



LINCOLN PARK ZOO®
Heritage Society

SUMMER
2022

Newsletter

Red panda

WE'RE ROARING WITH PRIDE OVER A NEW ARRIVAL!

The African lion pride at Pepper Family Wildlife Center grew by one this past spring! On March 15, 3-year-old African lion Zari (Zar-ee) gave birth to a cub as part of the African Lion Species Survival Plan® (SSP), a collaborative population management effort across Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA)-accredited institutions. This lion cub is the first for Zari and the first one born at the zoo in 20 years.

“The pride was formed as part of the African Lion Species Survival Plan® with anticipation that breeding could occur. This cub’s arrival signifies the lion pride, which arrived at the zoo this past fall, feel at home in their new habitat and are receiving the best possible care,” said Curator of Mammals Mike Murray.

Animal Care staff had observed breeding behavior between Zari and 4-year-old male lion Jabari. Then, our teams monitored Zari for signs of weight gain, collected fecal samples non-invasively to test hormone levels that indicate pregnancy, and conducted voluntary ultrasounds.

Pepper Family Wildlife Center, which opened in 2021, is a state-of-the-art, savanna-style habitat focused on animal choice. It includes thermal comfort zones for cooling and heating, intricate rockwork and climbing trees for vertical complexity, and space for offspring. The facility is home to a pride of African lions, two Canada lynx, two red pandas, and two snow leopards.

African lions are large predators that can weigh up to 500 pounds. Males are larger than females and are distinguishable by their manes,

African lion cub



which surround their heads and extend to their chests. Lions are a social species that live in prides. This vulnerable species is found in parts of sub-Saharan Africa, and its habitat ranges from forests to shrublands and grasslands.

Lion populations have declined for the past 100 years, with fewer than 20,000 lions remaining. Lincoln Park Zoo is a proud partner of the KopeLion Project based in Ngorongoro Conservation Area in northern Tanzania, which strives to foster human-lion coexistence to help promote lion conservation.

YOUR GUIDE TO DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS

Donor-advised funds have become an increasingly popular way to support favorite charitable organizations. Funds allow donors to easily track their giving and make an impact, no matter the economic climate. They can make giving easier and help you create a family legacy of giving.

How They Work

A donor-advised fund is like a waiting room for a charitable donation. You establish a fund using cash or appreciated property with a nonprofit called a sponsoring organization. They then invest and grow your money over time.

There are two ways you can use the money in your fund to support your favorite causes, like Lincoln Park Zoo.

1. Recommend a grant or recurring grants to the zoo. This allows you to support our work today.
2. Name the zoo as a beneficiary. We'll receive the money left over after your lifetime.

The Benefits

Establishing and giving through your donor-advised fund offers many benefits. You:

- Qualify for an income tax charitable deduction in the year you make a gift to your fund.
- Don't have to track your contributions (your sponsoring organization does). You will receive a single tax document each year, making record-keeping easier.
- Can grow your fund over time if your sponsoring organization invests it, eventually allowing you to give more than you thought.

Share the Good News

When you recommend a gift to Lincoln Park Zoo from your donor-advised fund, we may not know who it is from. If you use your fund to make a gift to the zoo, please let us know by contacting Sarah Rutledge at 312-742-9570 or heritagesociety@lpzoo.org so we can thank you for your support.

AFRICAN LION FACTS

Scientific Name

Panthera leo

Habitat

Forests, shrublands, and grasslands

Estimated Wild Population

Less than 20,000

IUCN Conservation Status

Vulnerable

- ➔ Lions usually spend up to **20 hours a day resting**.
- ➔ The lion is the only wild big cat that **lives and hunts in groups**.
- ➔ The **average lion pride has 13 members**, but they can live in groups of up to 40.
- ➔ **Cubs may remain hidden with their mom for up to 16 weeks** after birth and are dependent until they are 16 months of age.



African lions



Chilean flamingo

SHAPING YOUR LEGACY: LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

The act of giving through your estate plan involves reflection and forethought. It also warrants a conversation. As you shape your long-term plans, find out how they stack up to those of the charity. Here are four key questions to ask when considering a legacy gift.

1. How will my gift be used?

Why it matters: Every nonprofit abides by accounting standards and makes financial information—like budgets and spending—available to the public. This information can be useful whether your gift will be invested long-term or spent to fund immediate needs. If you want your gift to make a broad impact or to be used for a specific purpose, have a conversation with the charity about your goals.

2. What is the vision of the organization?

Why it matters: An organization's vision statement shares where it is headed. Because a legacy gift provides support well into the future, make sure the organization's plans align with your values and charitable goals.

3. What is your 10-year plan?

Why it matters: Details on strategic plans, rainy-day funds, board bylaws, and fundraising guidelines are clues that an organization will remain viable.

4. How will my gift be recognized?

Why it matters: Philanthropy is always worth celebrating, but you have the right to opt in or out of recognition. Express your preferences. It's okay to ask to be removed from a list. Whether your gift is celebrated in a public or private way is completely up to you!

Let's Have a Conversation

We can help with all of these questions and more. Contact Sarah Rutledge at 312-742-9570 or heritagesociety@lpzoo.org to have a conversation about your legacy.

HAVE YOU NOTIFIED YOUR BENEFICIARIES?

Naming a loved one or a favorite nonprofit as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy or retirement plan assets is a heartfelt way to make a lasting impact. Go one step further and notify those beneficiaries of the choices you've made.

Many people and charities aren't aware that they have been named to receive a gift, and many times the plan provider isn't required to notify them. Informing them helps preserve your intentions and ensures that your beneficiaries are able to follow your wishes.

Protect the people and causes you love by following these simple steps:

- 1 Review your beneficiary designations periodically, as circumstances may change.
- 2 Alert your beneficiaries that you have a life insurance policy or have named them as a beneficiary of a retirement plan.
- 3 Share the location and details of the policy or plan with them.

As you update your beneficiary designations, consider making a gift of a life insurance policy or retirement plan to the zoo so that we can continue saving species and connecting people with nature. Then notify us of your decision so that we can carry out your wishes as intended and thank you for your gift.

Jamaican iguana



We Want to Hear From You

If you have already named Lincoln Park Zoo as beneficiary of a life insurance policy or retirement plan assets, please contact Sarah Rutledge today. If you are still creating your estate plan, we would be happy to answer any questions you may have about making this type of gift.



Make a difference.

Your gift to the zoo will help us continue to advance animal care, education, science, and conservation—and ensure future Chicagoans enjoy an exceptional, free zoo experience. Please contact us today.



Sarah Rutledge
Director of Planned Giving
312-742-9570

Lincoln Park Zoo
Tax ID# 36-2512404

2001 North Clark Street, Chicago, IL 60614 heritagesociety@lpzoo.org lpzoo.org