New Chapters for a Storied Zoo

Over the decades since its 1868 inception Lincoln Park Zoo has shared stories and made memories for generations of Chicagoans and visitors to our great city. It has evolved from a modest menagerie in a lakefront park into a global leader in the advancement of animal care and wildlife conservation. Set aside that bookmark. The story of Chicago’s free zoo is still being written.

As we toast the zoo’s 150th anniversary we aren’t resting on our accomplishments and never will. In fact, one of the best parts about revisiting our past is the inspiration it provides for our future. We’re doing more than ever to bring conservation and biodiversity learning opportunities into Chicago communities. We’re engaging children and teens to help grow the next generation of conservation stewards. Armed with science, we’re continually improving our habitats—as seen through the success of The Pride of Chicago campaign—to provide even better animal care and encourage a deeper connection between our guests and the animals.

The science we’re using daily on zoo grounds is the same science in use in our vast and varied fieldwork. It’s the same science that saves species and propels us into the future. It’s the same science we’re celebrating with our anniversary exhibition, From Swans to Science: 150 Years of Lincoln Park Zoo, which shares stories from our past as well as our vision for the future: to inspire communities to create environments where wildlife will thrive in our urbanizing world.

Those next chapters are already being coauthored with countless supporters, conservation and community partners, and younger generations who will one day become caretakers of the zoo’s legacy and forward progress. We are history in perpetual motion—for another 150 years and then some.

For Wildlife. For All.

Kevin Bell  S. Biff Bowman
President and CEO  Chairman
In fall 2017, Lincoln Park Zoo broke ground on **SEARLE VISITOR CENTER** (right), the next project of *The Pride of Chicago* campaign that’s transforming animal care, learning, and guest experiences at the zoo. Designed by local firms Ross Barney Architects and landscape architect Jacobs/Ryan Associates, the sleek facility opens this fall inside the zoo’s East Gate. It comprises separate structures joined by an aluminum canopy that covers a courtyard. Surrounded with windows and native plants, the center will also have a unique retractable wall that provides an open-air environment in warmer months. The state-of-the-art Searle Visitor Center will be home to guest and member services, including the first ever Lincoln Park Zoo Member Center, generously supported by the Women’s Board. The Visitor Center will also include much improved amenities such as a member lounge, safety, medical services, and wayfinding, as well as conveniently located restrooms.

As Lincoln Park Zoo continues toward the final phase of *The Pride of Chicago* campaign, fundraising and design development has begun for historic **KOVLER LION HOUSE**.

Zoo grounds were also enhanced by landscape improvements. “**RHINO GARDENS,**” a major renovation along the west-border fence, removed invasive and sick trees and added a rain garden and bioswale to alleviate flooding on public pathways. New plantings include ornamental trees, flowering shrubs, and perennials—many of which support pollinators and other wildlife. In the pond next to Café Brauer a **NEW WATERFALL AND RECIRCULATING SYSTEM** (left, top) has diminished algae growth and debris.

A new look also greeted guests thanks to completion of the zoo’s **REBRANDING INITIATIVE**. The tagline “For Wildlife. For All.” and a new logo (left, center) conveyed the zoo’s commitment to wildlife conservation and inclusiveness, while in-market brand messages helped raise awareness of the zoo’s animal care, learning, and conservation and science initiatives in Chicago and beyond.

A new **ZOO ARCHIVE FACILITY** (left, bottom)—funded by the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation—behind-the-scenes at Regenstein Center for African Apes also honors community connections and memories by preserving materials that document the zoo’s history, starting with the cataloguing of more than 1,000 previously unprocessed images.
An Array of Support

ZOO BALL: THE MANE EVENT (left, top), held on July 14, raised more than $1.4 million to support the Women’s Board’s leadership pledge to fund new zoo initiatives, including Searle Visitor Center. Co-chaired by Mary Pearlman and Shawn Sandor and generously supported by presenting sponsor Invesco QQQ, the evening featured a safari theme and honored Zoo Ball’s 40th anniversary.

On May 20, the Auxiliary Board’s signature fundraiser, ZOO-OLOGIE: A MIDSUMMER NIGHT’S ROAR, raised more than $200,000 toward The Pride of Chicago capital campaign. Co-chaired by Lauren Craig, Jake Gustafson and Gabrielle LeVert (left, center), the upscale cocktail party treated guests to creative mixologist and chef offerings and roaring dance-floor tunes.

Nearly 600,000 revelers flocked to ZOOLIGHTS PRESENTED BY COMED AND INVESCO QQQ (above, right) for free nights offered November 24–January 7, plus special ticketed events including BrewLights Presented by Louis Glunz Beer, Inc. and the Auxiliary Board.

Lincoln Park Zoo’s 12,000 members, as well as many non-members, contributed to the zoo through UNRESTRICTED GIFTS, ADOPT-AN-ANIMAL SPONSORSHIPS, AND WISH LIST PURCHASES. Their gifts provided more than $5.1 million in donations.

The Volunteer Services Department supervised 480 weekly VOLUNTEERS in a dozen different roles ranging from guest relations to gardening to public programs. New volunteers numbered 136, representing the highest recruitment year to date. A new learning volunteer role, Play Assistant (left, bottom), helped facilitate nature play activities for the littlest learners at Farm-in-the-Zoo and Pritzker Family Children’s Zoo. Zoo volunteers tally tens of thousands of hours of service each year.

Lincoln Park Zoo participated with many other Illinois conservation organizations and museums in the AMERICAN ALLIANCE OF MUSEUMS’ ADVOCACY EFFORTS in February. The advocacy group met with members of the Illinois delegation to urge funding support for the Institute of Museum and Library Services, which faces proposed elimination at the federal level. Programs by these institutions play an essential role in educating the public, especially students, about conservation, science, arts and the humanities.
ZOOMONITOR (below, left)—a Lincoln Park Zoo-developed app that records animal behavioral data to help caregivers make decisions benefitting animal welfare—continued its remarkable global expansion. Today, some 250 institutions in dozens of countries, including zoos, aquariums, sanctuaries, and research institutions, have registered for licenses, provided free by the zoo upon review.

Lincoln Park Zoo research scientist David Morgan, Ph.D., and researchers with the Goualougo Triangle Ape Project—a conservation partnership protecting wild apes in the Republic of Congo—PUBLISHED A STUDY IN BIOLOGICAL CONSERVATION in November 2017 that shows how selective logging (right, center) impacts chimpanzee and gorilla populations (right, bottom) differently by using data collected before, during and after timber extraction. The new insights, gained through unprecedented cooperation with the local logging company, will inform recommendations that can help minimize the impact of logging on apes in the future.

Last September, scientists with the zoo’s URBAN WILDLIFE INSTITUTE (UWI) ATTENDED THE FIRST NATIONAL URBAN ECOSYSTEMS FORUM hosted by the American Architectural Foundation in Oklahoma City. The goal: to share expertise and discuss multidisciplinary strategies to maintain healthy urban ecosystems for all species. UWI also teamed up with the zoo’s Davee Center for Endocrinology and Epidemiology for a SMALL MAMMAL STUDY IN CHICAGO (above, left). Voles, mice, shrews, chipmunks, and squirrels were temporarily trapped to assess their health, tag them for tracking, and collect hormones via hair and feces to assess how urbanization may affect stress levels.

KRISTINE SCHAD, M.S. (right, top), was named director of the AZA Population Management Center (PMC), hosted at Lincoln Park Zoo. Schad previously worked at PMC as a studbook analyst and population biologist before moving to the Netherlands for four years to serve as the first full-time population biologist in the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA) office.

Scientists in the Alexander Center for Applied Population Biology published two studies of population dynamics for threatened species with collaborators. RED WOLF MODELING helped inform the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on the species’ long-term prognosis for recovery in the wild. An analysis of data from a decade of MONITORING EASTERN MASSASAUGA RATTLESNAKES at a site in Michigan yielded insights on the impacts of management techniques like prescribed fire. Staff were also awarded a major National Science Foundation grant to develop the COMPADRE/COMADRE DATABASES, which provide an open-access repository of demographic data for over 1,300 plant and 1,500 animal species to researchers around the world.

Moving Science Forward
MAUREEN LEAHY, formerly curator of primates, was named vice president of animal care and horticulture. JILL MOYSE, previously assistant lead keeper at Lincoln Park Zoo, served as primate supervisor at Houston Zoo before returning to the zoo as zoological manager and being promoted to curator of primates. MIKE MURRAY was named curator of mammals. Murray previously worked at Binder Park Zoo, Denver Zoo, and Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, where he was associate curator of animals.

The FIRST AFRICAN PENGUIN TO HATCH at Robert and Mayari Pritzker Penguin Cove arrived on February 10, 2018. The colony’s newest member, a male named Oliver (right, top) by Lincoln Park Zoo Trustee Mayari Pritzker, is part of the African Penguin Species Survival Plan® (SSP), a collaborative population management effort supporting this endangered species among institutions within the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.

Earlier this year, the zoo welcomed TALINI, A 13-YEAR-OLD FEMALE POLAR BEAR (below, left), to Walter Family Arctic Tundra. Paired with 8-year-old male Siku as part of a breeding recommendation by the Polar Bear SSP, Talini was introduced to Siku in March with great success. The zoo is committed to polar bear conservation efforts and collaborates with Polar Bears International on climate-change education initiatives.

The FIRST BAER’S POCHARD CHICKS EVER TO HATCH at the zoo arrived July 29 at McCormick Bird House. The ducks (right, bottom) represent a critically endangered species native to eastern Asia. Another significant hatch, a male GUAM MICRONESIAN KINGFISHER CHICK (left, top), arrived May 29. The species is extinct in the wild due to predation by the invasive brown tree snake on its native island of Guam. Roughly 100 individuals remain in accredited zoos. Cooperative breeding is increasing the population, and may one day make possible a reintroduction of the species at a protected wild-release site.

TWO MALE PLAINS ZEBRAS (left, center) now reside at Regenstein African Journey’s Kovler African Savanna. The zebras, both 3 years old, were born at Lion Country Safari in rural West Palm Beach, Florida. In September, one was named Mike in honor of U.S. Representative Mike Quigley (Illinois, 5th District), a steadfast zoo supporter.
Embracing Community

**WILD MARSHALL SQUARE**—part of the zoo’s community engagement partnership with Chicago’s Little Village neighborhood—provided a unique opportunity for kindergarten and first-grade students from three elementary schools to observe and learn about the natural behaviors of chimpanzees at the zoo. Alongside artists from OPEN Center for the Arts and scientists from the zoo’s Lester E. Fisher Center for the Study and Conservation of Apes, children drew what they observed (left, bottom, and front cover). Panelists from the community and the zoo reviewed the drawings and selected four that were turned into life-size sculptures (left, top) by artist and OPEN Center executive director Omar Magaña. The sculptures have been exhibited at the zoo since summer 2017, and will soon be moved to Marshall Boulevard in Little Village, where they will help enhance local green space and invite local residents to more deeply engage with nature in their neighborhood.

Rooted in the zoo’s nature-play approach to early-childhood learning, **WILD SAPLING PLAY FOREST** (right, top) was constructed in a woodsy corner of Pritzker Family Children’s Zoo next to the black bear exhibit. Open and free to all every day, the play space includes features like a log tower, a balance beam interspersed with tree stumps, a dig pit, and sensory panels with organic materials that help kids connect with the outdoors through self-directed exploration. Zoo educators and the Chicago Park District also teamed up to host the first of our **FAMILY NATURE DAYS** at neighborhood parks across the city. The free programs connect families with children of all ages with nature through activities from pine cone sorting to bird-watching tips.

Meanwhile, **EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING PROGRAMS AT THE FARM PRESENTED BY PEOPLES GAS** offered free activities for young learners at the Farm-in-the-Zoo: Play Days at the Farm, Sing Along with Mr. Singer (right, center), Edible Gardens (in partnership with Green City Market and The Organic Gardener), and Feed the Cows.

The Learning Department and Lester E. Fisher Center for the Study and Conservation of Apes **PARTNERED WITH CHIMP HAVEN** to develop and evaluate educational outreach days for the public and related, interpretive signage for the national chimpanzee sanctuary located in Louisiana.

The sanctuary’s chimpanzees also received enrichment toys upcycled from old zoo branded uniforms. The items were crafted by the **GREEN TEAM** (right, bottom), a volunteer committee of zoo staff tasked with devising actions that increase sustainability in zoo operations. Pet shelters in Chicago also received the items, and other distributions included ID badges cleverly repurposed as guitar picks.
Financials

THANKS TO THE GENEROUS SUPPORT of our donors, members and millions of visitors, Lincoln Park Zoo ended the year with a balanced operating budget. To view a version of our complete year-end financials, please visit lpzoo.org.

### Operating Budget

#### Revenue
- Chicago Park District Subsidy: $5,590,000
- Earned Revenues: $9,756,400

#### Expenses
- Visitor Services: $3,103,400
- Development and Membership: $2,209,200
- Administration: $2,894,500
- Buildings and Grounds: $5,324,400
- Animal Care and Conservation: $10,396,100
- Public Education: $4,172,900

### Liabilities and Net Assets

#### Assets
- Cash: 14,485,061
- Investments: 127,940,608
- Investments – Other: 5,250,627

#### Liabilities
- Accounts Payable: 2,542,921
- Annuities Payable: 353,483
- Compensation: 2,002,974
- Deferred Revenue: -
- Commercial Paper: -
- Bonds payable, net of issuance costs: 70,000,000

#### Net Assets
- Total Net Assets: 177,515,491
- Operating Assets: 101,958,799
- Permanently restricted: 33,720,140
- Temporarily restricted: 36,311,251
- Unrestricted: 31,927,408

The report covers The Lincoln Park Zoological Society’s fiscal year, which began April 1, 2017 and ended March 31, 2018.

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**Operational Budget**

**Revenue**
- Contributed Revenues: $13,374,100
- Earned Revenues: $9,756,400

**Expenses**
- Visitor Services: $3,103,400
- Development and Membership: $2,209,200
- Administration: $2,894,500
- Buildings and Grounds: $5,324,400
- Animal Care and Conservation: $10,396,100
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