For immediate release | April 24, 2017 Media contact: Gigi Allianic, Alissa Wolken 206.548.2550 | woodlandparkzoopr@zoo.org

Zoo's ambassador animals will stun the red carpet for new summer programs Exclusive red carpet press preview

WHAT:

INFO:

Woodland Park Zoo's cast of ambassador animals will hit the red carpet for new programs debuting this summer. The press is invited to the exclusive red carpet event on Thursday, April 27, at the zoo's Alvord Broadleaf Theater.

While the fashion police will not be at this red carpet, the animals are sure to impress with their brilliant colors, impeccable plumage and fabulous fur as they show off the looks of summer.

The red carpet roundup includes: A raccoon striking a pose. A porcupine styled in ultra classic quills. A spectacled owl with fashionable, open-toed talons. A hornbill in bold, embellished couture. A red-tailed hawk that always absolutely kills it. A relaxed and glam pot-bellied pig.

The summer cast of ambassador animal stars will feature in two programs. Premiering May 1 is Friends by Nature at the Alvord Broadleaf Theater, which sheds light on how the zoo works hard to create a great home for the animals and what guests can do to help wildlife in their own backyard.

Starting May 21, Earn Your Wings will take flight in the newly renovated Wildlife Theater. Here, a newcomer wants to join the raptor flight program, except for one problem—she doesn't fly! Birds of prey, such as hawks, owls. and vultures, will fly closely overhead while experts share fascinating nuggets about the birds' natural history and conservation status. Will the newcomer earn her wings?

WHEN: Red carpet press preview: Thursday, April 27, 1:00-1:30 p.m.

WHERE: Alvord Broadleaf Theater at Woodland Park Zoo. Meet PR staff at the West

Entrance at Phinney Ave. N. between N. 55th & N. 56th Sts. Park in the

Penguin or Otter Lots.

The zoo's ambassador animals help build guests' empathy for animals and promote ways to take action for wildlife. Guests have the opportunity to meet these incredible animals through engaging, up-close experiences at the zoo's theaters and other programs across the zoo. See the line-up of ambassador

animals here.

Summer zoo hours begin May 1-September 30: 9:30 a.m.- 6:00 p.m. daily. Admission April 1-September 30: Adult (13-64) \$20.95; Child (3-12) \$12.95; Toddler (0-2) Free. Active, retired, and veteran U.S. military and their families, seniors and people with disabilities receive an admission discount. Zoo members receive free zoo admission year round. Parking: \$6.

Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the zoo for zoo quests, made possible through products donated by Cisco.

Mobile app: Search for the free Woodland Park Zoo mobile app for iPhone, iPad or Android in your app store. Use it to track your location on zoo



grounds with GPS, discover more about animals and daily zoo activities, and share the highlights of your visit with friends.

Gifts/Food: Explore the ZooStores for unique gifts and souvenirs and the Rain Forest Food Pavilion to quench your thirst and appetite.

For more information or to become a zoo member, visit $\underline{\text{www.zoo.org}}$ or call 206.548.2500.

###