



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Erin Scott
Sr., Manager Marketing & PR
760-346-5694 ext 2610
escott@livingdesert.org

**THE LIVING DESERT ZOO AND GARDENS TEMPORARILY CLOSES TO THE PUBLIC
BEGINNING MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2020**

Palm Desert/Indian Wells -- (December 6, 2020) -- In accordance with Governor Newsom's new stay-at-home orders, The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens will temporarily close beginning Monday, December 7, 2020. Per the State's order, the Zoo will be closed for at least three weeks or until the mandate is lifted.

"While we are sad to be closing our doors again, we know that it is for the greater health of our staff, guests, and community," said Allen Monroe, President/CEO. "As always, we remain steadfast in our commitment to providing the highest level of care to the 500 animals who call The Living Desert home. Our excellent animal care and veterinary team will continue to remain onsite during our temporary closure."

Guests who have tickets to visit to the Zoo during this temporary closure, either during daytime hours or for WildLights, will be contacted via email in the coming days with ways to reschedule your current reservation or receive a refund. Members will have the option to extend their memberships or donate that amount of time back to the Zoo.

"At The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens we believe that we serve our community in a variety of ways, in addition to our commitment to the natural world. We are a place of family, inspiration, solace, community, and a way to connect with nature. The health of our animals, staff, guests and community remains our top priority, and we continue to stand with our community during this challenging time," commented Monroe

"When the time is right, we look forward to once again welcoming the community back to The Living Desert," continued Monroe. "During our closure, we invite you to join us digitally as we strive to provide engaging content on our social media platforms."

For the most up-to-date information, please visit LivingDesert.org/Health.

About the Living Desert:

The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens is a nonprofit, accredited member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, ensuring the highest standards of all aspects of animal care, education, conservation, public service, and operations. The Zoo is active in conservation research, habitat protection, breeding programs and education initiatives around the world, as well as in its own community. The Zoo has been a top destination in the Palm Springs area for 50 years. The Living Desert is located at 47900 Portola Ave, Palm Desert, CA 92260. For more information: (760) 346-5694 or visit livingdesert.org.

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