



LEGACY AMENDMENT ARTS AND CULTURAL HERITAGE GRANT Como Park Zoo and Conservatory

Como Park Zoo and Conservatory is an urban oasis in the heart of the Twin Cities. The Zoo and Conservatory is the number one family destination in the state of Minnesota, welcoming more than 2 million guests annually, because it is free, interactive, welcoming, accessible and family oriented. Como is also rich in history. The Zoo was established in 1897 and the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory was built in 1915. Como has been one of the state's greatest assets for more than 100 years because it:

Como Park Zoo and Conservatory celebrates diversity in many forms, across cultures, ethnicity, economics and ages. Como celebrates diversity by offering animals and plants from every continent on the globe and the stories of the people and cultures of those distant places.

Projects & Descriptions

Funding from the State Legislature's Legacy Amendment Arts and Culture Heritage Fund for Como Park Zoo and Conservatory is providing critical funds for the programmatic development. The grant agreement provided \$111,375 in Fiscal Year 2010 and 2011 and the competitive grant portion of \$60,109 for Fiscal Year 2011. The Legacy Amendment funding has been allocated for the following projects that have been completed or will be completed by June 2011:

Educational and Interpretive Signage: As a core to Como's mission on education, updating the aging interpretive signage and adding interactive and technology based interpretive and hands-on experiences is important. The educational and interactive displays use the latest technology to present engaging presentations to increase the interest, awareness and knowledge in viewers of all ages.

While the primary emphasis will be to enhance the existing rapport between the viewers and animal exhibits, there is a distinct opportunity to present information of an educational nature that helps the public better understand the animals, their physical characteristics, their needs, global region of origin, and the ongoing conservation efforts and Como Zoo's commitment to world-wide conservation programs. Como Zoo focused on two animal collections.

Primate Building – Completed July 2010

Marine Mammal Building – In process to be completed by June 2011

Animal Show: Creating connections with Como's animals, plants and gardens that foster appreciation, conservation and preservation is one Como's values. One way we are able to make these connections is through interactive opportunities such as our current offerings of keeper talks, story time, and Sparky the Sea Lion Show. Utilizing

the Legacy Amendment Arts and Cultural Heritage funds, Como Zoo developed and produced a fun and educational performance presented daily May through September, providing our audience with an opportunity to be entertained as they learn about animals from all around the world.

Creature Feature – Performances Memorial Day -Labor Day
Saturday-Sunday – Once Daily & Monday-Friday – Twice Daily

Butterfly Exhibit: Como Zoo was able to offer the Blooming Butterflies exhibit in 2010 by the support of Legacy Amendment Arts and Cultural Heritage funds. Hundreds of butterflies from Africa, Asia, North, Central and South America flew freely in an indoor, temporary exhibit among tropical plants in a lush garden environment at Como Park Zoo and Conservatory. Guests learned about their native habitats, life cycles and importance they place on the eco-system.

Blooming Butterflies – Opened Daily – June 18-September 6, 2010

Temporary Exhibits: While Como is a natural setting with living art exhibits, it also houses many works of art as well as been an inspiration to some. Temporary and traveling exhibits include areas in the arts, animal and plant life. These exhibits offer unique education opportunities that are above the standard zoo visit and can add to class curriculums for the thousands of students Como touches. Como will utilize funds to introduce up to three shows, focusing on the winter seasons to offer indoor opportunities to guests in the Gallery.

Up Close & Personal -A Journey into the World of Insects from Their Perspective
- Photo Exhibit Featuring Ultra Close-up Macro Photograph - December 11, 2010-January 23, 2011

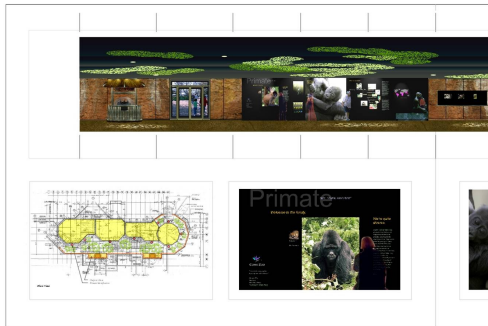
African Cats – Spring 2011

Edible Gardens June-September, 2011

Frog Conservation Exhibit: Como Park Zoo and Conservatory is developing a frog exhibit that will feature four threatened frog species and use the exhibits as a way to touch our guests on our conservation actions as well as educate, opening March 2011. These four frog exhibits will be presented in Como's Children's Gallery and will incorporate living animals, plants and interactives geared for youth visitors.

Rabbit-zibit! – Opening March 2011

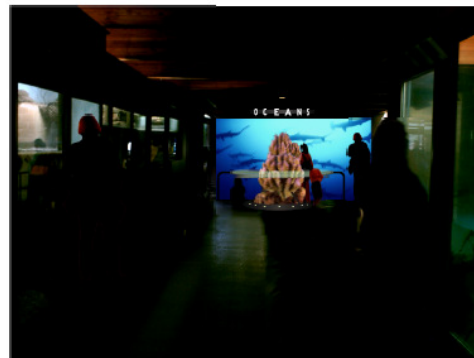
EDUCATIONAL & INTERPITIVE GRAPHICS Primate Building Completed July 2010



EDUCATIONAL & INTERPITIVE GRAPHICS Marine Mammal Building In process to be complete by June 2011



View of theater entrance.



View of theater from south entrance.

CREATURE FEATURE May 29 - September 6, 2010



BLOOMING BUTTERFLIES June 19 - September 6, 2010



TEMPORARY ART SHOW

Up Close & Personal -A Journey into the World of Insects from Their Perspective
- Photo Exhibit Featuring Ultra Close-up Macro Photograph
December 11, 2010-January 23, 2011



RIBBIT! FROG CONSERVATION EXHIBIT

Opening March 2011



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