



SUMMER 2018

# LINCOLN PARK ZOO®

FOR WILDLIFE. FOR ALL.



*150th Anniversary Edition*

A MAGAZINE FOR MEMBERS OF LINCOLN PARK ZOO



# 150

Years of Chicago's Free Zoo



**LINCOLN PARK ZOO®**  
**150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**



## Soaring to New Heights

I've been surrounded by great zoo people all my life. My father was an ornithologist. We lived at the Bronx Zoo, where I grew up with keepers and animals. In 1976 I joined Lincoln Park Zoo as curator of birds (pictured, left) under the supervision of Dr. Lester Fisher, one of the best zoo people I have ever known. Now, as Lincoln Park Zoo celebrates our 150th anniversary, I am proud and grateful to be part of a great zoo community. Our staff, volunteers, members, partners, and supporters keep this institution free and open 365 days a year so locals and global visitors alike can connect to nature in the heart of Chicago.

Planning our anniversary has brought back many fond memories; it has also encouraged us to reflect on our evolution and future. We've come a long way. Our zoo began in 1868, when commissioners of New York's Central Park gave Lincoln Park a gift of two pairs of swans. As was the culture of the time, we spent our early years as a menagerie showcasing a multitude of exotic species. Around 1950, we began to shift from focusing on quantity of animals to quality of life. Dr. Fisher built new facilities that reflected the animals' natural habitats. He instituted regular preventive veterinary medicine. He set a foundation for the zoo to grow as a place that serves animals as well as people, and strives to conserve species in the wild.

Today, we are rooted in science. We are a leader in animal care, conservation, community partnership, and education, but we still have much to do. We will continue to improve animal habitats and the on-grounds experience with *The Pride of Chicago* capital campaign. Outside the zoo, we work with colleagues in Puerto Rico to support critically endangered Puerto Rican parrots, whose habitat was affected by Hurricane Maria. We will continue to expand the Urban Wildlife Information Network. In November, we will host the 2nd International Wildlife Reintroduction Conference, which will bring together experts to discuss the best ways to restore wildlife to their native habitats. Here in Chicago, we will continue our work with partners in communities across the city to co-create nature experiences in their own backyards.

I hope you'll join our anniversary celebration by exploring our exhibition, *From Swans to Science: 150 Years of Lincoln Park Zoo*, in the coming months. As always, thank you for your ongoing support. Here's to another 150 years. ■

KEVIN J. BELL  
PRESIDENT AND CEO

### SUMMER 2018

VOLUME 17, NUMBER 2 •  
FOR MEMBERS OF LINCOLN PARK ZOO

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### Our Impact Depends on You

Who funds Lincoln Park Zoo? You do! Zoo members, donors and visitors help cover around 80% of our annual operating costs to keep this non-profit, privately managed institution open and free every day and support its mission of wildlife conservation, animal care and learning. Support the zoo at [lpzoo.org/donate](http://lpzoo.org/donate).

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*Cover: The zoo's original sea lion pool, built in 1879 and shown here in a photo taken around 1900, attracted visitors whose modes of fashion and transportation were a bit different than those of today's guests. What hasn't changed? Lincoln Park Zoo is still free and open to all every day of the year.*



Look for this icon to find great gifts from Lincoln Park Zoo.

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#### Go Online for More

Visit [lpzoo.org/magazine](http://lpzoo.org/magazine) for special web-only features—including photos, video and blog posts—inspired by the stories in this issue.

BY EMILY ALTIMARI

## Happy Birthday to Zoo!

It started with swans in 1868—a gift from New York’s Central Park to Lincoln Park’s Board of Commissioners. The striking white birds were a sensation in Chicago and Lincoln Park Zoo came to be the forever-free urban oasis it is today. While you can still see swans (though a different species than the founding waterfowl) at Hope B. McCormick Swan Pond, the science behind their care has changed. Over the course of 150 years, science has shaped the zoo’s animal care strategy, conservation efforts, and community presence.

In celebration of the zoo’s sesquicentennial anniversary and the science that steers everything we do, we’re sharing stories from the past and looking toward the future with a free, family-friendly summer exhibition: *From Swans to Science: 150 Years of Lincoln Park Zoo*, now through September 3.

Guided by an interactive Exhibition Pass Presented by Wendella Tours and Cruises, history buffs and animal lovers will enjoy 10 image- and fact-filled stops throughout the zoo that trace its commitment to community, care, and conservation over 150 years. Enter code words to form a message in the Exhibition Pass as you make the circuit, and you can enter a drawing to win monthly prizes, including ADOPT packages and special boat tours and cruises from Wendella!

Members save on  
Twilight Safari.  
Sign up at [lpzoo.org/calendar](http://lpzoo.org/calendar).

You can also sidle up to a piece of zoo history during daily noon “Meet an Artifact” chats at Regenstein Small Mammal-Reptile House throughout summer. On July 17 and August 21, join ticketed, 150th anniversary-themed Twilight Safaris led by zoo history experts after hours!



Send family and friends some zoo history! Eight reproductions of vintage postcards depict past animal residents and beloved zoo landmarks during earlier eras.

Available at  
Wild Things  
gift shop at the  
zoo or online at  
[lpzoo.org/shop](http://lpzoo.org/shop).  
\$.50 each.



Celebrate the zoo’s 150th anniversary with these and other commemorative keepsakes, from a laptop pack to a wine tumbler to a plush swan!

Available at Wild Things gift shop at the zoo or online at [lpzoo.org/shop](http://lpzoo.org/shop).

Photo by Ryan Dueller





## Come Play at the Farm!

Early Childhood Learning Programs at the Farm Presented by Peoples Gas offer free activities for the littlest learners at the Farm-in-the-Zoo!

### Play Days at the Farm

(Main Barn) *Tuesdays and Saturdays, 10 a.m.–noon*

Join our Play Assistants for hands-on nature play activities! From sorting pinecones to digging in smooth seeds, little ones ages 1–5 with a caregiver can explore the sights, smells and textures that nature offers in an open-ended experience.

### Sing Along with Mr. Singer

(Main Barn) *Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:15 and 10 a.m.*

Sing, dance and clap your hands with Chicago's beloved Mr. Singer! Enjoy original songs while wee ones ages 6 and under dance and sing along.

**Edible Gardens** *Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. (through October)*

Facilitated in partnership with Green City Market and The Organic Gardener, the hands-on Edible Gardens connect children with their food and give families the knowledge, experience, and inspiration to support sustainable food practices.

### Feed the Cows (Dairy Barn)

*Daily, 10:30 a.m.*

Get nose-to-nose with Holstein dairy cows!



Photo by Julia Fuller

## Hats Off to Bats

To spot the “Official Mammal of Chicago,” you’ll have to look up. The little brown bat was waiting in the wings to claim this title, which became official this past April 18 at a Chicago City Council meeting with support from 43rd Ward Alderman Michele Smith.

This bat badge of honor will be in place through 2018 and represents the zoo’s vision to inspire communities to create environments where wildlife will thrive in our urbanizing world. It nods to the work of Lincoln Park Zoo’s Urban Wildlife Institute (UWI), which studies urban ecosystems to develop scientific standards that minimize conflict between humans and wildlife. Scientists at UWI and the zoo’s Davee Center for Epidemiology and Endocrinology use non-invasive techniques to study bat species in Chicago. Bat populations across the nation—including little brown bats in Illinois—have been devastated by a fatal fungal disease called white-nose syndrome.

The zoo hopes Chicago will rally behind little brown bats and the plight of other bat species. These flying mammals are an important part of our shared ecosystem, helping to control insect populations, pollinate plants, and disperse seeds.

Learn how you can help bats and other local wildlife in “Take Action With Us” on the opposite page.

## New Chick on the Block

The zoo’s African penguin colony got a lot fuzzier on February 10 when its first chick hatched. It’s a boy! Lincoln Park Zoo Trustee Mayari Pritzker named the chick Oliver. Oliver is the offspring of penguin pair Robben (female) and Preston (male), and will retain his downy gray feathers until he molts into his waterproof, juvenile plumage. After one to two years, African penguins molt into their iconic, tuxedo-like adult plumage.

Bird keepers slowly introduced Oliver to the rest of the colony behind the scenes. While the introductions went well, it was no surprise they ruffled protective mom Robben’s feathers a bit. Keepers then gave Oliver and his parents the choice to explore a small on-exhibit space before giving the little one access to the entire Robert and Mayari Pritzker Penguin Cove with the other penguins.

Lincoln Park Zoo works closely with AZA’s Saving Animals From Extinction (SAFE) program, which focuses the collective expertise within AZA-accredited facilities to save endangered species. The African penguin is a SAFE priority species due to its decreasing population in southern Africa from habitat destruction, commercial overfishing, and other human-related causes.

Want to follow Oliver as he continues to reach developmental milestones? Tune in to the second season of “All My Penguins” this summer at [lpzoo.org/allmypenguins](http://lpzoo.org/allmypenguins)!



Photo by Kaycee Bridges

# Take Action With Us

BY MEGAN ROSS, PH.D.  
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT



We know you care about the zoo, and that means you care about wildlife. At Lincoln Park Zoo, we protect animals around the world, from the Republic of Congo to Clark Street! You might be surprised at how many wild

animals live right here in Chicago.

How can we help make Chicago a welcoming place for people and wildlife to thrive together? Here are a few suggestions from Lincoln Park Zoo's Urban Wildlife Institute:

- 1 Appreciate local wildlife. When you see wildlife, don't approach, but get a picture. We like to say, "Tweet it, don't touch it!"
- 2 Create wildlife-friendly spaces by planting Illinois-native plants in your yard or school garden. Native plants help provide resources for important animals—like insects that our bats need to eat to survive.
- 3 If you really want to help make a place for local wildlife, install a bat house, insect hotel, or birdhouse. (Visit [lpzoo.org/insect-hotel](http://lpzoo.org/insect-hotel) for a DIY guide to making your own insect hotel.)
- 4 Help us analyze the largest urban wildlife dataset in the world! Visit [chicagowildlifewatch.org](http://chicagowildlifewatch.org) to identify the animals we've spotted at sites across Chicago. You can help us understand how wildlife use cities, and get to know a few of your animal neighbors.
- 5 Support local stewardship. You can volunteer with your local forest preserve district to help protect nature throughout Chicagoland. Or you can make a monetary donation to the zoo or other organizations that work to protect local nature.

We live on a planet that gets more urban every single year. Help us make sure that even on an urban planet there's still a place for our wild neighbors. That's part of what we mean by "For Wildlife. For All."



Photo by Julia Fuller

## When Beary Met Sally

No icebreakers necessary: Siku and Talini, the zoo's male and female polar bears, have been getting along swimmingly at Walter Family Arctic Tundra since Talini's arrival in March from Detroit Zoo. The bear pair came together as a part of a breeding recommendation from the Polar Bear Species Survival Plan® (SSP), which cooperatively manages the polar bear population within the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) based on genetic and demographic analyses conducted at Lincoln Park Zoo's Population Management Center.

According to keepers, 13-year-old Talini is playful, curious, and definitely in charge when it comes to her courtship with 8-year-old Siku. Talini and Siku met at the peak of polar bear breeding season, and observers are just as smitten.

General Curator Dave Bernier reports the pair have engaged in proper courtship behaviors: chuffing, nuzzling, and—in Siku's case—even watching Talini sleep! Animal Care will work with the Davee Center for Epidemiology and Endocrinology to monitor Talini's reproductive-hormone levels to see if cubs may potentially arrive in the future.



Photo by Chris Bijalba

**Opposite:** Big brown bats roost in southwest suburban Laughton Preserve (top); penguin chick Oliver with mom Robben (bottom).

**Above:** Siku and Talini's rom-com courtship; **left:** another new arrival, 2-year-old male giraffe Finely, is adult female Etana's companion.



# A History of Helping Apes

BY KATE SILVER



Photo by Todd Rosenberg

*In the second installment of our year-long magazine series on the care and conservation of primates, explore Regenstein Center for African Apes, where care is informed by a pioneering past and research that gives gorillas and chimpanzees a voice through science.*

If you visit the Regenstein Center for African Apes (RCAA) at 1:30 p.m. on a weekday, you might see Kwan the silverback gorilla gently placing his finger on a touchscreen monitor to select the food he likes, usually opting for grapes or tomatoes. Nearby, an intern may be tapping away on an iPad, recording information in the ZooMonitor app about where apes like Azizi, a bachelor gorilla, is sitting and how he's making use of his habitat.

These pursuits, along with robust healthcare and a detailed planning and management system, inform the way staff cares for the great apes on a daily basis. "Science is in everything we do," says Maureen Leahy, vice president of animal care and horticulture at Lincoln Park Zoo. It's part of a legacy dating back decades. Science—through technology, research and data collection—gives the apes a voice and allows them, both directly and indirectly, to make choices that inform their care.

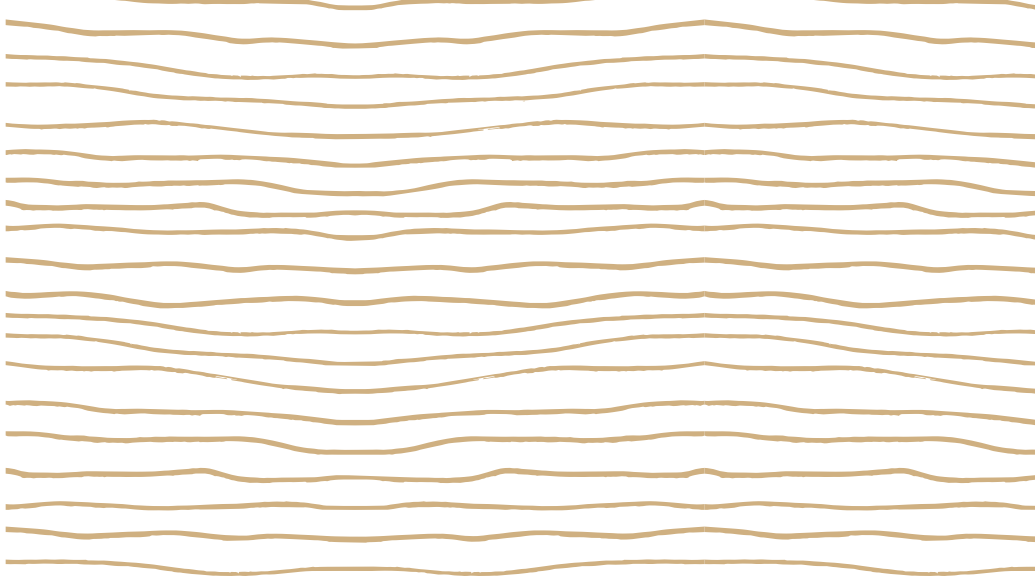
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## **Becoming a leader in great ape care and conservation**

Science and innovation are part of the DNA of ape care at Lincoln Park Zoo. In the 1920s, the Primate House was designed in a way that would mimic "native habitats", and allow in natural light. Even back then, the ventilation system was constructed to prevent the spread of disease between animals and humans. As far back as the 1930s, the zoo would draw blood from animals, like the beloved gorilla Bushman, to assess their health and, according to a 1932 article in the *Chicago Tribune*, "discover means of prolonging the creature's life."

Starting in the 1960s, Dr. Lester E. Fisher—a veterinarian,





former Lincoln Park Zoo director and household name in Chicago for whom the Lester E. Fisher Center for the Study and Conservation of Apes is named—helped shape the modern zoo and the modern ape house. “Les Fisher helped rewrite the history books for Lincoln Park and for zoos everywhere,” says Steve Taylor, former president of American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums, in an article published in *Chicago Tribune* in 1992, the year that Fisher retired from the zoo.

***“Les Fisher helped rewrite the history books for Lincoln Park and for zoos everywhere,” says Steve Taylor.***

Fisher transformed Lincoln Park Zoo from an entertainment-centric park where (visitors could feed marshmallows to bears and peanuts to elephants) into a renowned facility dedicated to education and conservation. He coordinated preventive medical procedures at the zoo, taking blood draws from each ape. The goal was to move the animals into family groups, as they live in the wild, and to encourage breeding. To date, more than 50 gorillas have been born at Lincoln Park Zoo (while that number is impressive, the focus is on the quality of the animal matches and not quantity of births).

Caring for the apes takes a village. More than a dozen Lincoln Park Zoo team members work with each animal to better understand and improve their lives, and, more broadly, bolster conservation of the species. The zoo has four different great ape groups at RCCA. There’s the family group of western lowland gorillas, led by the 382-pound silverback, Kwan, that has three adult females and three female offspring. The bachelor group of gorillas is a rowdy one, made up of four males ages 12 to 15, led by Azizi. There’s an inquisitive group of six chimpanzees led by Hank and a group of five chimpanzees that live behind-the-scenes in a separate habitat, led by Magadi.

Primate health is at the top of the priority list, and that



**Opposite:** Fisher Center Research Assistant Crystal Egelkamp conducts a touchscreen cognition session with male gorilla Azizi. **Above:** Dr. Lester E. Fisher (foreground) examines male gorilla Otto in 1976 during the apes’ move into the former Great Ape House, where they formed family groups.



includes preventive care. According to Lester E. Fisher Director of Veterinary Medicine Kathryn Gamble, D.V.M., 60 to 70 percent of the medical attention the apes receive is preventive. That's an important change from earlier days in zoos, when vets, who usually weren't on staff, were called upon to address an immediate issue, such as an illness or injury. "As technology has evolved, it's coming to veterinary medicine and we're able to access it," says Gamble. "Each decade that goes by we learn new things, better ways to care for animals. And so from a medical perspective, anything that makes the animals more balanced in their environment makes them less likely to get sick."

The apes are even trained to aid staff in monitoring their own health. Through something called "operant conditioning," the team at RCAA works with the apes daily to ensure they know how to present different parts of their body (like a hand or foot) and will open their mouth for a dental examination. The team performs cardio ultrasounds on the apes, because, just like humans, gorillas and chimpanzees suffer from heart disease. The animals are rewarded with a part of their diet, like fruit or diluted juice.

Jill Moyse, curator of primates, says that this kind of conditioning creates a system and takes away anxiety for all involved. "Say they got in a fight and there's a wound, which is natural," says Moyse. "The vets can come and look at these wounds in a

much less stressful situation, because they're used to the training. They're used to the veterinarian coming in to check on them."

Preventive care also extends to how animal care and research staff interact with the apes. Because gorillas and chimpanzees are so similar to humans, they can share diseases, like the flu or cold. Given this risk to all primates involved, several years ago the zoo revised protocol and all team members coming into contact with the apes are required to wear personal protective equipment (PPE) at all times, including face masks and gloves. Anyone who is ill or thinks they might be ill must also stay home. These practices are also used by our researchers in the Republic of Congo with the Goualougo Triangle Ape Project as they track wild chimpanzees and gorillas.

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### A Core of Scientific Research

Scientists at Lincoln Park Zoo have found a number of ways to get feedback—direct or indirect—from the apes. Those touch-screen tasks, mentioned above, give the animals a chance to weigh in on their own care. By selecting icons on a screen, the chimpanzees and gorillas can choose the foods they prefer, and, in the future, they may be able to select their favorite enrichment (items that encourage natural behaviors, from play to foraging). In the past, they even played something the scientists call "Ape-Plunko": the primates rearrange straws in a transparent tube to try and get a grape to fall through the opening.

The cognition studies are managed by Lydia Hopper, Ph.D., assistant director of the Fisher Center, and the goal is to better understand how they learn and how they perceive the world around them.

Additionally, a long-term behavioral monitoring program—which Fisher Center Director Steve Ross, Ph.D., started in the previous ape house and continues today—is made up of more than 7,500 hours of data on the resident apes. Many of the 180 interns who have been trained in the Fisher Center have participated in this data collection, and the experience has helped launch many of their careers in science. The rich dataset is used by scientists and managers to put each animal's behavior into a longer-term context to inform needed management changes at the zoo. It's also been utilized in dozens of scientific publications, sharing knowledge with the scientific community.

A few years before RCAA was built in 2004, Ross was hired to conduct research that would reveal preferences in how



**Opposite:** Operant conditioning helps primate keeper Amy Martens and Maureen Leahy monitor the heart health of a female chimpanzee with an implanted EKG device.

**This page, top:** Western lowland gorilla Umande, shown here in 2012, observes the bachelor group's outdoor habitat. Dominant apes might use doorways to establish control over troop members. **Below:** Mulch and wood-wool shavings provide welcome ground-nesting materials for chimpanzee Kathy at Regenstein Center for African Apes.

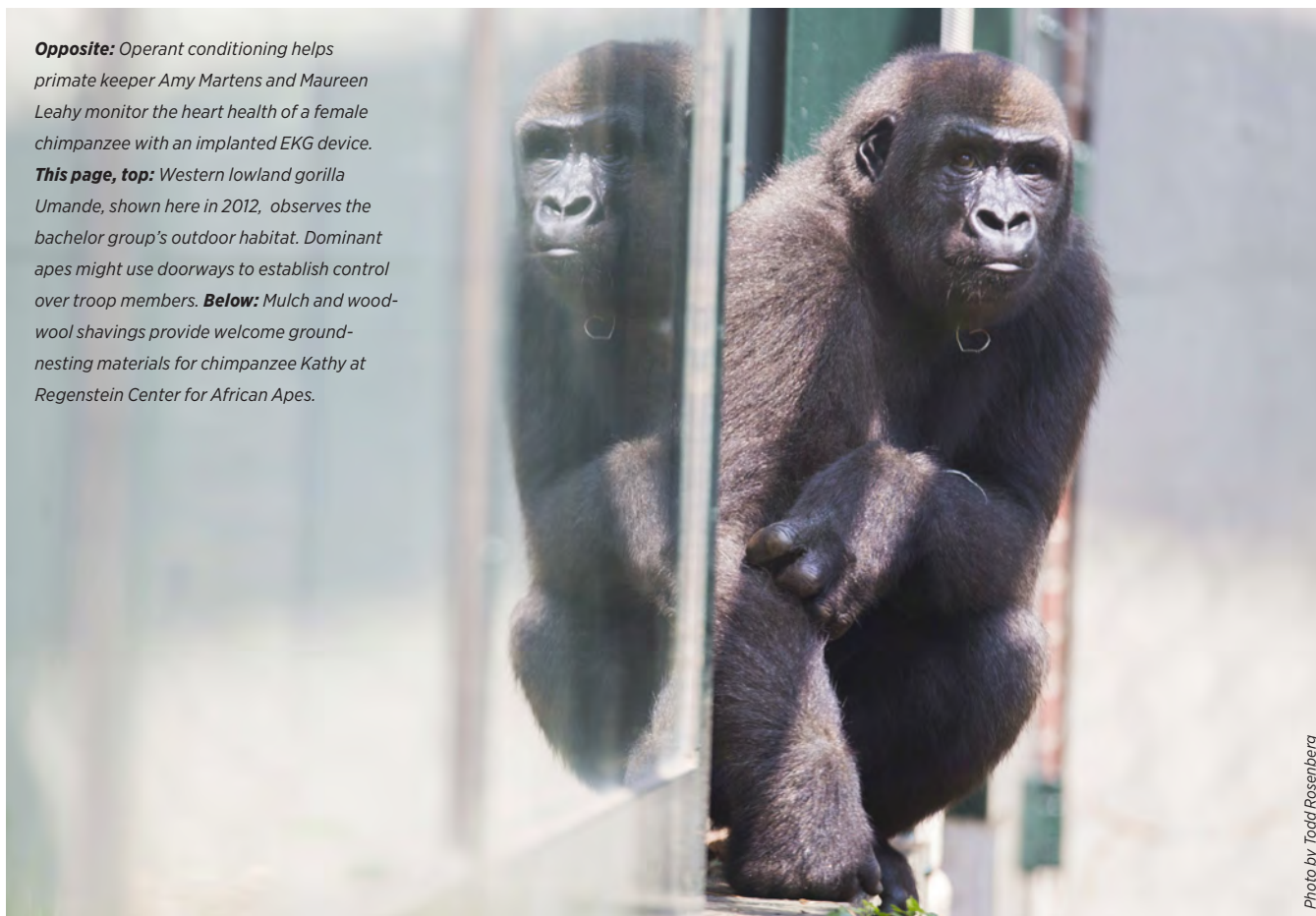


Photo by Todd Rosenberg

the animals use their space. At the time, they were living in the Lester E. Fisher Great Ape House. He would observe the animals and, every 30 seconds, record where and how they spent their time using a special computer program (today, they use an app called ZooMonitor, an evolution of the early program, to record similar data on a tablet).

Ross noticed how much time they spend in doorways and corners and hypothesized that a corner might replicate a thick forest, protecting them from open spaces, while a doorway could be a point of control for a dominant ape to keep track of what's happening within the group. Today, you can see how those observations influenced the design of the angular RCAA building. "We used data from the apes to tell us how to do it," says Ross. "So in a way, they designed it."

To ensure the apes' comfort, the habitats at the RCAA are thick with mulch—a big change from the concrete and steel exhibits of the past. Ross says that's because apes, like humans, suffer from arthritis. The mulch offers a softer alternative that's more akin to a natural forest floor. The chimps enjoy the mulch so much they build their nests on the ground, rather than in trees, as they do in nature. "They dig a small concave shape like a teacup for themselves, line it with some bedding that we provide, some hay or straw, and actually pull a little blanket over the top of them," says Ross. Lincoln Park Zoo was the first zoo in North America to use mulch with chimpanzees, and zoo



Photo by Chris Blalock

*Just a few months after suffering a facial injury, female gorilla Nayembi—shown here on May 6, 2013—was fully recovered thanks to rapid intervention and around-the-clock care from the zoo's animal care and veterinary staff.*



Photo by Todd Rosenberg

staff regularly field inquiries from other facilities seeking to learn more about the benefits of mulch floors.

### **The power of a plan**

Beyond data collection and research, the team working with the great apes spends a lot of time exploring the “what ifs.” In other words, they prepare for everything: every scenario that could happen when two animals are recommended for breeding, all the possibilities that could arise throughout pregnancy, during a birth and for the critical months following birth, any and all medical emergencies that could transpire and more. Those preparations were put to the test in 2013.

That’s when Nayembi, a three-month-old gorilla in the family group led by Kwan, sustained an injury to her face. Thanks to operant conditioning, staff was able to intervene quickly in what could have been a chaotic situation. They directed the other gorillas in the habitat to their behind-the-scenes area so they could safely attend to Nayembi, transporting her to the zoo hospital. She underwent emergency facial reconstructive surgery performed by the Lincoln Park Zoo veterinary team (which also consulted with a surgeon specializing in human pediatric trauma cases). While healing, she lived in the behind-the-scenes space, next to her family group. Staff cared

for her 24 hours a day, trying to behave, as much as they could, like gorillas—playing, resting and grunting with her. “When you’re socializing them, you become their family,” says Gamble. Nayembi’s mother, Rollie, and the rest of the crew was able to watch until Nayembi had healed enough to be reunited. Today, at age 5, she’s thriving, thanks, in part, to careful planning and deep understanding of gorilla behavior.

Working with animals isn’t inherently a scientific process. There’s gray area. Respect. Laughter. Love. Because of that, says Leahy, the relationships between care staff and the animals are incredibly intimate. Collective years of staff experience, knowledge, and expertise are combined with research and data to approach animal care holistically. “We’re working with animals that we deeply care for, so there’s an emotional component,” says Leahy. This approach helps caregivers understand how the apes use their space, provide them with opportunities for choice and control, and ensure they are living in a way that’s aligned with health and well-being.

Not only does science help improve the animals’ care and welfare. It also gives them agency. “We’re trying to use science to understand how our apes think and feel and learn, and what they like,” says Leahy.



# Type Casting

In 2005, Mumbali, a female western lowland gorilla at RCAA, became ill and required dialysis and a blood transfusion. Finding a suitable donor proved frustrating. Veterinarians identified silverback male Kwan, whose blood type matched, as a donor and performed the procedure. Despite their vigilance, Mumbali succumbed to her advancing illness.

Curator of Primates Jill Moyse (then assistant lead keeper) was surprised by the lack of published literature on great ape blood types—key data for treatment when transfusions are needed. She sought the advice of Kathryn Gamble, D.V.M., the zoo's Dr. Lester E. Fisher Director of Veterinary Medicine.

"Jill was frustrated and wanted to make a difference," recalls Gamble. "I told her, 'Then I need your help. I've wanted to do something about this for 15 years.'"

The two launched a great ape blood-typing initiative in 2006. Veterinary Resident Jessica Lovstad, D.V.M., then a ZooMed support intern, laid the groundwork by analyzing blood-typing cards sent to zoos and sanctuaries. The cards, donated by Denmark-based Eldon Biologicals, are embedded with dried antibodies that reveal A, B or O human blood types when mixed with water and small blood samples. Lovstad's research confirmed they also worked for gorillas, chimpanzees, orangutans, and bonobos, validating that human and ape blood types are genetically comparable, although not identical.

Four years and nearly 600 cards later, the team published its findings in the scientific journal *Zoo Biology*. (Among their discoveries: orangutans are the only ape species that shares all four blood types with humans—A, B, AB, and O.)

A dozen years later, Moyse and Gamble continue to maintain this virtual blood bank, documenting blood types of great apes at zoos and sanctuaries worldwide. This central resource—which has blossomed into a global network and spawned related research—allows veterinarians to contact Lincoln Park Zoo in times of emergency or pre-surgical need and identify potential, nearby donors if their own animals are not appropriate. Eldon Biologicals still generously donates cards.

"Because the process is a visual reaction, zoos can keep the cards and send us digital images," says Moyse. "The work doesn't stop. We keep hearing from new institutions that want to participate."—Craig Keller



Photos by Julia Fuller

Curator of Primates Jill Moyse and Dr. Kathryn Gamble use a card embedded with dried antibodies to determine and archive the blood type—O positive—for Bella, a 3-year-old gorilla at Lincoln Park Zoo.

# Transforming the Zoo

In a conversation with magazine staff, Dr. Lester Fisher and Kevin J. Bell, whose past and present leadership at Lincoln Park Zoo spans decades, share how the zoo has evolved and what it means to them



**Dr. Fisher, tell us about your earliest days as the zoo's first staff veterinarian.**

**LF:** I'm a city guy, and most of the keepers were semi-retired animal people from rural areas. I was initially part-time and earned their respect after coming here around midnight to deliver a zebu cow's calf. It was storming, so we named the baby Thunder. Word got around pretty quick: "Maybe Doc's okay."

**How far has zoo vet medicine come since then?**

**LF:** A long way from the days when I had a little black bag with my stethoscope, thermometers, and bandages. We had no hospital, no nursery, but we had to take care of the animals.

**KB:** When Les became director in 1962 he hired the first full-time veterinarian here. That opened the door to doing regular physicals on animals and preventive medicine.

**Dr. Fisher, what did you prioritize when you became director?**

**LF:** Because we are a historic facility the exhibits were literally ancient. The

challenge was, "How do we transform this already wonderful place into something even more meaningful and comfortable for the animals?"

**KB:** The Lincoln Park Zoological Society's formation in the late 1950s provided private resources besides city funding through the Chicago Park District. That led to better programs and exhibits that helped animals express their natural behaviors and visitors learn more about them. Les and Barbara Carr, who ran the Zoo Society, were an incredible team: Barb raising money, Les coming up with designs. The groundwork they laid in the 1960s, '70s, and '80s made it easy for me to become director in 1993 and keep moving the ship forward.

**You'd been here since 1976, when Dr. Fisher hired you as bird curator.**

**KB:** I had just finished working with puffins off the coast of Maine with the Audubon Society. It was special to work with Les and be part of the campaigns they started. My first week here I was hanging ropes in the new great ape house. We had just opened the zoo's first hospital and commissary. We went from one project to the next.



**Were there some key donors early on?**

**LF:** Marshall Field came in and said, "Les, I want to help the zoo." From there the Zoo Society continued to grow. We also had a luncheon with Ray Kroc, the McDonald's hamburger man, and I walked out with a million-dollar check. Ray said a restaurant without a good kitchen has a problem, just like a zoo without a commissary. We got our commissary as well as seed money for the Great Ape House built in 1976.

**Which meant moving several gorillas, chimpanzees, and orangutans from the Primate House.**

**LF:** We assembled a team of specialists, veterinary and medical, and every animal had a total physical, which we'd never done before. It was very meaningful to see the animals in a family group, in a good space, instead of crammed into a small place.

**KB:** That was part of the shift toward exhibits that replicate natural habitats. Getting people away from just looking at an animal and being entertained by it. Realizing animals are part of habitats that are disappearing, and we need to do something about that.





**Left to right:** Kevin Bell and Dr. Lester E. Fisher today; in 1981 with rockhopper penguins prior to their exhibition at the former Penguin-Seabird House; and in 1984 with a barn owl and baby raccoon at Indian Boundary Park on Chicago's far north side where the zoo helped care for animals exhibited to the public.

### ***Did Lincoln Park Zoo also play a role in inspiring today's shared population management of species among zoos?***

**KB:** We took a leadership role years ago when, free of charge, we donated a group of gorillas to another institution. They were considered very valuable back when animals were bought and sold from one zoo to another. We were the first to do this. Commercializing animals was not the message we wanted to present. We don't have animals here because they're assets with price tags attached to them. We also felt commercialization could affect our efforts to conserve species.

### ***How have the zoo's education initiatives furthered conservation messaging?***

**LF:** We hired our first education curator in 1977, and that started in a minimal way. Under Kevin it's done nothing but expand, and today fills a very important niche in Chicago learning.

**KB:** In the early days we developed curriculum for schools to use. We're still doing that, but we're also now partnering with communities in Chicago to develop programs right in their neighborhoods. Programs that teach them about wildlife where they live, and that has been very successful.

### ***What should the zoo's priorities be today and going forward?***

**LF:** It's extremely important we remain involved in local, national, and international efforts to work with wildlife and preserve wild spaces.

**KB:** The main mission of zoos is conservation. When we privatized in 1995, it was the Zoo Society's strength that made our move to self-governance so successful. Les started hiring educators and conservationists to start programs in the late '80s that wouldn't have been in the Park

District's area of interest. Over the past 30 years we have emphasized that and now have one of the largest zoo-based conservation science departments in the country. So we're creating great exhibits, and using applied science in the field, to tell the public a story about why we have animals in our care and what we can do to help them in the wild—as well as in expanding urban areas.

### ***Why is it important that the zoo stays free?***

**KB:** On any particular day, anyone can come to the zoo. While they're having fun, we hope they're also learning more about animals and supporting conservation efforts.

**LF:** Lincoln Park Zoo has a very special relationship with the entire community. Everyone looks upon it as their zoo—and, happily, it is their zoo and one of the few places people of all backgrounds can come together and enjoy a meaningful experience.

*Transcript edited by Kelly McGrath*



Our 3D Viewer and Reel celebrate Lincoln Park Zoo's 150th anniversary with seven custom 3D images created from photos of significant moments in zoo history!



**Get yours today at Wild Things gift shop or online at [lpzoo.org/shop](http://lpzoo.org/shop). \$33.**

# I Spy, Zoo Spy

BY JILLIAN BRAUN &  
ALLISON PRICE  
PHOTOS BY  
CHRIS BIJALBA

The zoo's history is written on the walls—literally! Explore the zoo in a whole new way by using these clues to find some hidden (and not-so-hidden) features of the zoo, with designs dating back to as early as 1904.

1



Head south toward animals  
that live in herds,

Past the lions, apes,  
monkeys, and birds.

Look for the man and  
ram between two pillars  
of bricks,

A Greek god for wildlife,  
plants, trees and sticks.

*We walk on four paws but we tussle on two,  
We communicate with roars and claws – cat kung fu!  
Find the house for lions and look up to the sky,  
Search the bricks until you see two lions mid high-five.*

3



2



*Stroll through Main  
Mall, using your brain,  
I'm covering a hole  
where all water drains.  
I'm in the shape of a  
circle, down by your feet,  
A face of an animal,  
surrounded by concrete.*

4



Some eagles fly and some eagles perch,  
Head to the home of bird research.  
Before you open the swinging door,  
Look up and see birds that soar.





Photo by Todd Rosenberg

Our animal cousins are pretty neat,  
Ten fingers on their hands,  
ten toes on their feet.  
Which species is most similar  
to humans you ask?  
Come discover the answer if  
you're up to the task.



*We share the Earth with creatures great and small,  
But water is the one thing that connects us all.  
In the shade of the woods where the Wild Saplings grow,  
Share a sip from a spring where cool water flows.*



*Apes don't have tails, but monkeys do,  
Right below us is a stone reading "1992".  
We're carved into rock, two peas in a pod,  
Little monkeys lounging on a log.*

Head to the place where  
the reptiles reside,  
Before you head in, take  
a look around outside.  
Near the door where  
you enter, tilt your head  
and look up,  
Diamonds with a gecko  
and fennec fox pup.



At the heart of the zoo lies the place where you eat,  
Move your eyes up and that's where we'll meet.  
I'm a green reptile friend with a shell hard and round,  
Between two fish is where I can be found.

Answers: 1. Piper and Ram sculpture near Camel & Zebra Area 2. Lion sewer cover 3. Brick mosaic lions at Kovler Lion House 4. Bird sculptures at McCormick Bird House 5. Kugel Fountain at Regenstein African Journey 6. Drinking fountain at Pritzker Family Children's Zoo 7. Bronze cast of ape hand at Regenstein Center for African Apes 8. Fennec fox and lizard sculptures at Regenstein Small Mammal-Reptile House 9. Primate sculptures at Helen Brach Primate House 10. Turtle and fish sculpture at Park Place Café

*In our anniversary edition, members of the zoo family share their most memorable zoo experiences*

## Lydia Hopper, Ph.D.

Assistant Director, Lester E. Fisher Center for the Study and Conservation of Apes, Lincoln Park Zoo

I first visited Lincoln Park Zoo in 2007 to attend *The Mind of the Chimpanzee*, a conference hosted by the Lester E. Fisher Center for the Study and Conservation of Apes. At the time, I was a graduate student and excited to present my research at this prestigious seminar series, founded by Dr. Jane Goodall.

The opening reception was held in the Regenstein Center for African Apes, and I vividly remember the joy of seeing friends and meeting colleagues while surrounded by chimpanzees and gorillas sleeping peacefully in their habitats. The floor-to-ceiling viewing windows gave us an unprecedented up-close and personal view of the apes. I thought about how incredible it would be to work there. In 2012 a position opened up in the Fisher Center and I applied. I was appointed a research scientist, and in 2014 promoted to assistant director.

Working in RCAA is even more fun than I had imagined in 2007. Not only am I fortunate enough to pass the chimpanzees and gorillas every morning as I walk to my office, but through my job I get to study the apes and share what my team and I learn with zoo guests.

In 2016 my connection with Lincoln Park Zoo came full circle as I helped to organize and host the successive meeting to *Mind of the Chimpanzee*, titled *Chimpanzees in Context*—which Dr. Goodall attended.



Photo by Veronika Hernandez

## Jonathan Lopez

Past participant, Research Apprenticeship Program

One of the things I admire most about the zoo is that it is free. That makes it very accessible for everyone to come and learn about animals. People don't know ways to help animals, and when they come to the zoo they leave with so much knowledge and a different perspective on the topic of animal conservation.

***"After working with the Urban Wildlife Institute as a RAP intern, I realized I loved ecology."***

***—Jonathan Lopez***

I also really admire the opportunities they have for teens. I am a senior in high school. Before I was an intern for the Malott Family Research Apprenticeship Program (RAP) I was unsure of what I wanted to study in college. I knew I wanted it to revolve around animals, as I've always loved them and wanted to help, but I never knew how. After working with the Urban Wildlife Institute as a RAP intern, I realized I loved ecology.

I will now be attending Sewanee: The University of The South, which is located in Tennessee, to get a major in ecology and biodiversity. I really hope the zoo continues to be free and provide teen opportunities.



Photo by Todd Rosenberg



## Luis Gutierrez

Founder/ CEO,  
Latinos Progresando  
Incoming Board of Trustees  
member, Lincoln Park Zoo

Walking around Lincoln Park Zoo makes you feel like you've been transported somewhere else. Surrounded by nature, you sometimes forget you're still in Chicago. The zoo is truly one of our city's greatest treasures.



On any given day, you can go to the zoo and see families of different backgrounds from different neighborhoods and experiences. For families, it gets more and more difficult to find affordable, fun things to do, and the zoo's commitment to remain free, accessible, and still provide quality experiences for people of all ages is really amazing. Now that I'm a part of the Lincoln Park Zoo family, I'm excited to introduce my nieces and nephews to everything the zoo has to offer.

I also look forward to seeing Lincoln Park Zoo's engagement efforts with the Marshall Square/Little Village communities grow and flourish this year.

*"The zoo is truly one of our city's greatest treasures."*

*—Luis Gutierrez*

## Amber Platowski

9th grade biology teacher,  
Marine Leadership Academy

In fall 2017, I began working with facilitators of the zoo's Partners in Fieldwork program (PIF).

I watched my high school students transform from hesitant kids who were, at first, happy just to see an airplane through their newly donned binoculars. Now they go outside and debate with each other, field guides in hand, about what species of bird they have seen based on its physical and behavioral characteristics. They have done biodiversity investigations comparing our local schoolyard to the 606 bike trail, and



Photo courtesy of Amber Platowski

built insect hotels to provide habitats for local pollinators. They have completed research projects, analyzed data, and begun to generate new questions.

It is true scientific inquiry in action, benefiting my students while contributing to the data set

for the zoo's Urban Wildlife Institute, and support from the PIF team has been instrumental in making it happen.

## Katherine O'Brien

Zoo Member  
LEAP nature-play program  
participant with sons Tyson  
and Kieran

While Tyson was a baby—as new parents looking to carve out a routine for our little family—we'd go on daily jogs to the zoo to see Anana the polar bear. When Anana left Lincoln Park Zoo [to be paired with a male polar bear at North Carolina Zoo], it was hard to say goodbye.

On early mornings, it seems like we're sometimes the first visitors to say hi to the black bears. One day, the black bear said "hi" back. Since then, our boys love to ask each other, "Remember that time we high-fived a black bear?"

Fall Fest has also become our family go-to. Our boys love to ride the Ferris wheel, and spend the entire ride screaming in delight.



Photos courtesy of Katherine O'Brien



## Rachel Santymire, Ph.D.

Director, Davee Center for Epidemiology and Endocrinology, Lincoln Park Zoo

One of my favorite Lincoln Park Zoo success stories involves my decision to evaluate the hormones of the Sichuan takins, whose breeding recommendations had not yet successfully produced offspring.

I thought hormone analysis would provide some insight into why they hadn't bred. Working with the Animal Care staff, we collected fecal samples on Kublai Khan, our male takin, and Chabi, our female takin. We even had staff from around the zoo watching them, hoping to observe breeding. We were lucky to have Jinse, a pregnant female from the San Diego Zoo, come live at Lincoln Park Zoo so that Khan could have his herd, which is the takin's natural social group.

I had been analyzing the takin feces for a few months, measuring testosterone in the male and progesterone in the females to monitor pregnancy for Jinse and determine if Chabi was cycling. As I was analyzing the females' hormones in the lab, I thought I had mixed up the samples because both females had high hormone levels indicative of pregnancy.

I marched down the hall to the veterinarians. As with humans, there are certain medications pregnant animals should not take, and I wanted to make sure everyone knew Jinse and Chabi were pregnant. Chabi's usual behavior was to act aggressively towards the veterinarians, but she had suddenly become pleasant with the staff. They'd thought it indicated she might be ill. Happily, that was not the case.

The story ended well with the birth of female and male calves, Mei Li and Bao Zhen!

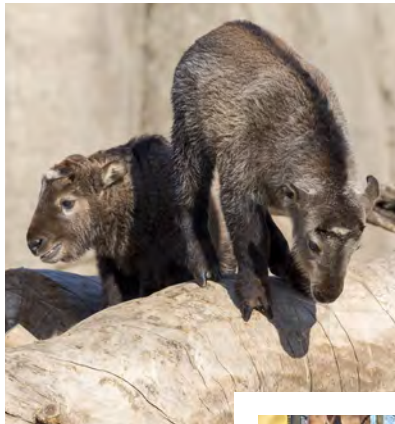


Photo by Lincoln Park Zoo

Photo by Todd Rosenberg

## Pat Detrie Zoo Volunteer

I still remember the first day I volunteered. It was for the gardening group. I was welcomed with such warmth and appreciation, I knew this was going to be a wonderful place. In fact, it just might be the happiest place in Chicago!

The zoo is one of my top sights whenever family or friends visit. Every time I bring someone, they are amazed the zoo is in the middle of the city, is free to all guests, and has gardens that are just as amazing as the animals.

Two years ago I joined the Volunteer Enrichment Group. I learned how to turn boxes into edible piñatas that look like an antelope for the lions or a birthday cake for the polar bears. I also learned how to make white PVC pipe look like tree branches and turn them into a bird house, and weave recycled fire hose into a swing for the gorillas. The options are endless!



Photo courtesy of Pat Detrie

*"Every time I bring someone, they are amazed the zoo is in the middle of the city, is free to all guests, and has gardens that are just as amazing as the animals."*

*—Pat Detrie*



*Hibiscus moscheutos, a cultivar christened "Pink Clouds", brings a taste of the tropics to the zoo.*

## Blooms for the Ages

BY BETH BOTTS

The huge, dramatic, tropical-looking hibiscus flowers you can see in July and August at Lincoln Park Zoo may also seem exotic, like something from a balmy Pacific island. Yet these are hardy perennial hibiscus, right at home in Chicago, according to Joseph Rothleutner, director of horticulture.

The big blooms are attention-getters. A hibiscus flower—a flaring trumpet with five broad petals—can be five to seven inches across, in white, pink, red

or purple. Often colors are combined for a tie-dyed effect. Hibiscus may be the most charismatic of all the blooms in the zoo gardens. “People are really drawn to them,” Rothleutner says.

Now, the horticulture staff is cranking up the drama by planting dozens of varieties of hardy hibiscus at the zoo—more than 50 kinds so far, Rothleutner says, with more to come.

It’s not just people who are drawn to hibiscus flowers. Bees, butterflies, and migrating hummingbirds also love them for the sweet nectar offered in the base

of each bell. In fact, attracting pollinators is the whole point of those big, flashy blooms, at least from the plant’s point of view.

Bright hibiscus flowers also are a treat for the zoo’s birds, primates, and tortoises. Some animals eat the blooms. Others dissect them. “It’s a novelty,” Rothleutner says.

Although several hundred species of hibiscus grow in swamps and wetlands around the world, most come from warm climates and can’t survive cold winters. The varieties planted in the zoo’s gardens are hardy enough for Chicago because they’re all descended from North American species. One species, swamp rose mallow (*Hibiscus moscheutos*), is a Chicago-area native that naturally grows in wetlands like the zoo’s Nature Boardwalk.

Look for hibiscus all over the zoo this summer: candy-pink near the Wild Things gift shop, red near Regenstein Macaque Forest, huge blooms everywhere. Expect to be wowed.

### Growing Hardy Hibiscus

#### Tips from Joseph Rothleutner for growing hardy hibiscus:

- Make sure the variety is hardy to USDA Zone 5.
- Plant it in full sun in well-drained soil enriched with compost.
- Keep the soil moist. Hibiscus do well in wet-soil spots.
- Use slow-release fertilizer, following the package directions.
- Spread mulch to hold in moisture and protect the plants in winter.
- For containers, use tender annual hibiscus varieties.



## Gray's Anatomy

Penguins don't emerge from eggs in tuxedos.

Oliver, an African penguin chick that hatched at the zoo on February 10, sported fine, dark-gray down upon arrival. Within a few months (as seen in this photo taken April 3), his down was molting to make way for the bluish-gray, waterproof feathers of a juvenile. Oliver may have to wait up to two years to fully acquire the iconic, black-and-white plumage of an adult.

Until then—just like every adult penguin in the colony at Robert and Mayari Pritzker Penguin Cove—he'll endure an annual two-week molt to replace old feathers with new ones. Sometimes called a “catastrophic molt” because all feathers are shed at once, that brief fashion disaster seems a small price to pay for the elegant formalwear to follow.—Craig Keller ■





# 150

Years of Chicago's Free Zoo



**LINCOLN PARK ZOO®**  
**150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

# A History of Lincoln Park Zoo

**1868** Two pairs of swans arrive at Lincoln Park—a gift from New York's Central Park. The birds mark the beginning of Chicago's free zoo.

**1870** The zoo builds its first animal house. Over the next few years, bison, foxes, elk, deer, wolves, eagles, a puma, peacocks, and two turtle doves are donated to the zoo.

**1878** The Lincoln Park commissioners decree the zoo must always remain free.

**1879** The original sea lion grotto is constructed. In the 1890s, two escape and wander into a Clark Street restaurant.



Bird House

1904

## 1868-1947 BUILDING THE ZOO

**1888** Cyrus DeVry is hired as Animal Keeper. He was a charismatic leader and the first public face of the zoo.

**c1889** The "red-roofed cafe," later known as Landmark Café, opens to serve refreshments to zoo visitors.

**1904** The Bird House—now McCormick Bird House and the oldest animal house still operating today—opens, featuring a skylit central court with a small waterfowl pond.

**1908** Café Brauer, designed by Prairie School architects Perkins & Hamilton, opens. In 1990, after 50 years of being closed, the landmark is restored and reopened by The Lincoln Park Zoological Society.

**1912** The Lion House— now Kovler Lion House—opens to exhibit big cats.

**1920** A full-scale replica of a Norse Viking ship that sailed from Norway to Chicago for the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition is installed on zoo grounds. It remains at the zoo until 1994.

**1923** The city's first aquarium opens to the public at the zoo. Today, it houses Park Place Café.



Bushman

1930

**1940** R1, a 1-year-old West African dwarf crocodile, arrives and lives 70 years in the zoo's care. Guests can visit his descendants today at Regenstein African Journey.

**1944** Marlin Perkins becomes the zoo's director. Three years later he's featured on the cover of *TIME* magazine. His pioneering TV program, *Zoo Parade*, broadcast live from the zoo, provides the template for *Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom*.



R1 c.1941



TIME magazine, July 7, 1974\*

**1927** The Small Animal House—now Helen Brach Primate House—is built with a spacious central hall and skylights, housing monkeys and apes, pumas and lynx.

**1930** A 2-year-old lowland gorilla arrives from Africa and becomes the most famous zoo animal of his era. He is named Bushman. When he dies on New Year's Day in 1951, thousands pass by his empty exhibit in tribute.

**1952** The first children's zoo opens seasonally. A year-round version—now Pritzker Family Children's Zoo—arrives in 1959.

**1959** The Lincoln Park Zoological Society is formed to raise money to care for animals, purchase equipment, and improve the zoo.



Chicago Daily News, May 14, 1960

1960

## 1948-1999 MODERNIZATION AND PRIVATIZATION

1948



Dr. Lester Fisher and zookeeper Roy Huff with gorilla Sinbad

**1962** After a dozen years as the zoo's first veterinarian, Dr. Lester E. Fisher becomes the zoo's director. He oversees the modernization of animal exhibits and improves animal care and veterinary practices. He retires in 1992.

**1962** Mayor Richard J. Daley helps break ground at the Farm-in-the-Zoo, a replica of a working Midwestern farm. It is the first new exhibit funded by the Zoo Society.

**1963** The public is invited to become members of the zoo for the first time.

**1970** Kumba is the first western lowland gorilla born at the zoo.

**1976** The zoo's first hospital opens.

Gorillas, orangutans, and chimpanzees move into a new, modern great ape house. During the transfer, Dr. Fisher performs an important preventive medical procedure: a blood draw from each ape.

The zoo's Women's Board is formed. They take over the annual Zoo Ball, which was first hosted by the Zoo Society in 1964 and remains the institution's largest fundraiser to this day.



Kevin J. Bell as Curator

1981



ZooLights

**1977** The zoo's Education department is formally established.

**1981** The Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA)—which certified Lincoln Park Zoo as one of the nation's first accredited zoos in 1975—initiates the Species Survival Plan\* (SSP) program. Bali mynahs, which the zoo still conserves with partners in Indonesia, are among the first species protected.

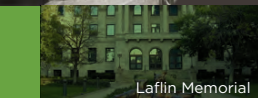
**1984** The zoo establishes its Auxiliary Board.

**1989** The zoo establishes its Conservation and Science department.





Director of Birds



Laflin Memorial

**1993** Kevin J. Bell becomes director.

**1995** Under agreement with the Chicago Park District, the Zoo Society takes over management of the zoo and remains committed to keeping the zoo free. Bell is named president and CEO.

Lincoln Park Zoo hosts its first ZooLights holiday celebration.

**2000** In the early 2000s, the Population Management Center, Davee Center for Epidemiology and Endocrinology, and Alexander Center for Applied Population Biology are founded at Lincoln Park Zoo. The centers begin making scientific breeding recommendations for zoo animals; inform caretakers about hormones in zoo and wild animals; research disease transmission; and devise computer models to help guide conservation strategies.

**2003** Regenstien African Journey opens with immersive habitats for species ranging from lovebirds to pygmy hippos.

**2010** Nature Boardwalk at Lincoln Park Zoo welcomes visitors to a transformed, planned ecosystem—designed by Studio Gang Architects—for plants and wildlife encompassing the South Pond.



Urban Wildlife Institute

**2015** Thanks in part to advocacy efforts by the Fisher Center, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service declares all chimpanzees to be an endangered species and expands protections for them. Soon after, the zoo partners with the national chimpanzee sanctuary, Chimp Haven, to form the first comprehensive accredited zoo/sanctuary collaboration which will improve our understanding of ape welfare.



Siku at Walter Family Arctic Tundra

## 2000–PRESENT A NEW VISION: FOR WILDLIFE. FOR ALL.

2004



Regenstien Center for African Apes

**2004** Regenstien Center for African Apes opens. It houses the Lester E. Fisher Center for the Study and Conservation of Apes, maintaining the zoo's status as a global leader in great ape conservation and research.

**2006** Lincoln Park Zoo teams up with the Goulougo Triangle Ape Project to study wild chimpanzees and gorillas in this untouched region of the Republic of Congo.

**2008** The Urban Wildlife Institute is founded to study urban ecosystems and minimize human-wildlife conflict. In 2017, it creates the Urban Wildlife Information Network, a national organization to monitor urban biodiversity in different regions and contribute to city planning for green spaces.

**2013** King, a critically endangered black rhinoceros now living at Brookfield Zoo, is born at Lincoln Park Zoo. His arrival is guided by a Davee Center-developed hormone-monitoring program designed to facilitate breeding.

**2015** Regenstien Macaque Forest, the first exhibit of the zoo's current capital campaign, *The Pride of Chicago*, opens with a troop of Japanese snow monkeys.

2017



Nature Boardwalk

2016

**2016** The zoo provides its ZooMonitor app for free to other institutions worldwide, which enables caregivers to make more informed decisions and promote animal welfare.

The Learning department teams up with partners in Chicago's Little Village neighborhood, co-creating art- and garden-focused programming that connects people to nature.

An African penguin colony waddles into the new Robert and Mayari Pritzker Penguin Cove. (African penguins are listed as endangered by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature).

Walter Family Arctic Tundra opens to the public with its first resident, polar bear Siku, introduced to female Talini in 2018.



Teen ambassadors engage families

**2017** Hurvis Family Learning Center opens. In this space, the Learning department continues its work with the Conservation Ambassadors Board, Zoo Internship Program and other teen programs that connect young people with zoo scientists, educators, visitors, and one another.

Lincoln Park Zoo announces a new vision: inspiring communities to create environments where wildlife will thrive in our urbanizing world.

**2018** The City of Chicago and Illinois General Assembly appreciate Lincoln Park Zoo's contributions to leadership in animal care, community engagement, and conservation with proclamations recognizing the zoo's 150th anniversary.

See the extended timeline and more great photos at [lpzoo.org/150](http://lpzoo.org/150).

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# Thank you, Chicago

Lincoln Park Zoo is a privately managed non-profit organization. More than 80 percent of the institution's operating costs are supported by contributions from donors, members and revenue spent on grounds by visitors.

From its inception, the zoo was managed by the Chicago Park District (initially its Lincoln Park commissioners prior to the consolidation of the city's original 22 park districts). They remain a partner who provides an annual subsidy to support the zoo. In 1959 The Lincoln Park Zoological Society was founded to supplement the city's operational efforts and provide significant capital and programmatic support. In 1964 the Zoo Society opened their first privately funded project: Farm-in-the-Zoo. Over the next 30 years they contributed significantly to the zoo's growth until finally, in 1995, the Zoo Society assumed management for the institution.

This established a framework that enabled zoo leadership to prioritize program areas of animal care, conservation and science, and learning. It meant the zoo could seek private funding to renovate animal houses and invest in community-based wildlife science and learning programs. With the Zoo Society at the helm, the zoo grew and continues to grow as an immersive, accessible, science-based organization that connects people to nature both on-grounds and outside its gates.

Completing these campaigns has sustained the zoo, kept it free, and brought to life naturalistic habitats for the animals and enhanced facilities for guests and staff.

## 1976-1982: "To Make A Great Zoo Greater" **\$21 million**

Kroc Hospital & Commissary  
Great Ape House (later renamed after Dr. Lester Fisher)  
Crown-Field Center  
Kovler Penguin/Seabird House  
Regenstein Large Mammal Habitat  
Antelope/Zebra Habitat

## 1985-1991: Landmark Campaign **\$23.1 million**

### **New construction:**

Pritzker Children's Zoo  
Regenstein Birds of Prey

### **Renovation:**

Helen Brach Primate House  
Kovler Lion House  
McCormick Bird House  
Landmark Café  
Café Brauer

## 1991-1995: "Heart of the Zoo" **\$50 million**

### **New construction:**

Regenstein Small Mammal-Reptile House  
Kovler Sea Lion Pool  
Zoo landscaping

### **Renovation:**

Judy Keller Education Center  
Lion and tiger habitats  
Animal hospital expansion  
Matthew Laflin Memorial Building

## 2000-2005: "My Kind of Zoo" **\$125 million**

### **New construction:**

Regenstein African Journey  
Regenstein Center for African Apes  
Pritzker Family Children's Zoo  
Flamingo habitat

### **Renovation:**

Farm-in-the-Zoo presented by John Deere  
Polar bear exhibit  
East and West Gate entrances

## 2012-2020 (est.): "The Pride of Chicago" **\$135 million**

### **New construction:**

Regenstein Macaque Forest  
Robert and Mayari Pritzker Penguin Cove  
Walter Family Arctic Tundra  
Hurvis Family Learning Center  
Searle Visitor Center (opening fall 2018)

### **Renovation:**

West Gate entrance and Lionel Train Adventure  
Kovler Lion House (planning underway)



# Focus on the Future

150 years of history provides a wealth of experience to inform the future. These initiatives signal the zoo's ongoing commitment to connect people with nature and advance animal care, community, and science and conservation.

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## The Pride of Chicago

The final phase of *The Pride of Chicago* capital campaign is renovation of Kovler Lion House. Built in 1912, it will be re-envisioned to provide larger, more engaging, state-of-the-art habitats. Architects and planners are starting with the end in mind: a world-class building where keepers can provide the best care; guests can have clear, safe, close-up encounters with lions; and scientists can monitor and conduct research to inform conservation efforts for species in the wild.



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## Connecting with Nature in North Lawndale

Adjacent to Little Village, where Lincoln Park Zoo has been collaborating since 2016, North Lawndale is rich in history and outdoor space. Zoo representatives have been listening to North Lawndale organizations and residents to learn how they wish to connect with nature in their neighborhood. A co-created partnership is blossoming, rooted in the community's priorities of engaging and employing teens and utilizing art and wildlife to activate green space. A new program, Douglass 18—the vision of North Lawndale artist Haman Cross III—will employ local teens to create art installations that enhance Douglas Park's miniature golf course. The zoo will introduce teens to the species, science, and stewardship of local birds, providing a foundation for their artwork.

The partnership is further expansion of the zoo's vision: inspiring communities to create environments where wildlife will thrive in our urbanizing world.



Members of the public will have an opportunity to attend a lecture from a world-renowned expert; details will be available soon. More information is available at [reintro.org](http://reintro.org).

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## Adapting Penguin Encounters

Last year, Lincoln Park Zoo launched Malott Family Penguin Encounter: an opportunity for guests to get close to endangered African penguins inside their habitat. This format reflects the zoo's commitment to offering animals choice. Guests enter a designated space in the habitat, and the penguins can choose to come and visit—and with their curious personalities, the penguins have always chosen to participate! This year, while learning about the penguins' natural history, individual personalities, and the challenges facing their habitats in the wild, guests can snap close-up photos with their phones or other small cameras. Visit [lpzoo.org/penguin](http://lpzoo.org/penguin) for schedule, pricing, and details.

—Beth Krauss

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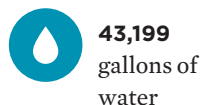
## The 2nd International Wildlife Reintroduction Conference

Lincoln Park Zoo is committed to growing its leadership role in global conservation. On November 13-16, 2018, in partnership with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's Reintroduction Specialist Group, the zoo will host the 2nd International Wildlife Reintroduction Conference. Reintroduction biologists and managers from around the globe will again convene in Chicago to share information, triumphs, and tribulations from experiences restoring wildlife—from plants to green-winged macaws and more—back to the wild.





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# Zoo Calendar

## July

**Tues & Sat, ongoing**  
Play Days at the Farm

**Select dates through  
Sept 30**  
Fitness at the Zoo

**Tues-Thurs through Sept 27**  
Music at the Patio

**Saturdays, 7 & 28**  
Campout at the Zoo

**Friday, 13**  
Zoo Ball 2018: Zoobilee

**Saturday, 14**  
Second Saturdays Garden  
Tour

**Tuesday, 17**  
Twilight Safari

**Saturday, 18**  
Third Saturday Garden  
Workshop

**Friday, 20**  
Family Nature Day

**Saturday, 21**  
Night at the Zoo

**Friday, 27**  
Summer Wine Fest

## August

**Saturday, 11**  
Second Saturdays Garden  
Tour

**Saturdays, 11 & 25**  
Campout at the Zoo

**Wednesday, 15**  
Teen Conservation  
Ambassadors Board  
application deadline

**Saturday, 19**  
Third Saturday Garden  
Workshop

**Tuesday, 21**  
Twilight Safari

**Wednesday, 22**  
Family Nature Day

## September

**Saturday, 8**  
Donut Fest at the Zoo

Second Saturdays Garden  
Tour  
Family Nature Day

**Friday, 14**  
Lebowski Fest Chicago

**Saturday, 15**  
Third Saturday Garden  
Workshop

**Sunday, 22**  
Fiesta Familiar de Hoy

**Friday, 28-Oct 28**  
(Select dates)  
Fall Fest

## October

**Monday, 8**  
Columbus Day Camp

**Friday, 12**  
Harvest Dinner at the Patio

**Saturday, 13**  
Family Nature Day

**Thursday, October 18**  
Adults Night Out: The Great  
Pumpkin Glow

**Saturday, 20**  
Third Saturday Garden  
Workshop

*Go to [lpzoo.org/calendar](http://lpzoo.org/calendar)  
for details on upcoming  
events.*