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**For Immediate Release**

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**FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO HOLDS FALL ANIMAL ENRICHMENT FESTIVAL**

*Fresno, CA* - To celebrate the fall season, Fresno Chaffee Zoo will provide the animals in our care with special fall-themed enrichment featuring natural seasonal items like pumpkins and cornstalks. The Zoo will invite guests to watch the animals engage with enrichment on November 5, 12, and 19 during normal Zoo hours of 9 a.m. to 4 p.m..

On these scheduled days, animals throughout the Zoo, including elephants, lions, meerkats, alligators, condors, and more will receive these special treats. Animal enrichment is a central part of our animal care. It serves to enhance the animals' overall welfare by stimulating them and encouraging natural behaviors. The Fall Enrichment Festival gives guests the opportunity to witness and understand the importance daily enrichment plays in providing exceptional animal care. In addition to this daily enrichment across the Zoo, these seasonal enrichment days allow animal staff and guests a chance to enjoy natural elements of the fall season while watching animals engage in natural behaviors.

“We look forward to celebrating the fall season with our guests by providing them with a fun way to connect with our animals,” said General Curator Lyn Myers. “Enrichment is something that we provide our animals with every day and with these seasonal themed events, we enjoy being able to educate our guests about the amazing work our animal care team does to constantly improve our animal’s quality of life.”

This event is included with regular Zoo admission.

**The Fall Animal Enrichment Days schedule is below:**

November 5<sup>th</sup>

Scheduled Enrichment: Elephants at 1:30 p.m.

Daily Enrichment: Lions, meerkats, Komodo dragon, white rhino, and Galapagos tortoise

November 12<sup>th</sup>

Scheduled Enrichment: Giant anteater at 11:30 p.m.

Daily Enrichment: Squirrel monkey, red ruffed lemur, fennec fox, Colobus monkey, wolf’s guenon, and giraffe

November 19<sup>th</sup>

Scheduled Enrichment: Condor at 1:00 p.m.

Daily Enrichment: Cheetah, warthog, peccary, and alligator

**About Fresno Chaffee Zoo:** Centrally located in Fresno, California, Fresno Chaffee Zoo is a 39-acre Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) accredited zoo. It is home to over 200 different species and features WOW exhibits—from Sea Lion Cove to African Adventure—that teach guests about animals all across the globe and the conservation efforts to protect them. The Zoo welcomes over 800,000 guests annually, offering a

world-class guest experience and conservation education to all who visit. The mission of Fresno Chaffee Zoo is to inspire wonder of our natural world, provide an engaging learning environment, and create a passion for conservation.

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