

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

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Press sneak peek: “National Geographic Photo Ark” exhibition

Outdoor exhibition showcases National Geographic photographer Joel Sartore’s work to document every species in zoos, aquariums and animal rescue centers

WHAT: The press is invited to a preview on **Thursday, April 19** of the National Geographic exhibition, “National Geographic Photo Ark.” The outdoor exhibition opens at Woodland Park Zoo April 20 and runs through October 7. This exhibition is organized by the National Geographic Society and Omaha’s Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium.



The National Geographic Photo Ark is a multiyear effort to raise awareness of and find solutions to some of the most pressing issues affecting wildlife and their habitats. The Photo Ark’s three-pronged approach harnesses the power of National Geographic photography and the bold ideas of our explorers. Led by National Geographic photographer Joel Sartore, the project aims to document every species living in the world’s zoos and wildlife sanctuaries, inspire action through education and help save wildlife by supporting on-the-ground conservation efforts.

The National Geographic Photo Ark exhibition at Woodland Park Zoo will highlight 56 of the most compelling images from Sartore’s collection that includes more than 7,500 species. The exhibition will provide guests with the extraordinary opportunity to come face to face with animals from the National Geographic Photo Ark. The 8’ tall x 6’ wide portraits will be displayed across the zoo’s 92 botanical acres. A diversity of mammal, reptile, and bird species will be represented including animals currently living at the zoo such as Matschie’s tree kangaroo, Western pond turtle, Sumatran orangutan, snow leopard, pharaoh eagle-owl and greater one-horned rhino (new species coming to the zoo in May). Zoo guests will learn about the project, its mission, and Woodland Park Zoo’s conservation initiatives in the Pacific Northwest and around the world.

Sartore has worked in more than 250 zoos, aquariums and animal rescue centers around the world. He estimates the completed National Geographic Photo Ark will include portraits of more than 12,000 species representing several animal classes, including birds, fish, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates. In what will be the largest single archive of studio-quality photographs of biodiversity ever, the National Geographic Photo Ark continues to move toward its goal of documenting these 12,000 species, thanks in part to Sartore’s enduring relationships with many of the world’s zoos and aquariums. These iconic portraits have captured the imagination of people around the world and have even been projected on the Empire State Building and St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome.

WHEN: **Press preview: Thursday, April 19, 1:00–3:00 p.m.**
The exhibition runs from April 20 through October 7 during zoo hours

WHERE: Meet PR staff at Woodland Park Zoo’s West Entrance at Phinney Ave. N. between N. 55th & N. 56th Sts.

COST: The National Geographic Photo Ark exhibition is free with zoo admission or membership. 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 physical disabilities receive an admission discount. Zoo members receive free zoo admission year round. Parking: \$6 plus applicable state and local taxes.

INFO:

National Geographic Photo Ark exhibitions have appeared at venues around the world, including Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium, Dallas Zoo, Cincinnati Zoo and Los Angeles Zoo. Additional venues may be announced soon. The exhibitions accompany a new National Geographic book, *Birds of the Photo Ark* (National Geographic Books; on sale March 6; \$30.00). National Geographic Photo Ark fans are also invited to join the conversation on social media with #SaveTogether and learn more about how to get involved with the project at NatGeoPhotoArk.org.

Zoo hours: 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily through April 30. 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. daily May 1 through September 30.

For more information or to become a zoo member, visit www.zoo.org or call 206.548.2500.

About the National Geographic Society

The National Geographic Society is a leading nonprofit that invests in bold people and transformative ideas in the fields of exploration, scientific research, storytelling and education. We support educators to ensure that the next generation is armed with geographic knowledge and global understanding. The Society aspires to create a community of change, advancing key insights about our planet and probing some of the most pressing scientific questions of our time. Its goal is measurable impact: furthering exploration and educating people around the world to inspire solutions for the greater good. For more information, visit www.nationalgeographic.org.

About Woodland Park Zoo

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 saving wildlife and inspiring everyone to make conservation a priority in their lives, Woodland Park Zoo is making a difference in our planet's future ecological health and sustainability. Visit www.zoo.org and follow the zoo on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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