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NEWS RELEASE

SUPPORT THE ZOO AND ENJOY BEASTLY BASH FROM THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME

Apple Valley, MN – August 12, 2020 – Now, more than ever, the Minnesota Zoo needs community support. With nearly 5,000 animals from around the world and hundreds of acres of natural beauty, the Minnesota Zoo is a unique resource connecting people, animals, and the natural world to save wildlife.

Each year, the Minnesota Zoo Foundation hosts a fundraising event in support of the Zoo. This year's Beastly Bash is the most important one yet, as we work together to sustain, rebuild, and celebrate the Minnesota Zoo after budget cuts and closure due to COVID-19. The Minnesota Zoo community is resilient, but we need you to ensure this natural wonder is here for future generations.

This year, Beastly Bash is going virtual on Saturday, September 12, from 7:30 – 8 pm. From the comfort of your own home, you can join us on our journey and become a part of the Zoo's future. The half hour family-friendly program will feature animals, guest speakers, and opportunities to provide vital support for the Zoo.

“In a year unlike any other, many of us are realizing how profoundly we need nature – as much as nature needs us” said Minnesota Zoo Director and Foundation President John Frawley. “Nature helps us restore and the Minnesota Zoo offers an important connection to the natural world. By joining us, you are becoming a force for nature and helping pave a new path forward for your Minnesota Zoo.”

Registration for this memorable virtual event is free and donations are welcome. Simply visit mnzoo.org/BeastlyBash to sign up.

A special thanks to our sponsors, including Wells Fargo, Wings Financial Credit Union, and Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community. This year's virtual program will be emceed by WCCO's Heather Brown.

We hope you will join us. Together, we can build strong connections between people and the natural world, bettering the lives of animals and humans alike.

The Minnesota Zoo is a year-round destination located in Apple Valley, just minutes south of Mall of America. The Zoo's mission is to connect people, animals and the natural world to save wildlife. For more information, call 952.431.9500 or visit mnzoo.org. The Minnesota Zoo is an accredited member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) and an institutional member of the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA).

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