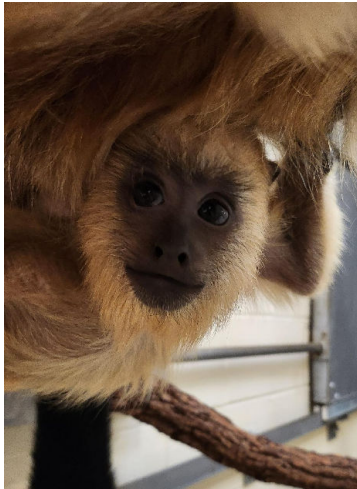


OH BABY!

2023 has been a thrilling year for the Zoo with the arrival of some adorable animal babies. We have been blessed with a Penguin chick, Howler monkey baby, Takin calf, two Binturongs, Tenrecs, and Tree Runners, and two precious Kudu calves! Talk about cuteness overload, These little ones have brought so much joy and wonder to everyone who visits the Zoo. It's truly a special year for animal births at the Zoo. Come explore your WILD side and witness their playful antics firsthand.

Meet Taavi (*tah-vee*), our 4 month old Howler monkey baby. Taavi was born to Callie (mom) and Ulick (dad) earlier this year. Taavi is currently the same color as mom, but as he ages will begin to turn a black color to match Ulick. The Howler monkey family can be found in Amazonia.



This handsome man is named Jetsan (*jet-saan*) and was born to Patty (*mom*) in April. Patty came from Potawatomi zoo in late 2022, as a recommendation from the SSP (*Species Survival Plan*). If you look closely at the photo, you are able to see Jetsan's antlers are beginning to come in. On your next visit, stop by the Asian plains exhibit and visit our Takin family (*Jetsan, Patty, Dawa, and Xing-fu*)



Double the fun! Introducing “Journey” and “Violet”, our newest Greater Kudu calves. “Journey” (male) and “Violet” (female) were born just a week-apart and give new meaning to the word cute. Our breeding male, “Rocco”, is sire to three calves with female “Motley”. Since mom is named after the band, Motley Crew, her calves’ names have followed suit with other popular bands from the 80’s. “Axel” was born in 2021, “Rose” in 2022, and this year’s new edition is named “Journey” after another beloved band. Also born this month was “Violet” to parents “Rocco” and “Hazel”. This marks the beginning of a color-themed lineage for the calves of mother “Hazel”.

These additions to the Greater kudu breeding population are important to increase genetic diversity and sustainability in human care. We are pleased that our Kudu family grew by two!

The calves will be stashed in tall grass by their mothers for naps throughout the day, but you may catch a glimpse of these precious new additions, as well as their parents and sibling “Rose”, in the Panorama yard of the Zoo!



Holiday Camp ZOOfari!

Camp ZOOfari is the perfect adventure to occupy your child this holiday! Campers ages 6-10 can come to the zoo to enjoy a variety of fun and educational activities, including exploration of the zoo, animal encounters, games, hands-on activities, projects, and meeting new friends.

Upcoming Sessions:

- Fall Break: October 9, 10, 11
- Winter Break: December 19, 20, 21
- MLK Jr Day: January 15
- President's Day: February 19

Claim your spot before we sell out. (Psst - Zoo Members get 12% off.) **Register today!**



BOO AT THE ZOO!

[CLICK TO VOLUNTEER FOR BOO AT THE ZOO](#)

Boo at the Zoo

Oct. 13,14 | 20,21 | 27,28

TWO sessions each night: 5-6:30p & 6:30-8p

Join us for Mesker Park Zoo & Botanic Garden's annual event filled with family friendly Halloween fun! Live entertainment, music, décor, trick or treating, magicians, animal encounters, nightly costume contest with prizes and more!

Tickets can ONLY be purchased directly from

the Zoo, online.



Presented By:
[OLD NATIONAL BANK](#)

[Purchase Tickets](#)

Sensory Spooktacular
Oct 22
3:00 - 6:00p

Join us for Mesker Park Zoo & Botanic Garden's SENSORY SPOOKTACULAR-- This is much different than our annual Boo at the Zoo! There will be limited noise, no music, minimal lighting, and limited capacity to offer a SAFE space for our friends with Sensory needs.



THIS EVENT IS SUGGESTED FOR
CHILDREN & ADULTS WITH
SPECIAL SENSORY NEEDS

[Purchase Tickets](#)

Thank you to our Boo at the Zoo Sponsors!



Beliza Blog!

How is Beliza?

In an effort to help with Beliza's arthritis, registered vet tech Kristie and keeper Jackie have been working with Beliza to do voluntary laser therapy on her joints.

Keeper Jackie places a large tub in the holding stall close to the mesh, where Beliza voluntarily comes over and lines up near the mesh. She uses goat milk ice pops as her reward. Beliza stays focused on the goat milk ice pops while Kristie lasers her elbow.

Being a voluntary session, Beliza can walk away at any moment, but generally stays as she LOVES goat milk. Keeper Jackie said she hasn't seen a noticeable difference just yet as they have only successfully completed 3 sessions, but are hopeful with time and patience the laser therapy will help.

We appreciate those of you who have donated towards Beliza's cancer medication. The medication cost over \$1,000 a month and has continued to keep Beliza around for over 4 years. If you would like to donate, [click here](#).



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