



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 21, 2016

INDIANA BONES AND HIS SIDEKICKS – PLUS SOME AWESOME NEW FRIENDS – ARE BACK THIS WEEKEND AT POINT DEFIANCE ZOO & AQUARIUM’S LIVE ANIMAL SHOW

Wild Wonders Outdoor Theater show “Indiana Bones and the Golden Treasure” opens for the season on June 25 with a clouded leopard, a two-toed sloth, a Canada lynx, a beaver, a bald eagle, a dog, and many other animals in the cast

TACOMA, Wash. – A loveable dog who’s a wonder sleuth at discovering treasure, an amusing group of trained chickens, an endangered clouded leopard, a gorgeous Canada lynx, an aardvark with an impossibly long tongue, a regal bald eagle, an adorable beaver and a host of other animals are ready for the curtain to rise on the premier of the Wild Wonders Outdoor



The zoo’s summer blockbuster show, “Indiana Bones and the Golden Treasure,” opens Saturday, June 25, at noon. Performances are scheduled at noon and 3:30 p.m. through Labor Day.

Theater live animal show at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium.

It stars the loveable Herald the Wonder Dog, aka Indiana Bones, as a clever sleuth who ferrets out a number of clues to lead his team to the Golden Treasure.

Along the way, the audience is introduced to a number of zoo visitors’ favorite animals – some of them endangered species.

It’s a riveting, interesting, informative performance that includes a lot of laughs, exciting music and a glimpse into the exciting world of Citizen Science.

In addition to Herald, a dog rescued from the Tacoma-Pierce County Humane Society and trained as a show star, the cast includes more than two dozen animals.

More than a dozen of them will appear in each show, but visitors won't see the same cast members in every performance; the animals will trade off, giving some a show or a day off here and there, just like Broadway show actors.

The cast includes:

- **Walnut**, a young beaver, who is new to the show this year demonstrates his swimming ability.
- **Tilli**, the long-snouted aardvark who sniffs out bugs and then slurps them up with her impossibly long tongue.



- **Twiggy**, the red-legged seriema, who shows the audience how this South American bird would catch a frog and then repeatedly bash it against rocks or hard ground to break up its bones before eating its catch.
- **Orchid or Banyan**, endangered juvenile clouded leopards who were born at Point Defiance Zoo.
- **Sheldon**, an African serval.
- **Jasper**, a beautiful Canada lynx with huge "snowshoe" feet that help his species get around in the snowbound areas of the north as they stalk the rabbits that are their main source of food.
- **Thurston**, a curious skunk.
- **Tahoma** the bald eagle, who spreads her wings wide so members of the audience get a great view of America's symbol.



- **Siesta the sloth**, who enjoys hanging upside down on her special branch on the Wild Wonders Outdoor Theater stage.
- **Chickens** with musical names like Bach and Beethoven who run across the stage in a scene that adds even more interest to the show.
- **Vader**, the amazing raven who finds a clue to the treasure.
- **Whitie**, an Indian crested porcupine.



- **Scooter**, the three-banded armadillo.
- **Jumbo Jet**, an endangered radiated tortoise.
- **Rowdy** the coati.
- **Nigel**, the coendou, who sniffs around like crazy with his soft pink nose.
- **Clark**, a king vulture.
- **And rats.**
Yes, there had to be rats!



“We are confident that children and adults alike will be thrilled by the show and thoroughly enjoy watching the animal actors as they demonstrate natural behaviors,” said Maureen O’Keefe, senior staff biologist at the Wild Wonders Outdoor Theater.

Not only does “Indiana Bones” showcase many of the zoo’s beloved animals, it gently – and in a very fun way – imparts messages about enjoying the outdoors and learning to care for the environment, O’Keefe said.

Each show is preceded by pre-show activities designed to warm up the crowd. They begin at 11:45 a.m. and 3:15 p.m. daily.

The Wild Wonders Outdoor Theater Show is just one of many activities that will bring zoo visitors closer to animals and give them a deeper understanding of them this summer.

For a complete list of activities, go to www.pdza.org.

The zoo is open from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

###

Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium, the Northwest’s only combined zoo & aquarium, practices and promotes responsible stewardship of the world’s resources through education, conservation, research and recreational opportunities. The zoo, a division of Metro Parks Tacoma, is accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA) and the Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums (AMMPA).

Photo Captions (credit all to Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium):

1. Jasper the Canada lynx is among the animals who make occasional appearances at the Wild Wonders Outdoor Theater stage at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium.
2. Walnut the North American beaver takes a dip in the new pool in the new Close Encounter Area, where visitors can see animals up close at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium.
3. Tahoma, a bald eagle, is one of the stars of the Wild Wonders Outdoor Theater Show at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium.
4. Twiggy the red-legged seriema wows visitors and shows off her natural behavior by smashing a toy lizard against rocks during the Wild Wonders Outdoor Theater show at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium.
6. Herald the Wonder Dog, also known as Indiana Bones, swoops in aboard his personal airplane to save the day during a performance of "Indiana Bones and the Golden Treasure" at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium.
7. Tilli the aardvark uses what seems like an impossibly long tongue to slurp up insects in a demonstration during the Wild Wonders Outdoor Theater Show at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium.