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Record Breaking May and Certificate of Excellence for the Zoo

June 9, 2016-- Jacksonville, FL – Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens (JZG) is proud to announce record breaking attendance for the month of May. More than 102,000 guests passed through the gates to experience the wonder of the Zoo in springtime.

Beautiful weather, Destination: DINO, the gardens in bloom, animal youngsters, and a "Kids Free" promotion at the end of the month contributed to the most successful May in Zoo history. Fun events such as the Garden and Wine Festival, a Star Wars "May the 4th" animal enrichment day, and an exclusive members-only movie night added excitement to the Zoo and helped bring the crowds. Catered events such as proms held in the Range of the Jaguar, a corporate luncheon for 4,000 Chase employees and a fashion show featuring local interior designers, contributed to this success.

The Zoo was also awarded a [TripAdvisor](#)® Certificate of Excellence for the sixth year in a row. The achievement celebrates hospitality businesses that have earned great traveller reviews on TripAdvisor over the past year.

"We are thankful for the ongoing dedication from the public," said Chairman of the JZG Board Jed Davis. "With the continued support of the community, new and exciting events like 'Night at the Zoo' on the horizon, and a commitment to excellence that shines through to our guests, JZG anticipates reaching its next major milestone of one million visitors in 2016."

Photo credit: Rob Bixby *high-res photos available*

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.

