



NEWS RELEASE

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Press Contacts:

Jennifer Zacharias, JZPR (805) 886-9078 or jennifer@jzpr.com

The Santa Barbara Zoo Welcomes Four New Board Members

(March 13, 2023) Santa Barbara, CA - The [Santa Barbara Zoo](#) is pleased to announce four new members have joined the Board of Directors: **Yvette Birch Giller**, **Angela Sanchez**, **Bradley G. Vernon**, and **Karen Wintringham**. The Zoo's Board of Directors works together to serve and support the Zoo's mission and dedication to the preservation, conservation, and enhancement of the natural world and its living treasures through education, research, and recreation.

Yvette Birch Giller is President of the Mosher Foundation which supports non-profit organizations delivering programs in Santa Barbara within the areas of education, healthcare, and performing arts. She holds a BA in Communication from the University of California, San Diego, and spent many years working in marketing and advertising before joining the Mosher Foundation in 2011. Yvette has been involved with many nonprofit organizations in Santa Barbara, including as a Zoo Board member from 2016-2021, serving on the boards of the Granada Theatre, Storyteller Children's Center, and Marymount of Santa Barbara.

Angela Sanchez is currently the Senior Strategic Relationship Manager with Visionality Partners. She has 20 years of banking, finance, and nonprofit experience, with her most recent previous management positions at Community West Bank and Montecito Bank and Trust. She began her banking career in 2001 in the West Los Angeles/Beverly Hills market. Angela was born and raised in both Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties and currently lives in Ventura County with her husband and children. She has a passion for helping her community and currently sits on the Board of Directors for Interface Children and Family Services, and is on the Finance Committee for VCCF and Museum of Ventura County.

Bradley G. Vernon is CEO of The Vernon Group, Province Land Company, and Vernon Construction, Inc. Brad is a general contractor and third-generation local real estate developer based in Santa Barbara. With a focus on the Central Coast from Malibu to Paso Robles, Province Land Company and Vernon Construction have built over 85 custom residences, 500 multi-family units, and 200,000 square feet of commercial and mixed-use projects. Brad grew up working in various trades as a contractor for the family business, having completed a wide range of residential, commercial, mixed-use, and master-planned communities throughout the Central Coast. He also studied Business at California Polytechnic State University.

Karen Wintringham was born and raised in Santa Barbara. She received her bachelor's degree in Psychology from UCLA and later attended the Graziadio Business School at Pepperdine. After a successful career as an internal auditor for a private firm, she led a software development team for them before leaving to become a mom. Those mom years led to a dedication to local schools. Karen worked

on multiple committees over the years, planning and hosting fundraisers and events and volunteering for any projects where she was needed, often spending most of her days at Crane School. Karen and her husband, Al, own Ventura Toyota and Volkswagen, and as Vice President of the Gold Coast Auto Group she undertakes projects relating to property development and handles the philanthropic endeavors of the dealerships, with a passion for supporting local educational programs and youth sports in Ventura.

To learn more about how to support the Santa Barbara Zoo please visit <https://www.sbzoo.org/support/> or contact Liz Hahn, Director of Advancement, at lhahn@sbzoo.org or by calling (805) 962-5339.

About the Santa Barbara Zoo

The Santa Barbara Zoo is open daily from 9 a.m. for members and 9:30 a.m. for general admission until 5 p.m.; general admission is \$25 for adults, \$15 for children 2-12, and free for children under 2. Parking is \$11. The Santa Barbara Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). AZA zoos are dedicated to providing excellent care for animals, a great visitor experience, and a better future for all living things. With its more than 200 accredited members, AZA is a leader in global wildlife conservation and is the public's link to helping animals in their native habitats. Visit www.sbzoo.org.

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