



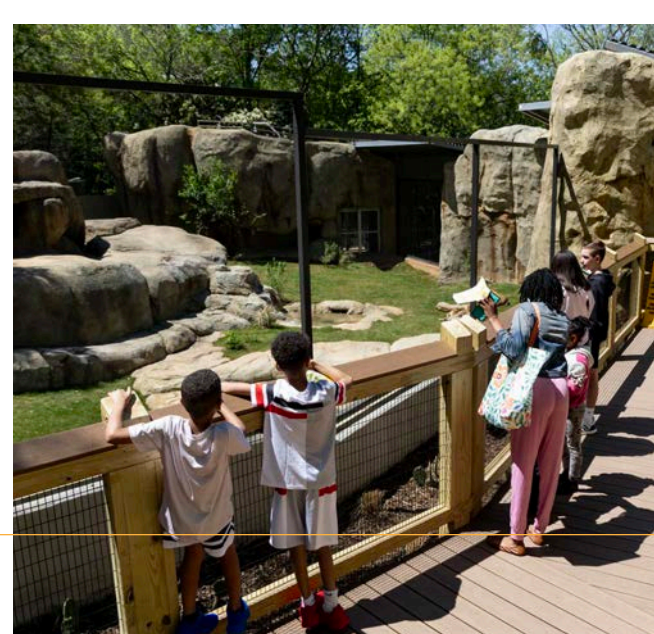
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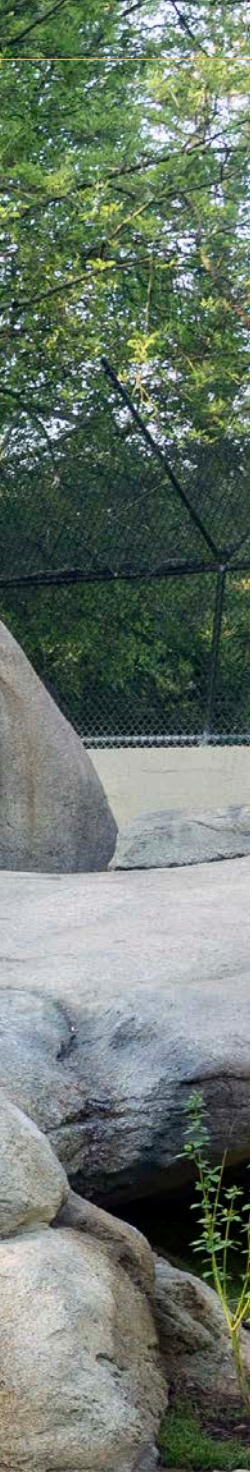
ATLANTA

2025

ANNUAL
REPORT







Dear friends,

As you look over just a few of the highlights of 2025, you'll notice two themes that on the surface may seem very different, but which together help to form the basis of our mission as we move forward into a new year.

The first of these is animals—an obvious focus for a zoological organization. But here, there is much, much more at play than merely animal housing, diets, or daily care. Instead, we strive for excellence, holding ourselves accountable to examining and exceeding superior standards of animal wellbeing—from redesigning habitats, to providing world-class veterinary care, to transcending the borders of the Zoo to work to save species and their habitats around the world.

The second theme is people—people without whom our mission could never be achieved. This means everything from providing fresh, exciting, and intuitive experiences for our Members and guests, to ensuring accessibility for all who visit, to nurturing the next generation of animal scientists and conservationists.

These concepts meet in the middle here at Zoo Atlanta, forming the basis for who we are and what we do. I hope that as you review this report, you will recall these high points with pride in all that we have accomplished together—and all that we have yet to accomplish in a future that will be brighter for both wildlife and people thanks to our shared mission.

As always, thanks for all you do for the Zoo!

Raymond B. King
President and CEO



A REDESIGN THAT ROARS



The African lion habitat is part of the Zoo's African Savanna zone, all of which has been redesigned and updated over the past five years.

Enhanced animal wellbeing and elevated guest experience meet in the newly renovated African lion complex.

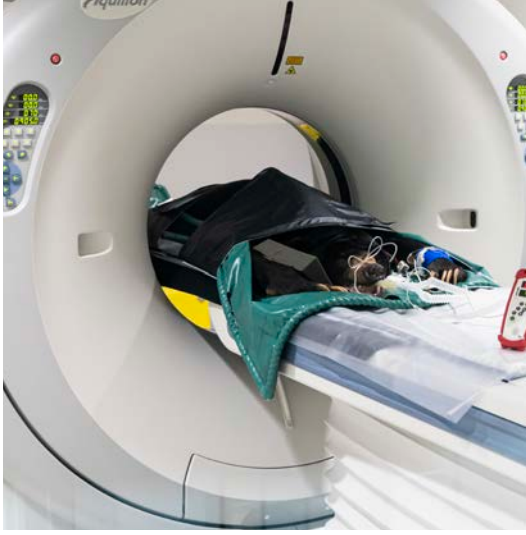
In a landmark event of 2025, Zoo Atlanta celebrated the opening of a newly renovated African lion complex. **The six-month, \$3 million project** introduced an array of new features designed for lions Hondo, Hatari, and Azizi and a new experience for Members and guests.

Special features of the new African lion habitat:

- Design elements incorporated specifically for lion wellbeing and behavior, including around **1,500 square feet of new habitat space**
- New shade structure, rain shelter, and in-habitat pool
- Three separate viewing areas, including an expansive observation deck with seating area that promotes views of the entire habitat

The African Savanna also features habitats for African elephants; a mixed-species habitat for giraffes, zebras, and ostrich; and habitats for warthogs, meerkats, kori bustards, and blue cranes. Next door to the African lion complex, the Delta Air Lines **Rhino Habitat was redesigned for rhinos in 2023.**





A NEW ERA



OF THE CUTTING- EDGE ROLLINS ANIMAL HEALTH CENTER

Redefining standards of excellence in zoological animal medicine, scientific research, and academic partnerships, the groundbreaking Rollins Animal Health Center marked its first full year of operation. The Center enhances the healthcare and preventative care of animals throughout the Zoo while providing a home base for one of the nation's most talented veterinary teams.



In keeping with Zoo Atlanta's commitment to sustainability, the facility was certified LEED Gold in 2025.



A HISTORIC PARTNERSHIP FOR PATHWAYS TO VETERINARY CAREERS

Zoo Atlanta and Fort Valley State University join forces on resources for Veterinary Technology students

The Rollins Animal Health Center is central to a new academic partnership between Zoo Atlanta and Fort Valley State University, announced at FVSU in summer 2025. Through this collaboration, FVSU will encourage Veterinary Technology students with a minimum of 35 semester credits in their major or content area and a GPA of 3.00 or higher to apply for this competitive program, which will be available annually during the university's summer semester.

The final candidates, who will be selected by Zoo Atlanta, will also have access to housing free of charge in on-site apartments located at The Rollins Animal Health Center, where they will gain valuable hands-on clinical experience in a setting that is home to more than 200 species.



Students will gain valuable hands-on clinical experience in a setting that is home to **more than 200 species.**



A NEW WAY TO CELEBRATE



Baseball fans get to know some of the Zoo's most valuable "players"

Atlanta Braves fans met some true stars with a series of highly collectible **Animal All-Star Trading Cards** released in honor of the 2025 Major League Baseball All Star Game at Truist Park. Each week over eight weeks leading up to the game, the Zoo's social media campaign kept fans engaged and looking forward to finding out which animal card would be revealed next, with more than 40,000 cards handed out over the life of the campaign.

Zoo Atlanta All-Stars included **Calvin** the giraffe; **Cortez** the blue-and-yellow macaw; **Flint** the alligator snapping turtle; **Hondo** the African lion; **Mojave** the sidewinder; **Taz** the western lowland gorilla; **Titan** the African elephant; and **Xander** the Malayan sun bear.

More than 40,000 cards were handed out over the life of the campaign.

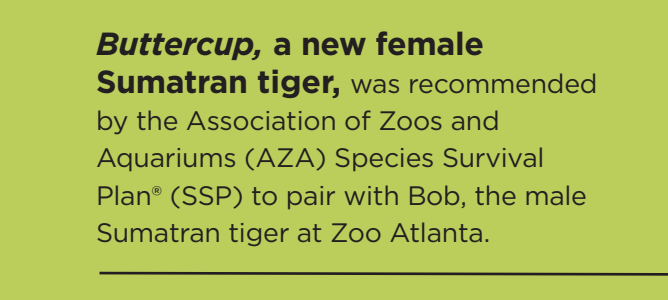
A MILESTONE EVERY MOMENT



Titan, a male African elephant, joined Kelly, Tara, and Msholo as the newest addition to the African Savanna herd.



Neighomi, a female zebra, joined the mixed-species habitat in the African Savanna as a social companion for male zebra Wembe and female Imara.



Buttercup, a new female Sumatran tiger, was recommended by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) Species Survival Plan® (SSP) to pair with Bob, the male Sumatran tiger at Zoo Atlanta.



Births and hatchings included a Hoffmann's **two-toed sloth, named Waffles** at the conclusion of a two-week "Slothmas" celebration, as well as tawny frogmouths, Chilean flamingo chicks, prehensile-tailed skinks, and many more.



Another new arrival on the African Savanna, **female ostrich Olive** joined the mixed-species habitat as a companion for female ostrich Purple.

Nafis, a new male Schmidt's guenon, was recommended by the SSP to join female Bam and her offspring Flynn and Jack.



Animal arrivals, births, and more form the heart of our organization.



Elsewhere in The Ford African Rain Forest, **Willie B. III's cousins, Anaka, Andi, and Merry**, left Zoo Atlanta for an exciting new chapter. The young female gorillas became members of an all-new troop at San Antonio Zoo's brand-new Congo Falls.

LaMancha goat kids Barbie, Carmen, Cruz, and Ella became the newest members of the herd of goats and sheep in the Zoo's contact yard.



Animal milestone celebrations included a **birthday for Willie B. III, who turned 2 on April 24**. A member of one of the city's most treasured legacies, the precocious future silverback continues to find new adventures every day.



A WELCOME FOR ALL AGES & INTERESTS

From U to Boo, new and returning audiences find reasons to embrace the Zoo

With a suite of signature events for people of all ages, Zoo Atlanta annually welcomes new audiences who may not otherwise have been familiar with the Zoo's mission or its many offerings and experiences.

New events in 2025 included **U at the Zoo** for college students and **Neighborhood Block Party** presented by Kaiser Permanente celebrating the surrounding community.

A popular Atlanta staple for more than two decades, **Boo at the Zoo** presented by Georgia Natural Gas welcomed nearly 35,000 guests over two weekends.



The new **Neighborhood Block Party** celebrates the surrounding community.





Boo at the Zoo welcomed nearly 35,000 guests.



A REASON TO CLIMB ABOARD

Cherished Zoo experience gets a fresh new debut

2025 saw a redesign and reimagining of one of Zoo Atlanta's most beloved experiences with the debut of the Safari Express aboard the Norfolk Southern Zoo Train.

Designed to connect Members and guests with animals in new ways, the train features narration by guest conductor Skylar on a journey through the world of animal superpowers. The ride passes engaging and vibrant animal scenes featuring illustrated giraffes, lemurs, lions, and more as Skylar shares facts on their adaptations, helping to instill appreciation for the intrinsic value of all living things.

The Safari Express runs on an electric engine for an eco-friendly ride and includes spacious seats and covered passenger coaches.



A NEW YEAR OF INQUIRY

Upholding scientific research as one of our strongest areas of excellence

An organization that has upheld scientific research as an area of excellence for more than 45 years, Zoo Atlanta continued to contribute to the global body of knowledge about animals, their behavior and biology, and their care. A study appearing in the *Journal of Zoo and Aquarium Research* ranked Zoo Atlanta **third in the world in research productivity in animal welfare.**



2025 RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

5 peer-reviewed articles published in scientific journals

3rd annual Biomechanics Day at the Zoo hosted with partners at Georgia Institute of Technology

Research by Zoo Atlanta featured in *Science Journal for Kids*



A ZOO FOR ALL

Voice by iAccess Life helps find ways to increase accessibility

In the first full year since the launch of **Voice by iAccess Life**, Zoo Atlanta continues to gain valuable insights into the accessibility of habitats and venues around the Zoo. The tool allows visitors to rate, review, and research locations based on their accessibility. Zoo Atlanta uses this information to assess areas of need and identify ways to increase accessibility for guests with mobility, hearing, or visual impairments.

Preserved reptile scales retain microscopic features, revealing a new instance of convergent evolution

Acute phase proteins and capillary zone electrophoresis in clinically normal giant pandas (*Ailuropoda melanoleuca*) and comparison to clinically ill giant panda

Monitoring of animal welfare

Advancing Animal Welfare: The World Zoo and Aquarium Animal Welfare Strategy

Angiostrongylus cantonensis infection in a captive non-human primate (*Varecia variegata*) from the southeastern United States

Exploring potential independent loss of cloacal bursae in turtles of the Family Geoemydidae

Diel activity and spatial use of zoo housed juvenile Amazon Basin emerald treeboas (*Corallus batesii*)

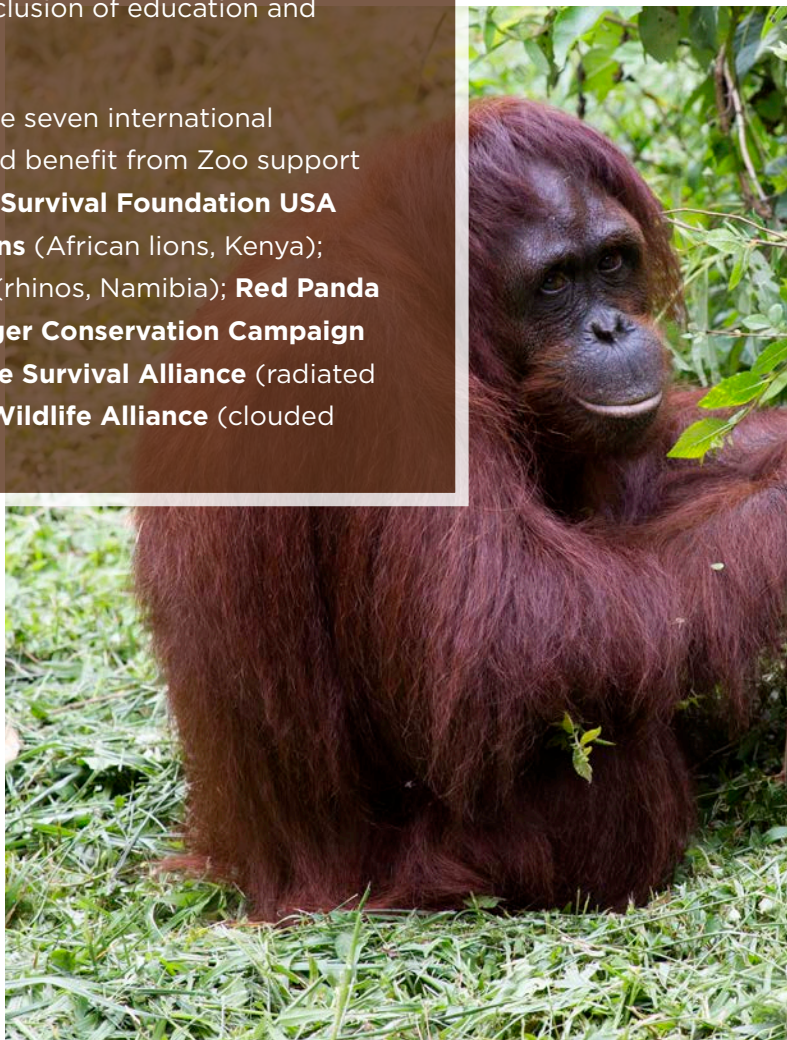
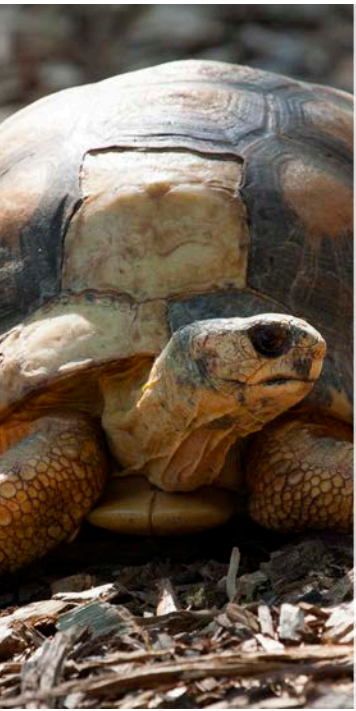


A NEW LEADER DEVOTED TO OUR MISSION

Chief Financial Officer **Veronica Jacobs** leads with passion and commitment

Zoo Atlanta welcomed **Veronica Jacobs**, CPA, as Chief Financial Officer in spring 2025. A leader with a passion for wildlife and keen commitment to Zoo Atlanta’s mission, Jacobs serves as a strategic member of the Senior Leadership Team and leads the Zoo’s Finance, Human Resources, and Information Technology Teams while providing guidance and support to other departments across the organization.





A REFRESHED COMMITMENT BEYOND THE ZOO

Zoo Atlanta's conservation impact crosses continents and borders

The Mabel Dorn Reeder Conservation Endowment Fund annually awards grants to projects that enable Zoo Atlanta to amplify its global conservation impact. Projects are proposed by Zoo Atlanta team members and are selected by a review committee based on relevance to the Zoo's mission; conservation status and needs of the species in question; conservation significance; and inclusion of education and community outreach.

In 2025, Zoo Atlanta identified the seven international conservation programs that would benefit from Zoo support in 2026: the **Bornean Orangutan Survival Foundation USA** (orangutans, Borneo); **Ewaso Lions** (African lions, Kenya); **International Rhino Foundation** (rhinos, Namibia); **Red Panda Network** (red pandas, Nepal); **Tiger Conservation Campaign** (Sumatran tigers, Sumatra); **Turtle Survival Alliance** (radiated tortoises, Madagascar); and the **Wildlife Alliance** (clouded leopards, Cambodia).

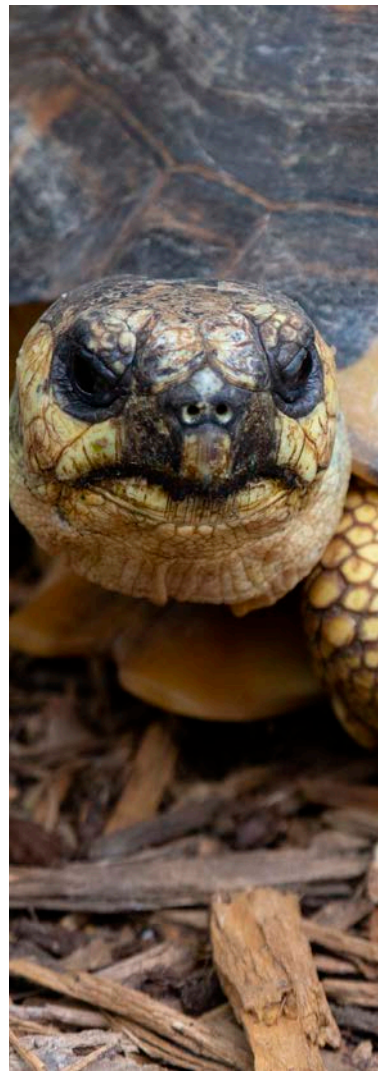
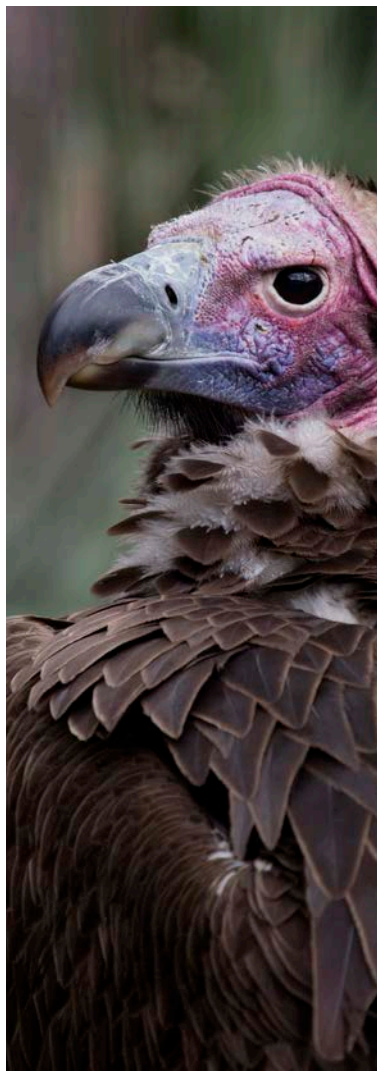
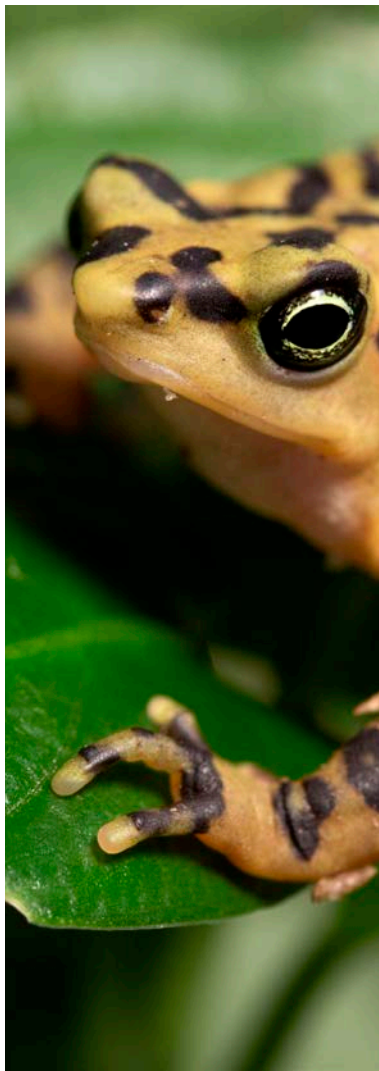
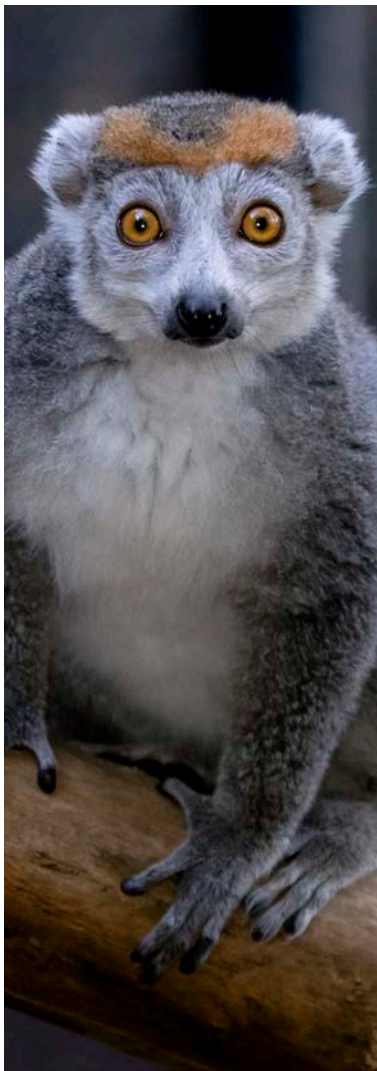


A new Signature Conservation Partner in a milestone anniversary year

The Zoo's longtime partner in gorilla conservation, the **Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund**, was officially named a Signature Conservation Partner of Zoo Atlanta in 2025. The two organizations celebrated an impressive 30 years of partnership in protecting wild gorillas and informing the world's body of knowledge about these great apes.

The international headquarters of the Fossey Fund have been located on Zoo Atlanta grounds since 1995. Over the past three decades, Zoo Atlanta has supported the organization by providing office space, information technology, and financial support that have enabled the Fossey Fund to focus more resources on protecting gorillas and building resilient communities in Rwanda and DR Congo.





A FOREFRONT OF A CONSERVATION CRISIS

Zoo Atlanta joins the Wildlife Confiscations Network

Increasing our ability to make an impact on a conservation crisis that hits as close to home as Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport, Zoo Atlanta became one of the newest members of the Wildlife Confiscations Network in 2025.

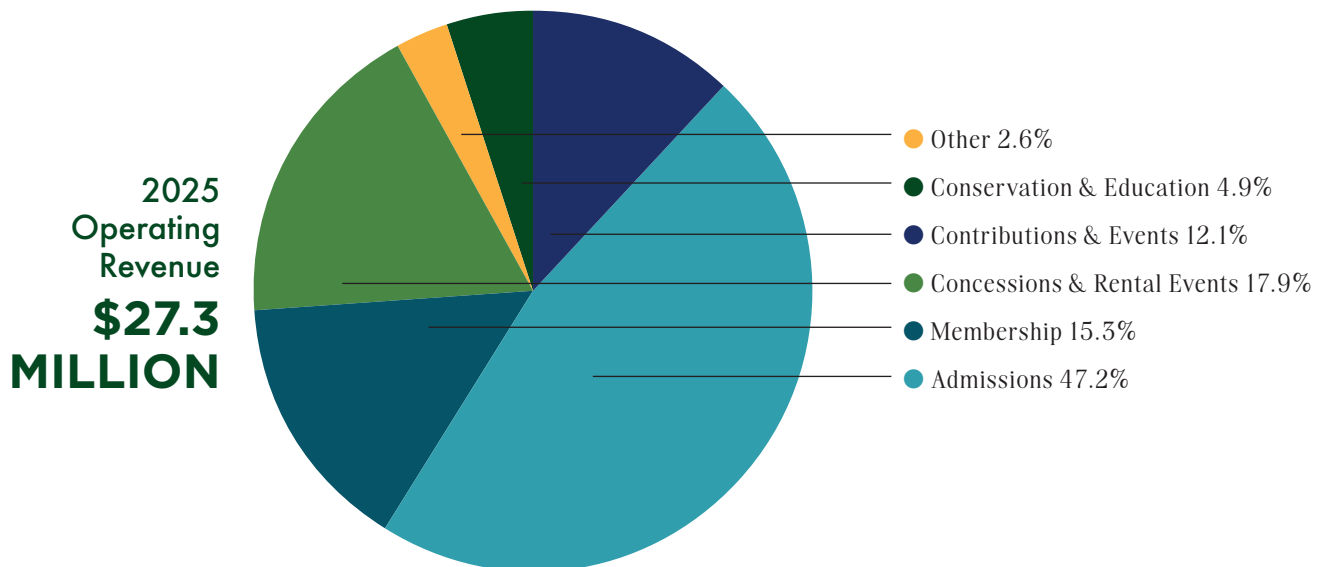
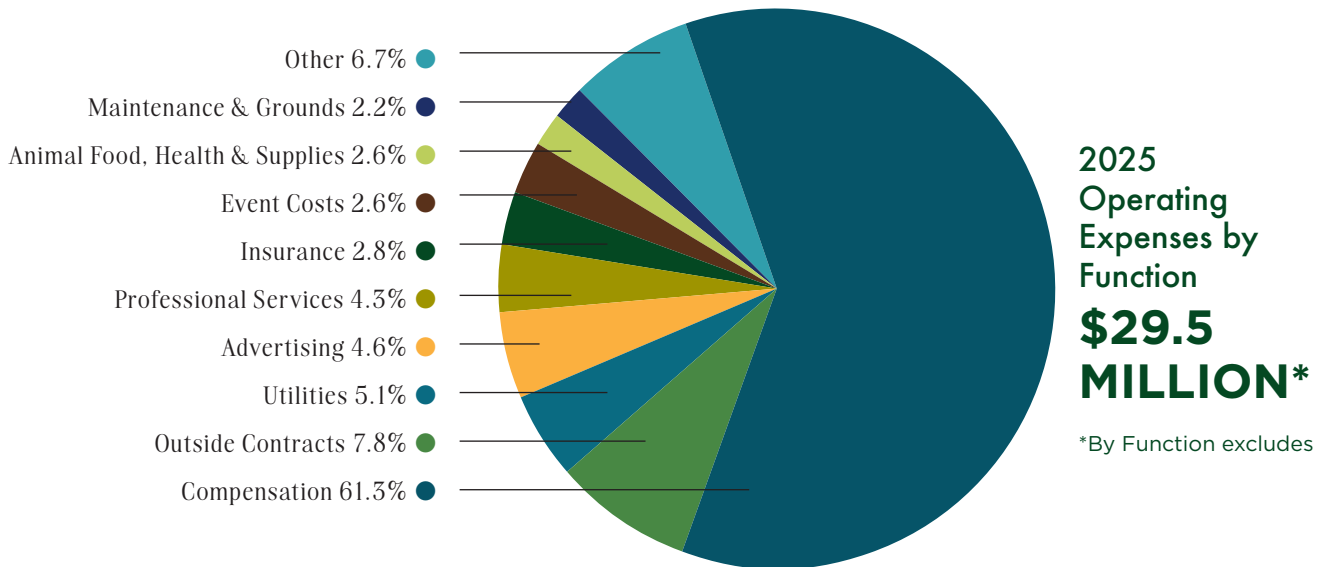
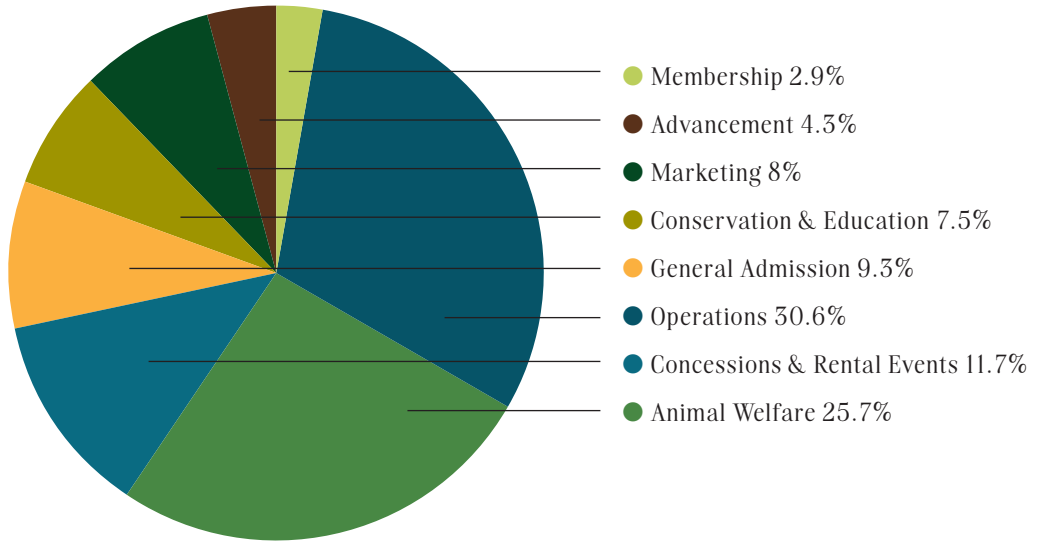
Operating under AZA's Wildlife Trafficking Alliance, the Network is a first-of-its-kind pilot program that strives to reduce wildlife trafficking and increase support for law enforcement by providing a coordinated system to ensure the care and welfare of confiscated live wildlife.

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OF ZOOS &
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FINANCIALS

2025
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Expenses
**\$29.5
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*Results are unaudited.



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**Indicates multi-year commitment*

Every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy of this document. If we have omitted anyone or made any errors, please accept our sincere apologies, and e-mail advancement@zooatlanta.org so that we may correct our records.

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Zoo Atlanta would like to thank the following for their **IN-KIND GIFTS.**

Every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy of this document. If we have omitted anyone or made any errors, please accept our sincere apologies and contact advancement@zooatlanta.org so that we may correct our records.

Margaret Albers
Alliance Theatre
Alloy Personal Training
Andrew Carney Photography
Anisa Beauty
Artisan Beauté
Atlanta Ballet
Atlanta Botanical Garden
The Atlanta Humane Society
Atlanta Marriott Marquis
The Atlanta Opera
Atlanta Party Rentals
Barking Hound Village
Gray Barnett
Jane Barron
Bob and Harriet's Home Bar
Bold Monk Brewing Company
Roberta Boyd
Dr. Benjamin Brainard
Dr. Laura Braswell
Mickey and Carolyn Brown

Cafe Intermezzo	King of Pops	Sneex
Capital Genealogy	Justin and Catherine King	South Carolina Aquarium
Center for Puppetry Arts	KPMG	SSA - Zoo Atlanta
Chandra Holland Fine Art Portraits	La Grotta Ristorante Italiano	Stephanie Leigh Jewelry
Chicken Salad Chick	Craig Lambert and Leslie Jumper	Talat Market
Chick-fil-A	Liberty House Restaurants	The University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine
City Springs Theatre Company	Local Three Kitchen & Bar	Utopia Foot & Shoulder Massage
The Coca-Cola Company	LoriGusArt	Van Michael Salon at the Forum
Dr. Amanda Coleman	Lxtricks LLC	Vintage La Rose
Gee Gee Collins	Martin's Herend Imports	WABE
Craft Wealth Services	Marty Thornberg Designs	White Oak Kitchen & Cocktails
Cutting Edge Firewood	Max Lager's Wood-Fired Grill & Brewery	Willy's Mexican Grill, Inc.
Dad's Garage Theatre	Rita McManamon DVM and Ernest Parker	Woo Skincare & Cosmetics - West Paces Ferry location
Stephanie Dantino	Mellow Mushroom	Allen W. Yee
Dr. Paul Daraei	Bryan and Tiffany Meng	Yumbii - Food Truck
David Yurman - Lenox Mall	Mercer Street Meals	
Delilah's Everyday Soul	Mercer	
Delta TechOps	The Music Studio Atlanta	
Dormie Network	Norton Transport	
Sandra and Bob Edwards	Park Tavern	
Elevated Table	Parker's On Ponce	
Erin Gray Design	Party Bound Event Furnishings	
John and Cindy Ethridge	Dr. Alan C. Peterson, Sr.	
Explorateur Travel	Polished Nail Spa Brookhaven	
fab'rik Vinings	Prebula & Associates LLC	
Face Haven Advanced Aesthetics & Laser Center	Proof of the Pudding	
Fernbank Museum of Natural History	Psito	
Fontastic Calligraphy	Dr. Jane E. Quandt	
The Front Porch Market	REBECCA	
Nicholas and Aimee Franz	Reynolds Lake Oconee	
Georgia Aquarium	Mark and Christy Roberts	
Georgia Natural Gas	Rocky Mountain Ski & Board	
Georgia Tech Alumni Association	Rodney Scott's Whole Hog BBQ	
Lamar Gilstrap	S&S Fire Pits	
Hal's Steakhouse	Salon O'Neil	
Hillary Hammond	Lia and Edward Santos	
Todd and Kendall Harlicka	Sarah Cyrus Home	
Henderson, Shapiro, Peck	SavATree	
Hero Donuts	Seale Lindsay Plant Design	
High Museum of Art	Alex Sigmund	
Robert and Sara Holder	Matthew and Keith Simon-Schumann	
Intercontinental Truck Body Ltd.	SkinSpirit	
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