

# NEWS

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## **AFRICAN ELEPHANT CALVES NOW OUT ON SAVANNA** **Starting today**

**FRESNO (September 13, 2024)** - Fresno Chaffee Zoo is excited to announce the African elephant calves will be on the savanna with their mothers, Nolwazi and Amahle, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily starting Friday September 13th. The elephant calves can be seen from the Kopje Lodge as well as down the Tembo Trail.

The Zoo is also excited to announce the Elephant Care Team has chosen the name Thando for the first calf. The name Thando, pronounced Ton-doe, finds its origins in the African- Ndebele culture, a prominent ethnic group from Southern Africa. This name holds a deep meaning as it symbolizes love in the Ndebele language. Throughout history, the name Thando has been associated with affection, compassion, and human connection, reflecting the importance of love within Ndebele society.

"It's truly an incredible moment for our team and our guests. We can't wait for everyone to experience the joy and wonder of watching these young elephants thrive alongside their mothers," said Nicole Presley, General Curator at Fresno Chaffee Zoo.

The Zoo is inviting the community to help choose a name for the second elephant calf by visiting the Zoo's social media channels or website [www.fresnochaffeezoo.org](http://www.fresnochaffeezoo.org). Be sure to cast your vote and join in the fun of naming the newest member of the herd! Vote until Wednesday, September 18th.

**\*\*\*Media is welcome to come out today to film the calves out on savanna. A Zoo official will be available for interviews.\*\*\***

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*"Fresno Chaffee Zoo inspires people to care for animals, create connections, build community, and save wildlife."*