

## **Contact:**

Emily Valdez Interim Marketing Supervisor Office: (559) 498-5926 ext. 5926

Mobile: 559-970-5921

evaldez@fresnochaffeezoo.org

For Immediate Release February 14, 2022

## EUGENE PARK, FOUNDER & CEO OF PARSEC EDUCATION, AWARDS FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO A GIFT OF \$50,000 FOR THE TIGER ENRICHMENT AREA IN KINGDOMS OF ASIA

Fresno, CA – Fresno Chaffee Zoo announced a \$50,000 donation from Eugene Park, founder and CEO of <u>Parsec Education</u>, on February 14, 2022. This generous gift will be used for a tiger enrichment area in the Zoo's newest project, Kingdoms of Asia, set to open at the end of the year.

"This generous donation allows us to not only create a beautiful, immersive atmosphere for our guests, but it also allows us to provide state-of-the-art habitats for our animals," said Fresno Chaffee Zoo General Curator, Lyn Myers. "We are so grateful to Parsec Education for believing in the Zoo's mission to care for and help preserve these magnificent creatures."

The tiger enrichment area will give guests an up-close look at the amazing care our animal teams provide. Guests will see how our keepers safely work with the tigers to participate in their own husbandry and medical behaviors such as ultrasounds, tail blood draws, hip injections, and tail blood pressure. This enrichment area will also engage the tiger's natural instincts with items including deadfall for claw maintenance, various rocks and trees for the tigers to navigate, climb, and leap across, and a line for hanging enrichment items so the tigers can wrestle with toys or larger food items.

"The natural world is a child's best textbook. There is no better way to learn about animals, wildlife conservation, and veterinary science than to visit Fresno Chaffee Zoo," said Park. "This is where kids can learn directly from field experts about the wonders of the animal kingdom. For Parsec Education, our donation to Fresno Chaffee Zoo is an investment in the countless number of children who visit the Zoo every year. We invite other businesses to do the same."



Robert Tapia, Allison Coleman, Ryan Royer, Jon Forrest Dohlin, Brad Simkins, Terry Skoda, Timothy Farrow, Eugene Park, and Julie Serrano.

Fresno Chaffee Zoo is extremely grateful for the support of Parsec Education and the entire Central Valley community as they continue to expand and improve. Kingdoms of Asia is Fresno Chaffee Zoo's latest project thanks to Measure Z. This immersive exhibit will feature the return of sloth bears to the Zoo as well as several new species, including Asian small-clawed otters and Sunda gharial. Kingdoms of Asia is scheduled to open to the public at the end of 2022. The Zoo looks forward to welcoming guests to this new area meant to inspire and educate our community on the geography, people, animals, and conservation efforts throughout Southeast Asia.

**About Eugene Park and Parsec Education:** Eugene Park is the founder of Parsec Education - an educational data analytics and technology company. A recognized expert in data storytelling, Eugene launched Parsec Education in 2018 to help schools harness the power of data to improve student outcomes. His personal mission is to help every child in every neighborhood receive a high-quality education within a self-sustaining, equitable system where all students have an opportunity to pursue their dreams. Throughout his four years at Parsec Education, he and his talented team have quickly expanded Parsec's market reach to serve schools from the Shasta area to San Diego County.

**About Fresno Chaffee Zoo:** Centrally located in Fresno, California, Fresno Chaffee Zoo is a 39-acre Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) accredited zoo. It is home to over 200 different species and features WOW exhibits—from Sea Lion Cove to African Adventure—that teach guests about animals all across the globe and the conservation efforts to protect them. The Zoo welcomes over 800,000 guests annually, offering a world-class guest experience and conservation education to all who visit. The mission of Fresno Chaffee Zoo is to inspire wonder of our natural world, provide an engaging learning environment, and create a passion for conservation.

"Fresno Chaffee Zoo inspires wonder of our natural world, provides an engaging learning environment, and creates a passion for conservation."