



## MEDIA ADVISORY

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **DR. LAURIE MARKER ON "THE LIFE OF CHEETAHS"** **FOUNDER OF CHEETAH CONSERVATION FUND SPEAKS** **AT SANTA BARBARA ZOO ON THURSDAY, APRIL 16**

*Santa Barbara, CA, April 9, 2015* – Recognized as one of the world’s leading cheetah experts, Dr. Laurie Marker has been involved in research, conservation, and re-introduction efforts of these big cats since 1977. She is executive director of the Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF), which she founded in 1990, where she leads efforts to save the cheetah from extinction.

Dr. Marker examines the species known for being the world’s fastest land mammal, recounts conservation efforts, and discusses the prospects for its long-term survival at a talk hosted by the Santa Barbara Zoo on Thursday, April 16, starting at 7 p.m. in the Zoo’s Discovery Pavilion.

The evening begins at 6:30 p.m. with wine and beer cash bar, and viewing of a new exhibition featuring unusual and fascinating x-rays of many of the Zoo’s animals now on view in the adjacent Volentine Family Gallery.

Tickets are \$6 general admission, \$5 for Santa Barbara Zoo members and are available at the door, or online at [www.sbzoo.org](http://www.sbzoo.org).

*For more information about Dr. Marker, please see the attached biography.*

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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.aaz.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 \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors aged 65+, \$10 for children 2-12, and children under 2 are free. Parking is \$6.*

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