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FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO WELCOMES CHIEF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Fresno, CA – Terry Skoda has joined Fresno Chaffee Zoo as Chief Development Officer. Zoo officials conducted a nationwide search to fill this critical role for the non-profit organization. Skoda was selected for his decades of experience in leading membership programs, development campaigns, marketing communications, and special events for non-profit cultural organizations. In this role, he will oversee development, marketing, membership, and events.

“We are delighted to welcome Terry to Fresno Chaffee Zoo as well as our Fresno community. He brings an impressive history of proven results delivering exciting public programs as well as connecting with people to promote and support mission-driven institutions,” said Fresno Chaffee Zoo CEO, Jon Forrest Dohlin.

Skoda came to Fresno from New York, where he served as the Interim Director of the Museum of Arts and Design. That role followed a fifteen-year career at the New York Botanical Garden. As Executive Vice President for External Affairs, Skoda directed successful fundraising campaigns and championed groundbreaking exhibits that highlighted art and nature.



Photo: Owen Kolasinski BFA.com

“It has been my lifelong goal to raise funds to support wildlife conservation,” said Skoda. “Coming to Fresno Chaffee Zoo is quite literally my dream, allowing me to support the Zoo’s conservation and animal care work and also move to California.”

In his first few weeks in the role, Skoda led the re-imagining of the Zoo’s Safari Night annual benefit and began meeting with community leaders.

“I am so excited to be joining the Fresno community,” said Skoda. “As I continue to get settled in the Central Valley, I see what a welcoming and vibrant community it is. I am reminded daily in all my interactions throughout the community how much people love and support Fresno Chaffee Zoo, so I look forward to serving this community and one of its most beloved organizations.”

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.

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