

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## AAZK'S BOWLING FOR RHINOS SUCCESS STORY

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The American Association of Zoo Keepers (AAZK's) Bowling for Rhinos Fundraiser is gearing up for its 23rd year. The AAZK is grateful to the AZA for all the support throughout the years with this event. We could not have been successful without the support of many AZA members ranging from help with public relations to providing advertising and institutional donations to actually bowling at the event. Bowling for Rhinos is a wonderful team-building exercise, especially when staff ranging from directors to maintenance all have a great time together.

With your support, AAZK's Bowling for Rhinos fundraiser has now raised \$4 million since 1990, entirely through volunteer efforts. One hundred percent of the donations go directly to five conservation areas: Lewa Wildlife Conservancy in Kenya (black & white Rhino); Ujung Kulon National Park in Java, Indonesia (Javan Rhino); Way Kambas and Bukit Barisan Selatan National Park in Sumatra, Indonesia (Sumatran Rhino) and Indian Rhino Vision 2020 project in Manas National Park in India. Not only are we contributing to saving all five rhino species, but this funding also helps secure everything from orchids to elephants in some of the most unique habitats in the world.

More than 60 zoos participate in Bowling for Rhinos. The ten AAZK chapters in the U.S. and Canada who have raised the most money since the event started in 1990 are:

- 1) Oklahoma City- \$237,958
- 2) Portland-\$221,984
- 3) Dallas-\$176,986
- 4) Detroit-\$172,897
- 5) San Diego-\$157,403
- 6) Lincoln Park-\$130,917
- 7) Philadelphia- \$129,440
- 8) Utah- \$128,543
- 9) Indianapolis-\$ 112,404
- 10) North Carolina- \$ 108,129

Please let your AAZK Chapter know how proud you are of their hard work to get on the top ten list. Thank you for all your support of your AAZK Chapter's Bowling for Rhinos efforts. If you do not see your zoo on the list, contact your zoo's AAZK President and see how you can help them become more successful.

To recognize distinguished achievement by individuals in the Bowling for Rhinos fundraisers, two top money raisers are awarded a two-week trip to Lewa Conservancy. The 2011 prize winners were Cori Monetti from Los Angeles Zoo and Holly Ray from the Oklahoma City Zoo.

Jacque Blessington from Kansas City Zoo was also awarded a trip to Lewa as the 2011 Honorary trip winner. She was recognized for her 23 years of behind the scenes work organizing the Bowling for Rhinos events in Kansas City. Jacque helped organize the first event in 1987 in Kansas City where Bowling for Rhinos was created.

Our continued success allows participating zoos to shine in the conservation world. Anything your zoo can do to help your AAZK chapter be more effective in Bowling for Rhinos contributes to conservation success. In Kenya, we now protect more than 1.5 million acres of white and black rhino habitat under Lewa's conservation charter. In Indonesia, we help to protect 1,472,000 acres of crucial lowland rainforest habitat for the survival of the Javan and Sumatran rhinos and other species living in their ecosystems including Sumatran tigers, elephants, tapirs, Javan gibbons and sunbears.

We hope that AZA member institutions will continue to work with the AAZK to continue Bowling for Rhinos success. The partnership is making a huge difference for rhinos and other species that share their habitat, including people.

For more information on Bowling for Rhinos, please contact:

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<http://aazkbfr.org>

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## 2012 AZA PHOTO CONTEST

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Photos must be taken in 2012 or the last three months of 2011 by staff or volunteers at an AZA-accredited institution. *CONNECT* staff will judge the photos, and the winner will appear on the December 2012 cover. Other exceptional photos will be highlighted inside the magazine. The photos may also appear on AZA's website and/or other promotional materials.

### FORMAT FOR SUBMISSION

Submissions should include the name of the photographer, the AZA institution, the species, the date of the picture, and the equipment used. Only one photo entry will be accepted per photographer, so send in your best image. Pictures can include animals, people, and zoo or aquarium scenes – if you think it will make a good cover, send it in!

### DEADLINE

The deadline for entries is 15 September 2012.

### FORMAT

JPG, TIFF or EPS; 300+ dpi and 9"x12" in size.

### SEND TO

Both electronic and hard copy images will be accepted – though electronic images are preferred. All submissions become the property of AZA and will not be acknowledged or returned. Send electronic images to Tim Lewthwaite at [TLewthwaite@aza.org](mailto:TLewthwaite@aza.org) with "Photo Contest" in the subject line. Hard copies may be mailed to:

2012 Photo Contest; Tim Lewthwaite; AZA Publications Manager  
8403 Colesville Road, Suite 710; Silver Spring, MD 20910-3314

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