



## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **ANIMAL ARTWORK BY FORMER SANTA BARBARA ZOO DIRECTOR EDWARD "TED" MCTOLDRIDGE ON VIEW & FOR SALE FROM JANUARY 9 THROUGH MAY 5**

***Opening Reception Saturday, January 9 at 6 p.m.,  
Followed by Photographer Ralph Clevenger's Illustrated Talk  
"Journey to the Land of the Ice Bear" at 7 p.m.***

Santa Barbara, CA, December 28, 2015 – Many of the Santa Barbara Zoo's most recognizable animal residents and some other wild creatures are the subjects of a new exhibit of paintings by the Zoo's



Director Emeritus Edward "Ted" McToldridge, on view from January 9 through May 5, 2016, in the Zoo's Volentine Family Gallery, located in the Discovery Pavilion. The paintings in "TED: Artwork by Edward 'Ted' McToldridge" are also for sale, with proceeds benefitting the Zoo. The exhibit is free to view with Zoo admission from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. For more information, visit

[www.sbzoo.org](http://www.sbzoo.org).

"TED" opens on Saturday, January 9 with a free Artist Reception at 6 p.m. at which drinks and snacks are available for purchase, as are the paintings with prices at \$400 and \$500.

It is followed by a talk by local photographer Ralph Clevenger who shares stories and photos from his trek to the far North where he witnessed polar bears in the icy tundra of Churchill, Canada. "Journey to the Land of the Ice Bear" is \$6 per person, \$5 for Santa Barbara Zoo members. Tickets are available at the door and online at [www.sbzoo.org](http://www.sbzoo.org).

#### **About TED**

When Asian elephants Little Mac and Sujatha arrived at the Santa Barbara Zoo from India in 1972, Edward "Ted" McToldridge, the first Zoo Director, was there to greet them. Now, 44 years later, his painting of Little Mac is on view in the Zoo's art gallery, along with those of the Zoo's lions, snow leopard, giraffes, amur leopard, and more.

Ted began his association with the property as a volunteer when it was called the Child Estate. He was hired as Park Superintendent at age 31, and remained in charge of the Zoo from its opening in 1963 until his retirement as Director Emeritus in 1997.

“Ted is perhaps the person who has done the most to shape the Zoo, from designing early exhibits, to acquiring animals, to creating the landscape design still enjoyed today,” said Wendy Campbell of the Zoo’s Marketing Department, who serves on the Gallery Exhibits Committee.

Ted has been painting and sketching since he was a lad in English boarding school and eventually studied industrial design in London. His interest in animals also began with a collection of hedgehogs he cared for while growing up there.



Ted prefers oils and watercolors as his media of choice, sometimes making sketches, and other times (“When I get ambitious,” he says) creating a painting. He loves watercolor, but finds oil is “more forgiving, because you can paint it over.”

Ted’s wish is for the Zoo to continue to teach young people about the wonders of nature, and instill a sense of awe with a dedication to action. “I love painting animals because they always teach me something more, every time I do,” he says.

The exhibit also includes paintings and watercolors of species Ted encountered on his many international travels including cheetah, jaguar, tiger, panda, and zebra.

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*Known as one of the world's most beautiful zoos, the **Santa Barbara Zoo** is located on 30 acres of botanic gardens and is home to nearly 500 individual animals in open, naturalistic habitats. It is accredited by the [Association of Zoos & Aquariums](http://www.aazoo.org) (AZA), representing the highest level of animal care, and participates in AZA endangered species programs for Asian elephant, California condor, Channel Island fox, and Western lowland gorilla, among others. A private nonprofit corporation, the Santa Barbara Zoo depends on community support, not tax dollars, for operations and improvements.*

*The Zoo is open daily from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; general admission is \$17 for adults, \$13 for seniors aged 65+, \$10 for children 2-12, and children under 2 are free. Parking is \$7.*

*Visit [www.sbzoo.org](http://www.sbzoo.org).*