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Back to School Bash at Final Night at the Zoo Friday, August 11

August 10, 2017 – *Jacksonville, FL* – Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens is saying goodbye to summer at the final Night at the Zoo event Friday, August 11, from 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Family-friendly entertainment featuring the Navy's Southeast Pride Band, Nashville performer Jordyn Stoddard, and DJs playing the latest hits will keep the night rocking. A stage dedicated to local child performers will make everyone smile.

Animals will stay out on exhibit until 8:30 p.m., giving guests a chance to see them in a whole new light. The cooler temperatures are a delight to animals and the guests. Guests can meet the animals up close with animal encounters and keeper talks throughout the Zoo.

In addition to the animals and performers, Night at the Zoo will feature two food trucks and a cash bar for the grown-ups.

The River City Allstars will be cheering the back-to-school crowd up and the River City Rollers will put on a basketball demonstration for the kids. Pak's Karate of Oceanway and Upward Sports will both be on hand to get everyone excited for the school year. Jax Kids Mural Project will be out painting an interactive mural with the kids.

The Zoo is encouraging guests who are participating in the city-wide Jacksonville Rocks group to bring their painted rocks to hide and try to find some around the Zoo. Guests are reminded to stay on the paths, mind the plants, and make sure no rocks end up in animal enclosures.

Tickets are available by online, pre-sale only. Members pay \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. Non-member tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. www.jacksonvillezoo.org/nightatthezoo

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About Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens

For over 100 years, the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens has aimed to inspire the discovery and appreciation of wildlife through innovative experiences in a caring environment. Starting in 1914 with an animal collection of one red deer fawn, the Zoo now has more than 2,000 rare and exotic animals and 1,000 species of plants, boasting the largest botanical garden in Northeast Florida. The Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens is a nonprofit organization and a portion of every ticket sold goes to the over 45 conservation initiatives Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens supports around the world, and here in NE

Florida. JZG is proud to be an accredited member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. For more information, visit jacksonvillezoo.org.