



Audubon Zoo
A Facility of Audubon Nature Institute

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

Audubon Zoo Lights Presented by Children's Hospital New Orleans Lights Up the 2019 Holiday Season

(New Orleans, La.) – For the second year, Audubon Nature Institute and Children's Hospital New Orleans have partnered to create a holiday tradition that transforms Audubon Zoo into a WILD, glowing wonderland. Audubon Zoo Lights presented by Children's Hospital New Orleans will bring the holiday spirit to thousands of families.

During Zoo Lights, twinkling lights, holiday crafts, and merry performances will turn Audubon Zoo into an enchanting nighttime winter dreamland in the heart of Uptown New Orleans. The thrilling sights and fun activities will be experienced over select nights between November 29 and December 30. The whole family will enjoy an exciting array of animal-themed light displays, and nightly live entertainment sponsored by IBERIABANK.

The wildly successful partnership between Audubon Nature Institute and Children's Hospital has brought exciting experiences to New Orleans families for decades, and together, Audubon and Children's Hospital will give yet another holiday gift to our community.

"Audubon Zoo Lights presented by Children's Hospital New Orleans brings families together to enjoy one of our city's great treasures, in celebration of the holiday season," said President and CEO of Children's Hospital New Orleans John R. Nickens IV.

"Children's Hospital is proud to partner with Audubon Zoo to bring families this wonderful new holiday tradition."

New this year, the event will feature a magical Twinkle Tunnel, an Endangered Species Holiday Tree, a Zoo Lights 2019 commemorative ornament for purchase, an additional lighted Holiday Oak presented by Terminix, and more.

Zoo Lights will offer an array of festive, family-friendly activities. Guests can drop by the Elves Workshop to create special messages that will be delivered to the patients at Children's Hospital.

The signature attraction at Zoo Lights will again be the larger-than life, silk-lighted replicas of some of the Zoo's most popular animals, including a 19-foot peacock.

"During such a magical time of the year Audubon Zoo Lights presented by Children's Hospital New Orleans offers guests a chance to connect with nature in a lighted world of wonder," said Audubon Nature Institute President and CEO Ron Forman.

Through their generous contributions of media, WWL-TV, Official Broadcast Partner; iHeartRadio, Official Radio Partner; and Lamar Advertising, Media Sponsor, continue to demonstrate their unwavering dedication to serving the New Orleans community.

As the Entertainment Sponsor, IBERIABANK will provide hundreds of complimentary event tickets to underserved students and their families who are members of local community organizations. Zoo Lights gives these organizations a great venue to share the important work they do with event guests.

During Zoo Lights, the Zoo will collect holiday string lights for recycling between November 29 and December 30. This conservation project will support Audubon's "Lights for Lions" campaign to help save lions in the wild. "Lights for Lions" is an impactful way to connect our guests in New Orleans to a worthwhile conservation project. Audubon will make sure all string lights are responsibly recycled, while community members enjoy their holidays knowing that they helped save animals in the wild.

Zoo Lights will open at 6 p.m. and close at 9 p.m. nightly. Admission is only \$10 for Audubon Members and \$15 for non-Members if purchased online. Admission at the Zoo Front Gate is \$13 for Audubon Members and \$18 for non-Members.

Tickets will go on sale in late October and can be purchased on Audubon's website or at the Zoo Front Gate. For more information, please visit <https://audubonnatureinstitute.org/zoo-lights>

Media Contact:

Annie Matherne

Communications Specialist

Office: (504) 212-5313 / Cell: (504) 650-5539

akinler@auduboninstitute.org

###