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EDITOR'S NOTE: Photos available for download [HERE](#).

Guests Take a Walk on the Wild Side at Lincoln Park Zoo's Zoo-ologie

Annual Auxiliary Board Event Raises More Than \$160,000 to Support New Zoo Initiatives

Chicago (May 30, 2018) – Nearly 650 of Chicago's most influential young professionals walked the walk for wildlife at *Lincoln Park Zoo's Zoo-ologie: Walk on the Wild Side* on May 12. The eighth annual Auxiliary Board event raised more than \$160,000 to support Lincoln Park Zoo's *The Pride of Chicago* campaign, which helps fund new initiatives at the zoo such as the new *Searle Visitor Center*, slated to open this fall.

Enjoying the new event footprint this year, the Explorer Add-On package kicked off the night with a special reception including exclusive food stations, a private bar, passed champagne and front-of-scenes tours with animal keepers in the intimate *Regenstein Small Mammal-Reptile House*. All guests indulged their culinary curiosities with fare from 20 different Chicago restaurants, danced to the tunes of Blake Alexander and DJ Rock City and bid on numerous premier packages during the silent auction, including an all-inclusive stay at a private resort in Acapulco and tickets to the musical *Hamilton*.



Zoo-ologie guests were the first to try "Coco Loro," coconut milk stout with Puerto Rican spiced rum flavors crafted by DryHop Brewers to benefit the zoo's work to conserve the critically endangered Puerto Rican parrot. DryHop's Executive Chef Will Befort paired this craft brew with mole rojo braised beef short ribs served over coconut rice.



Zoo-ologie: Walk on the Wild Side was presented by the Auxiliary Board of Lincoln Park Zoo chairs Tara From, Tiffany McCormick and Jennifer Splawski.

Zoo-ologie was generously supported by FedEx Express, Latham & Watkins, KIND, William Blair, Wintrust, Associated Bank, BMO Harris Bank and The John Buck Company. This year's event partners included Cutwater Spirits, DryHop Brewers, MillerCoors, The Seeker Wines, Modern Luxury CS, Balani and United.

Founded in 1985, the Auxiliary Board of Lincoln Park Zoo is widely recognized as one of Chicago's most dynamic and successful fundraising groups. Its efforts have furthered the zoo's animal welfare, conservation and science goals, supported important learning initiatives and helped keep the zoo free to all 365 days a year.

For more information about the Auxiliary Board or *Zoo-ologie*, visit zoo-ologie.org.

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Media Contacts:	Jillian Braun	Emily Altimari
	312-742-5791	312-742-2236
	JBraun@lpzoo.org	EAltimari@lpzoo.org

ABOUT LINCOLN PARK ZOO

Lincoln Park Zoo inspires communities to create environments where wildlife will thrive in our urbanizing world. The zoo is a leader in local and global conservation, animal care and welfare, learning, and science. A historic Chicago landmark founded in 1868, the not-for-profit Lincoln Park Zoo is a privately-managed, member-supported organization and is free and open 365 days a year. Visit us at lpzoo.org.