



NEWS RELEASE

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“WILD THINGS” PHOTO CONTEST SPONSORED BY SANTA BARBARA ZOO & WILDLING MUSEUM **WINNING SHOTS TO BE IN SPECIAL EXHIBIT AT ZOO**

- Photos of Animals at Zoo the Subject of Contest for both Adults and Kids
- Deadline for Entries Extended to Thursday, February 15, 2018 at 5 p.m.
- Exhibit at Zoo’s Volentine Gallery to Open Monday, April 9, 2018
- More info: www.wildlingmuseum.org/wild-things-photography-competition/

Santa Barbara, CA, January 22, 2018 – Animal loving shutterbugs are invited to snap and then submit photos of animals at the Santa Barbara Zoo as part of a new “Wild Things” contest sponsored by the and the Wildling Museum of Art and Nature. The winning photographs will be featured as part of their “Wildling at the Zoo” collaboration in special exhibit to be on view in the Volentine Gallery in the Zoo’s Discovery Pavilion opening later this year. *The deadline for entries has been extended to Thursday, February 15 at 5 p.m.*

Wild Things has two categories, one for adults (aged 18 or older) and another for children (aged 17 or younger). It is a juried exhibit with prizes will be awarded for first, second, and third place in both age groups. Prizes include memberships and passes to both the Zoo and the Wildling, gift cards and gifts for each’s gift stores, artwork created by Zoo animals, and passes to Zoo attractions (details below).

“The aim is to have photographers of all ages and skill levels capture the character and individuality of the animals that live at the Zoo, from large to small, and to have fun doing it,” says Wildling Museum Executive Director Stacey Otte-Demangate. “Focus on your favorite animal or simply explore. We are looking for images as wild as the Zoo itself.”

How to Enter

All submissions must be digital JPEG or JPG, and between 2 and 7 MB. No more than five entries may be submitted by one person. Entries must include an entry form, and submitted to the Wildling Museum, either by email, mail, or at the museum in Solvang, by Thursday, February 15. Entries are not accepted at the Santa Barbara Zoo. For entry addresses, forms, and rules, please visit [www.wildlingmuseum.org/wild-things-photography-competition.](http://www.wildlingmuseum.org/wild-things-photography-competition/)

Wild Things Prizes

Three awards for each age category will be announced at the exhibition's opening:

- First Place: Membership to each organization, Zoo train and giraffe feeding passes, \$25 gift card to each organization's gift store, artwork made by one of the Zoo's animals
- Second Place: Family 4 pack of entries to each organization, Zoo train & giraffe feeding passes, gifts from each organization's gift shop
- Third Place: 2 passes to each organization, gifts from each organization's gift store

Wild Things Exhibit, Art Sales

The Wild Things exhibit opens in the Zoo's Volentine Gallery, located in the Discovery Pavilion, on Monday, April 9, 2018. It will include the award-winners and other entries selected by the judges. Many of the photographs will be for sale, with proceeds benefiting the artist, the Zoo, and the Wildling.

"Wildling at the Zoo"

This is the second collaboration between the two organizations. Last year, the Wildling staff curated an exhibit of student art at the Zoo which tied into the "Animals from A to Z" exhibit in their Solvang location. This partnership, formalized as The Wildling at the Zoo, continues with this contest and exhibit, and with future coordinated projects at the two locations.

"It makes perfect sense to partner with the Wildling," said Zoo Marketing Director Dean Noble. "Both our missions are to connect people with animals and nature, either in person or through artwork. We look forward to more collaboration and more great art in the Volentine Gallery."

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*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](#) (AZA), representing the highest level of animal care. A private 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, the Zoo depends on community support, not tax dollars, for operations and improvements.*

*The **Wildling Museum**, where art and nature meet, offers visitors a unique perspective on the importance of preserving our natural heritage. Through the eyes of artists, education and field experiences, guests can renew their relationship with the wilderness and understand its fragile nature – hopefully leaving more committed toward ensuring those spaces remain for future generations.*