hill Park, Baltimore, MD 21217-4474

www.marylandzoo.org

HOURS OF OPERATION

Every day is a great day to be at the Zoo! Plan ahead and enjoy a day here soon. Before you visit, check the Zoo's website – www.MarylandZoo.org – to get up-to-date information on daily programming, exhibits, and upcoming events.

Open daily, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. (Closed Thanksgiving Day and December 25, and Tuesday through Thursday in January and February.)

PHONE NUMBERS

General Information	410-396-710
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