



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **HOP TO IT! A TOADALLY AWESOME LEAP YEAR PARTY**

February 25, 2016 – Jacksonville, FL – Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens (JZG) is offering free admission for kids and adults born on February 29.

They only get to enjoy a birthday every four years, so JZG and Fun 4 First Coast Kids are putting on a party cool enough to last four years! The event will have crafts, giveaways and meet-and-greets with the Jacksonville Sharks and Jacksonville Giants. Best of all, guests born on February 29 get free admission\* to the Zoo all day.

At the party you can learn about everything the Zoo is doing to help save our leaping (and non-leaping) amphibian friends. To prevent our cold-blooded pals from croaking, JZG will teach you about our conservation efforts.

FrogWatch USA is a citizen science program that facilitates conservation and will be featured at the event. They provide an opportunity to learn about wetlands in our community and report data on the calls of local frogs and toads. Puerto Rican Crested Toads and Striped Newts are just two of our amphibian friends that face difficulties in our ecosystem. They are joining the party and would be extra hoppy if you did too!

Be sure to leap over to the celebration for a ribbiting time!

\*Guests must show valid ID or birth certificate to receive free admission.

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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 an accredited

member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. For more information, visit [jacksonvillezoo.org](http://jacksonvillezoo.org).