ABOUT

Mission

Happy Hollow Foundation is dedicated to supporting, advocating for and enhancing San José's treasured Happy Hollow Park & Zoo.

The foundation, which was established in 1958, continues the park and zoo's legacy by providing donor stewardship and forging community connections. We support Happy Hollow's efforts to provide an affordable, sustainable, conservation-oriented outdoor adventure for visitors of all ages.

Happy Hollow Foundation is the registered 501(c)3 nonprofit partner of Happy Hollow Park & Zoo, which is owned and operated by the City of San José.

Our work

Happy Hollow Foundation has three areas of focus:

Conservation

Modern zoos serve an important purpose: To play a role in saving endangered species. With its accreditation by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, Happy Hollow is part of the Species Survival Plan – a program that maintains healthy populations of threatened and endangered animals – and has helped save jaguars, red pandas, lemurs and more.

In recent years, the foundation helped fund new exhibits for giant anteaters, red pandas and an American alligator, and supported the restoration of the bee apiary after the 2017 flood. The foundation also funds the Progress for Pollinators grant program, which populates Santa Clara County with beautiful native gardens that attract bees, birds and butterflies.

Education

Happy Hollow Foundation makes it possible for Happy Hollow to take the zoo into the classroom, bringing life science lessons to Title I schools free of charge. With an incredible array of animal ambassadors, our education team delivers unforgettable up-close wildlife encounters to classrooms and assemblies while teaching kids about habitats, conservation and the environment.

In 2017, the foundation purchased two new vehicles to safely transport Happy Hollow animal ambassadors to schools throughout Silicon Valley.

Play

Happy Hollow believes in play at every age, and the Senior Safari program invites older adults to take over the park and zoo for physical activity, socializing and lighthearted fun.

At these free events, adults ages 50 and up watch the animals start their day while participating in zookeeper chats, watercolor painting, a 10,000-step challenge and more!

The foundation funded the renovation of the iconic Crooked House – including the addition of a giant make-believe tree growing up through it and forest-inspired furniture – and the new Dragon Flyers attraction, which takes guests of all ages on a pedal-powered ride in the sky.

Annual Report

Coming soon

Contact us

Contact the foundation at 408-277-3498 or director@happyhollow.org. To make a donation, click here. >>LINK?<<

SUPPORT

Donate

Supporting the important work of Happy Hollow Foundation is serious fun. Donors enjoy invitations to special events, behind-the-scenes experiences, and opportunities to connect with the animals, attractions and programs made possible by the foundation.

A simple and convenient way to support Happy Hollow is to make a contribution to Happy Hollow Foundation by check or credit card. Gifts can be made one time, over several years or annually.

>>Donate now<<

Dreambuilders

Danny the Dragon's Dreambuilders are Happy Hollow Foundation's closest partners, investing in Happy Hollow with annual gifts of \$1,000 or more, and supporting the foundation's mission to advocate for, support and enhance Happy Hollow Park & Zoo.

Dreambuilders enjoy unique benefits at every level, including memberships, day passes, special event invitations, exclusive exhibit previews and behind-the-scenes access.

To become a Dreambuilder, contact Amy Pizarro, Executive Director, at apizarro@happyhollow.org or 408-277-3498.

Dreambuilder Levels and Benefits

Creators Corner: \$1,000 to \$2,499

Up to four individual memberships, valid for one year

Two day passes for Dreambuilder guests

Behind-the-scenes Habitat Excursion

Invitations to an exclusive annual Dreambuilder event, exhibit previews and more

Recognition on the Entry Plaza donor board, website and annual report

Memory Makers: \$2,500 to \$9,999 Benefits include all of the above, plus: Two additional memberships (up to 6 total) Two additional day passes (4 total)

Adventure Ambassadors: \$10,000 to \$24,999 Benefits include all of the above, plus: Two additional memberships (up to 8 total) Two additional day passes (6 total) Annual parking pass

Destination Directors: \$25,000 and above Benefits include all of the above, plus: Two additional memberships (up to 10 total) Two additional day passes (8 total) Additional Habitat Excursion (2 total) Private lunch and tour with zoo manager

Habitat Excursions

Habitat Excursions are designed to give Dreambuilder families a peek into the lives of the beloved residents of Happy Hollow Park & Zoo. These personalized tours feature behind-the-scenes access to three exhibits plus an up-close encounter with an animal ambassador. Choose from the following options:

Rainforests and Forests: Happy Hollow houses animals found in the rainforests of South America, Madagascar and the Solomon Islands. Explore what makes these habitats so special and learn how to protect them for generations to come. Age 5 and up.

Deserts: Desert ecosystems are home to some of the world's most unique animals. Whether they are solitary or social, these animals know how to survive. Explore the deserts of the Americas and Africa and make new friends from around the world. Age 5 and up.

Grasslands and Wetlands: The grasslands are home to some of the world's fastest animals while the wetlands are home to some of the most ferocious. Explore the delicate ecosystems of the Americas, Africa and Australia. Age 5 and up.

Under 5 Habitat Excursion: Designed for Dreambuilder groups that include children under age 5, this experience features an up-close visit with the education team's animal ambassadors. Learn about habitats, diets and background, and create enrichment treats for some of the zoo's residents. All ages.

Habitat Excursions are available Tuesday through Saturday between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. and last approximately one hour. Group is limited to 5 people.

Corporate partners and sponsorship

Becoming a corporate partner is a meaningful way to give back to the community, create a positive corporate image, demonstrate social responsibility and deliver valued benefits to your employees and clients.

Corporate partners at all levels receive complimentary and discounted admission passes and are listed in all donor recognition including in Happy Hollow's Entry Plaza, on its website, in printed publications and more.

Sponsorships are available for events, new exhibits and attractions, and more. For more information, contact director@happyhollow.org. Current opportunities include:

- Title I school field trips and outreach
- Rendezvous at the Zoo
- Senior Safari

To become a corporate partner or sponsor, contact Amy Pizarro, Executive Director, at apizarro@happyhollow.org or 408-277-3498.

Events

Rendezvous at the Zoo

Join us for Rendezvous at the Zoo 2019, an elegant, entertaining evening at Happy Hollow Park & Zoo!

On Saturday, Sept. 7, enjoy fabulous food, lively libations, adorable and awe-inspiring animal encounters, and much more at this unique fundraising event under the stars.

Proceeds from Rendezvous benefit San José's iconic park and accredited zoo, whose animal exhibits, conservation efforts and education programs lift up our community by connecting people to nature through play.

2018 Sponsors
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Water Works Engineering

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Angela and Dave Delgado

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Republic Urban Properties

San Jose Flea Market

Santa Clara Valley Water District

Star One Credit Union

Swenson

Tech CU

U.S. Pipe

Valley Heating, Cooling, Electric

Questions about Rendezvous? Interested in sponsorship information? Contact Amy Pizarro, Executive Director, at apizarro@happyhollow.org or 408-277-3498.

Senior Safarl

Happy Hollow Park & Zoo is a place for the young and the young at heart. To better serve older adults in our community, Happy Hollow Foundation proudly presents the 6th annual Senior Safari, kicking off in May 2019.

This program comprises six monthly events designed to help adults age 50 and up improve their health, avoid social isolation and enjoy a unique environment that stimulates both mind and body. Activities include docent tours, animal meet-and-greets, Zumba, qi gong, watercolor painting, hula hooping, and a 10,000-step challenge that guides guests to visit animals, soak up the scenery and enjoy fresh air and exercise.

To welcome all older adults in our community, Senior Safari admission and parking are free, and guests are welcome to stay for the day after gates open to the general public.

Planned giving

Including Happy Hollow Foundation in your estate plans is an opportunity to make a lasting investment in a place you loved, believed in and supported during your lifetime. You may designate that either a dollar amount or a percentage of your estate be used to support and enhance Happy Hollow Park & Zoo. You may also make a memorial gift to honor a friend or loved one.

Please contact director@happyhollow.org to explore options and ensure that your gift is carried out in a way that fulfills your intent.

Stock gift

A gift of stock, either publicly traded or from a private company, may provide a greater tax advantage than a gift of cash. You may deduct the current fair market value as a charitable gift and, in most cases, avoid capital gains taxes on the appreciated value of securities. For more information, consult your tax adviser.

DONORS

Dreambuilders

Thank you to these donors whose annual gifts of \$1,000 or more help Happy Hollow Foundation fulfill its mission to support, advocate for and enhance Happy Hollow Park & Zoo. >> list <<

Corporate and community supporters

Thank you to these companies, organizations and individuals who invested in Happy Hollow Park & Zoo programs, events and exhibits.

>> list <<

TEAM

Executive director

Amy Pizarro is a marketing and communications veteran with an extensive knowledge of Silicon Valley's nonprofit scene. A former editor at the San Jose Mercury News, she transitioned into the nonprofit sector as public relations director at Presentation High School and then senior director of media and community at The Tech Museum of Innovation in downtown San José. She took the role of executive director at Happy Hollow Foundation in January 2018.

A 2014 graduate of the Leadership San Jose program, Amy is also the founder of the Pad Party, an annual event that asks Silicon Valley women to donate feminine hygiene products that are then distributed by HomeFirst to shelters, encampments and various homeless service organizations.

Along with her husband and two children, Amy has long been a huge fan of Happy Hollow Park & Zoo. "Having experienced firsthand the tremendous joy Happy Hollow brings to the lives of families in Silicon Valley, I'm thrilled to help make this San Jose gem even better for our visitors, whether they've been fans for decades or are meeting us for the first time," she said.

Staff

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