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A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO AND BOARD CHAIR

Dear friends of the Buffalo Zoo,

As we reflect on the wonderful year that was 2024, we are overwhelmed by all of the support, passion and dedication expressed toward the Buffalo Zoo's mission. Together, with nearly 400,000 visitors, we achieved milestones and made significant steps forward in advancing our vision to make the Buffalo Zoo a center for conservation excellence that ensures a future where wildlife thrives.

We witnessed many exciting and integral developments in and around the Zoo this past year, all of which would not have been possible without the collective efforts of our supporters, staff members, volunteers and partners. From distinctive new animal arrivals and infrastructure improvements, to exhilarating events and important conservation work, the Buffalo Zoo remains a hallmark in our Western New York community, making a lasting impact locally and globally.

One of the biggest highlights of this year was the arrival of several new animals that included a red panda, an ocelot, a new patas monkey troop, and of course Babatunde, a now 19-year-old western lowland gorilla who arrived in Buffalo in September. He came from the Bronx Zoo on a Species Survival Plan (SSP) recommendation from the Association of Zoos & Aquariums, and continues to acclimate into his new space alongside our two female gorillas, Sidney and Lily.

The Zoomagination Lantern Festival once again lit up summer nights at the Zoo, offering a magical stroll through our campus for the thousands of visitors who attended. The dazzling, larger-than-life

lantern displays that highlighted Asian and African animals and cultures were among the countless events that made for thrilling days and nights at the Zoo.

Our conservation efforts helped make a tangible impact on the preservation of endangered species both in our Western New York community and around the globe. Notably, the Zoo started a partnership with the Seneca Nation that includes a new wood turtle conservation program.

Additionally, as part of our longstanding relationship with the Puerto Rican Crested Toad Conservancy, the Zoo oversaw breeding that produced a significant number of Puerto Rican crested toad tadpoles. Those tadpoles were sent to their native Puerto Rico, where they were eventually introduced to their natural habitat to help boost the wild population of the endangered toad species. The Buffalo Zoo was a founding organization for the original SSP and celebrated 40 years with the program in 2024.

Our Zoo for All program, which launched in April, ensured that everyone has the opportunity to experience the wonders and educational benefits of a visit to the Buffalo Zoo. By offering significantly reduced admission rates for families and individuals having income challenges, we were proud to develop a program that helps remove financial barriers and makes the Zoo affordable to our community. 11,837 individuals experienced the Zoo from this program.

We could not be more excited for 2025 — particularly because this year marks the Buffalo Zoo's 150th anniversary. From a permanent structure that housed deer

in 1875 to the sprawling campus with hundreds of species today, we could not be more proud of the work, dedication and passion for conservation that has allowed us to reach this incredible milestone.

Throughout 2025, the Buffalo Zoo will be celebrating its history with numerous events, educational programs, glimpses at our past, as well as opportunities to join in a new vision for the next 150 years of wildlife conservation education. It is with deep appreciation that we acknowledge the Yurtchuk Foundation for their meaningful support as we look to what's ahead with campus improvements and creating a compassionate, sustainable future for wildlife. We can't wait for all the amazing memories that will be forged this year and to sharing our vision for the next 150 years of conservation education.

On behalf of the entire team at the Buffalo Zoo, including our Board of Directors, we extend our deepest gratitude for your belief and passion in our mission. Together, we will continue to make a positive impact for wildlife both at home and around the world.

We look forward to everything 2025 and beyond has to offer. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Losa Smith Gene Gampa

President and CFO Board Chair

Gene Gramza





CONSERVATION PROJECTS

Puerto Rican Crested Toads

In 2024, the Buffalo Zoo sent 2445 Puerto Rican crested tadpoles to the Puerto Rican Crested Tadpole Conservancy in Puerto Rico. The tadpoles were hatched at the Zoo and then shipped directly to Puerto Rico where they will be released to the wild. We are proud to celebrate 40 years of participation in this program. The Zoo, in collaboration with other AZA institutions, has released thousands of these animals into the wild.

Wood Turtles

In 2024, the Buffalo Zoo participated in wood turtle conservation by taking in three adult females and providing an environment for them to lay eggs naturally. Two of the females produced viable clutches, resulting in a total of 12 offspring. These offspring are currently being cared for at the Zoo, where they will be raised for approximately three years before being released into the wild on Seneca Nation property. The Zoo plans to repeat this process in 2025, with the goal of increasing the number of animals in the headstarting program.

Eastern Massassagua Rattlesnakes

We sent our Team Lead of Herpetology to Michigan to conduct a crucial survey for the Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake, a threatened species whose populations are declining due to habitat loss and fragmentation. This survey, conducted annually, is part of a larger collaborative effort to assess the current population distribution of this threatened species, understand habitat requirements, and identify key areas for conservation.







NEW ANIMAL HIGHLIGHTS



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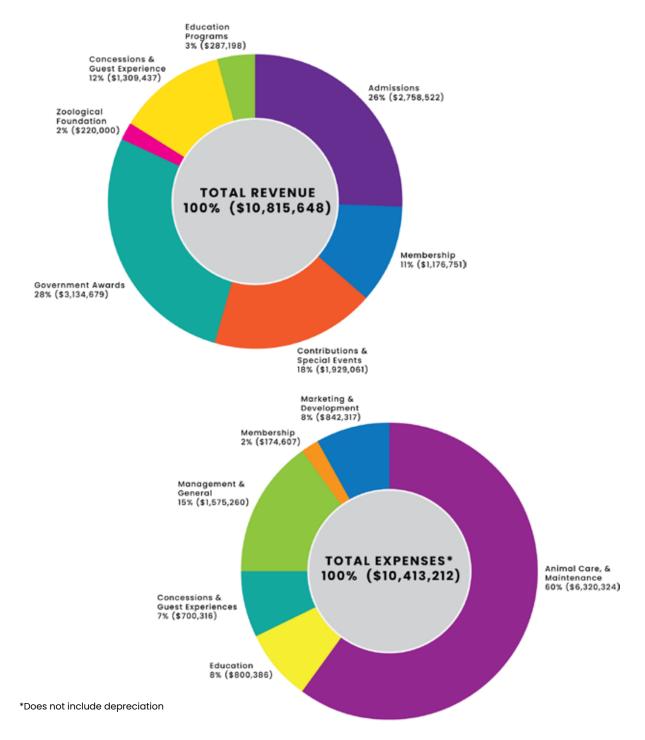
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