## Woodland Park Zoo provides free admission to WildLights to select partners through the Community Access Program

SEATTLE—Woodland Park Zoo is pleased to invite several of its Community Access Program partners to attend the zoo's sixth annual WildLights presented by Sound Credit Union. Several partner organizations serving homeless families, foster children, and at-risk families with young children have been invited to attend WildLights between Friday, November 24 and Monday, November 27.



"Thanks to the generous support from our zoo community, we're able to offer free admission on the first four nights of WildLights to some of our Community Access Program partners and their members," said Woodland Park Zoo's President and CEO, Alejandro Grajal. "It's important to remember that this time of year is about giving back to our community. We're happy to open our doors to members of our community who are especially vulnerable this time of year. We are grateful to our Community Access Program partners for working with us to make this happen and we hope the families and youth that visit WildLights have a fun, memorable experience."

Community Access Program partners and their quests can use their complimentary ticket to attend WildLights any night between November 24 and 27. Attendees will enjoy time in the zoo's Rain Forest Food Pavilion, where they will receive cookies and hot cocoa, have the opportunity to meet some special animals up close, and participate in conservation-themed activities. In addition, families will be able to pick up items from the zoo's staff-run Cozy Clothing Drive to use during WildLights and take home with them.

"We are so honored to be invited to participate in this year's WildLights," said Launa Lea of FamilyWorks, a food bank and family center connecting individuals and families with support, resources and community. "Our families look forward to visiting the zoo all year long. For many of our participants, this is the only holiday outing they get to do with the whole family. We're grateful for the zoo's generosity and for making something so special accessible to our most vulnerable families."

Woodland Park Zoo's Community Access Program is dedicated to making the zoo more accessible to low-income, at-risk, or underserved children and families in the local community. The zoo partners with more than 600 eligible nonprofits, foundations, state and local government entities, and indigenous community organizations and works with human service providers to distribute more than 80,000 free zoo admissions to community members annually.

Woodland Park Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums and certified by the rigorous American Humane Conservation program. The Humane Certified™ seal of approval is another important validation of the zoo's long-standing tradition of meeting the highest standards in animal welfare. Woodland Park Zoo is helping to save animals and their habitats through more than 35 field projects in the Pacific Northwest and around the world. By inspiring people to care and act,

Woodland Park Zoo is making a difference in our planet's future ecological health and sustainability. Free Wi-Fi is available for zoo guests, made possible through products donated by Cisco. Visit <a href="www.zoo.org">www.zoo.org</a> and follow the zoo on <a href="Facebook">Facebook</a>, <a href="Twitter">Twitter</a> and <a href="Instagram">Instagram</a>.

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