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Zoo's Historic Carousel turns 100! Community invited to evening celebration on June 28

WHAT:

Woodland Park Zoo celebrates the 100th birthday of its Historic Carousel on Thursday, June 28 at 6:30 p.m., during Woodland Park Zoo's Evening Zoo. The celebration takes place on the North Meadow that includes a relighting of the carousel, guest speakers sharing the carousel's history, a complimentary dessert for the first 500 guests and "carouselfie" opportunities with a carousel horse. Free rides on the carousel will be offered throughout the evening starting at 6:30. Guests are encouraged to tag pics with #WPZcarousel100 and #woodlandparkzoo to share their memories and celebrate the 100th birthday of the carousel!

The special celebration of the Historic Carousel will be held during the new Evening Zoo where guests can experience Woodland Park Zoo after hours, including special ambassador animal presentations and animal keeper talks.

WHEN: Thursday, June 28

Remarks and relighting of carousel: 6:30 p.m.

Free carousel rides: 6:30-8:30 p.m.

WHERE: Woodland Park Zoo's Historic Carousel on the North Meadow. Meet PR staff

> at the West Entrance at Phinney Ave. N. between N. 55th & N. 56th Sts. Park in the Penguin Lot at N. 55th St. & Phinney Ave. N. or Otter Lot off N. 59th St.

& Phinney Ave. N.

INFO: The Historic Carousel was purchased and generously donated to the zoo by

Linda and Tom Allen, Candy Allen-Whitney and Thomas Allen and the Alleniana Foundation; it opened at the zoo in 2006. The carousel, which was first constructed in 1918 by the Philadelphia Toboggan Company and was the 45th of its kind, previously operated at the Cincinnati Zoo and the Great

America Theme Park in Santa Clara, Calif.

Woodland Park Zoo provides around 7,500 free carousel rides per year to ensure that the carousel remains available to all. In addition, the zoo partners with 600+ human service organizations across Puget Sound to offer hundreds of thousands of complimentary zoo passes through its Community Access Program. Starting this year, a free carousel ride is included with every Community Access Program admission ticket. To further promote accessibility, the zoo has created the Zoo for All Endowment to help ensure that the zoo's extraordinary experiences remain affordable and inclusive for all children in the zoo's shared community for centuries to come.

The Historic Carousel features hand-carved horses and two chariots. In 2011, solar panels were installed on the carousel's roof to produce the 9,000 annual kilowatt-hours required to power the carousel. The carousel completes an average of 100,000 rides per year for zoo guests of all ages.

For zoo hours, admission and general information, or to become a zoo member, visit www.zoo.org or call 206.548.2500.



Founded in 1899, 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. Each year, the zoo engages more than a million visitors of all ages, backgrounds, abilities, and walks of life in extraordinary experiences with animals, inspiring them to make conservation a priority in their lives and 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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