



Awards

General:

- Voted as one of the top Best Zoo Lights in [USA TODAY'S 10Best Reader's Choice Awards](#) for the *Lights Before Christmas* (2015)
- *Lights Before Christmas* resident Norway spruce, The BIG Tree, ranked among [Top Five Most Beautiful Christmas Trees](#) by Parade.com (2015)
- Named a [Standout in Ohio tourism](#) by OhioTraveler.com (2015)
- Named tripadvisor [Travelers' Choice](#) winner (2015)
- Build Ohio Award for Toledo Zoo Aquarium project by Rudolph Libbe, Inc (Aquarium renovation construction manager) (2014)
- Voted #1 zoo in the country in [USA TODAY'S 10Best Reader's Choice Awards](#) (2014)
- Rated second among the nation's zoos, & eighth among overall family attractions, by [FamilyFun Magazine](#) (2014)
- Voted as [Best of Lake Erie Western Ohio Hot Spot](#) by Lake Erie Living Magazine (2014)
- Rated among the top 25 in [TripAdvisor Travelers' Choice™ awards](#) for U.S. Zoos (2014)
- Voted as Best of Lake Erie by Lake Erie Living Magazine (2014)
- Family Favorite Winner for Mother's Day Festivities by Toledo Area Parent Magazine (2013)
- Family Favorite Winner for Place to See Animals by Toledo Area Parent Magazine (2013)
- Voted as Best of Lake Erie Living by Lake Erie Magazine (2013)
- *Lights Before Christmas* resident Norway spruce, The BIG Tree, ranked among [top ten most amazing Christmas trees in the U.S.](#) by Decoist.com (2012)
- #7 Best Zoo in the U.S. by 10Besties.com (2012)
- *Lights Before Christmas* resident Norway spruce, The BIG Tree, ranked among [top ten Christmas trees in the U.S.](#) by Travelocity (2011)
- *Lights Before Christmas* resident Norway spruce, The BIG Tree, ranked as [one of the tallest Christmas trees](#) by Travel + Leisure (2010)
- Ranked among [top 25 kid-friendly zoos](#) by Parents.com-online home of Family Circle, Parents & American Baby magazines (2009)
- One of America's Top Ten Zoos, [America's Best Zoos](#) (2008)
- Ranked among [top ten family-friendly zoos](#) by *Child Magazine* (2004)
- Voted as top five *America's Favorite Zoo* by Microsoft (2004)
- Family Favorite Winner for Sunny Day Outing by Toledo Area Parent Magazine (2004)
- Voted by Disney's *Family Fun Magazine* as one of the best zoos in the U.S. for families (2000)

Community:

- ARTner Certificate of Appreciation from Toledo School for the Arts (2010, 2009, 2008, 2007)
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Toledo Friend of Youth Award for services to youth (2010)
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters Community Hero Award (2005)
- Excel Award from the Greater Toledo Convention and Visitors Bureau (2005)
- Circle of Excellence - Spirit of Toledo Award presented by the City of Toledo (2001)
- Outstanding Achievement Award for Engineering Excellence, Arctic Encounter® exhibit, Consulting Engineers of Ohio (2001)

Conservation & Sustainability:

- Public Agency Native Landscape Award from the Oak Openings Region Chapter of Wild Ones for the installation and upkeep of native prairies on Toledo Zoo grounds. (2015)
- Scenic Ohio Awards recognizing the five Ohio zoos, including the Toledo Zoo & Aquarium, for creating outstanding scenic, sustainable and educational places for animals, plants and all Ohioans. (2015)
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Partners in Conservation Award for the federally endangered Karner Blue butterfly reintroduction to the Petersburg State Game Area (2014)
- Project of the Year for the Anthony Wayne Solar Array by Solar Builder magazine (2014)
- AZA Significant Achievement in International Conservation Award for the Kihansi spray toad reintroduction program (2013)
- AZA Exhibit Award for Excellence in the area of live animal display and exhibit design for Nature's Neighborhood (2011)
- Clean Your Streams Youth Challenge Award—Maumee River Remedial Action Plan (RAP) (annually 2011-2002)
- Green Frog Award honoring those who make the community greener, healthier and more sustainable from the Lake Erie Western Alliance for Sustainability (2008)
- Certificate of Award for efforts to go green from Marblehead Chamber of Commerce (2008)
- AZA North American Conservation Award for the Puerto Rican Crested Toad SSP Conservation Partnership (2004)
- Leadership in Conservation Award from the Snow Leopard Trust (2004)
- AZA North American Conservation Award for the Oak Savanna Butterfly Conservation program (2003)
- Achievements in Excellence Award – Division of Recycling & Water Preservation
- CityScape, promoting quality standards for urban beautification and construction improvements within the City of Toledo (2001)
- AZA International Conservation Award for the Jamaican Iguana Conservation and Recovery Program (2000)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Endangered Species Program awards for the Virgin Islands Boa Reintroduction Program, Wyoming Toad Recovery Program & Karner Blue Butterfly Reintroduction (2000)
- American Association of Museums (AAM) International Partnership Among Museums (IPAM) award to undertake an exchange with the Parque Nacional de Zoologico-ZOODOM, Dominican Republic (1999-2001)
- AZA Exhibit Award for Excellence for the renovation of the historic Aviary (1999)
- Nature Conservancy Conservation Colleague Award for reintroduction of the Karner blue butterfly (1998)
- AZA Conservation Awards for the conservation of the Aruba Island rattlesnake (1998), Wyoming toad (1997), Mona/Virgin Islands boa (1995)
- American Federation of Aviculture, Inc.—U.S. First Breeding Avy Award for Red-Throated Gaudy Barbet (hatched 1992)
- Outstanding Service Award presented by the American Association of Zoo Keepers for furthering growth of AAZK (1991)
- AZA Bean Award for excellence in the West Indian Boa Breeding program (1987)

Firsts:

- First captive breeding of the Northern slimy salamander (2008)
- First captive breeding of Purplish copper butterfly (2004) and Mitchell's satyr butterfly (2005)
- Butterfly Conservation Initiative, Founding Member (2002)
- First captive breeding and reintroduction of the Karner blue butterfly (1998), the frosted elfin butterfly (2000)
- First reintroduction of a Species Survival Plan (SSP) reptile species to its native habitat (Virgin Islands boa, 1993)
- First video recording in the world of an underwater hippo birth (1987)
- First chimpanzee born through artificial insemination (1973)

Marketing & Advertising:

- Bronze Addy Award for spring/summer TV spots highlighting [Wild Walkabout](#) from the Advertising Club of Toledo (2014)
- Best of the Knot Award – Best Wedding Venues (2014, 2013, 2012)
- RUBY (Recognizing Uncommon Brilliance) Award from Ohio Travel Association – crocodile print advertisement (2013)
- WeddingWire Bride's Choice Award –top 5% of 200,000+ wedding professionals in the US & Canada (2013, 2012)
- Bronze Addy Award for summer TV ad highlighting [Lucas, the elephant calf](#) from the Advertising Club of Toledo (2011)
- Gold Addy Award for [summer TV ad campaign](#) from the Advertising Club of Toledo (2010)
- Silver Addy Award for summer TV ad highlighting [Siku, the polar bear cub](#) from the Advertising Club of Toledo (2010)
- Silver Addy Award for Lights Before Christmas TV ad from the Advertising Club of Toledo (2010)
- Silver Addy Award for sound design in a TV spot promotion for Frozentoesen Winter Weekends from the Advertising Club of Toledo (2010)
- Gold Addy Award for Summer TV spot, Nature's Neighborhood from the Advertising Club of Toledo (2009)
- Gold Addy Award for Summer TV Campaign, Nature's Neighborhood from the Advertising Club of Toledo (2009)
- Judge's Choice Addy Award for Summer TV Campaign, Nature's Neighborhood from the Advertising Club of Toledo (2009)
- Crystal Award for Best Mixed Media Campaign, Summer '08 Campaign Series from Women in Communications (2008)
- Merit Award of Achievement for TV - Summer '08 Campaign Series from Women in Communications (2008)
- Merit Award of Achievement for Outdoor - Summer '08 Campaign Series from Women in Communications (2008)
- RUBY (Recognizing Uncommon Brilliance) Award for 2007 Annual Report from Ohio Travel Association (2008)
- RUBY (Recognizing Uncommon Brilliance) Award for Catering Menu Package from Ohio Travel Association (2008)
- RUBY (Recognizing Uncommon Brilliance) Citation of Excellence Award for Summer 2008 TV Ad Campaign from Ohio Travel Association (2008)
- Merit Award of Achievement for Summer Image Newspaper Series - I Love My Zoo from Women in Communications (2006)

- Merit Award of Achievement for Summer Image TV Campaign - I Love My Zoo from Women in Communications (2006)
- Merit Award of Achievement for Summer Image TV Series - I Love My Zoo from Women in Communications (2006)
- RUBY (Recognizing Uncommon Brilliance) Award for 2004 Annual Report from Ohio Travel Association (2005)
- First-place Telly Award for 2004 Africa! television advertisement (2005)
- RUBY (Recognizing Uncommon Brilliance) Citation of Excellence Award for Dragons marketing campaign from Ohio Travel Association (2005)
- RUBY (Recognizing Uncommon Brilliance) Citation of Excellence Award for Ice Fest radio advertisement from Ohio Travel Association (2005)
- Four awards for 2004 Africa! advertising campaign from Advertising Club of Toledo (2005)
- Brass Ring Award for the most interactive web site, www.toledozoo.org from IAAPA (International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions) (1999)
- 11 Brass Ring Awards for Television, Radio, Signage, Brochure, and Print Advertising (from 1990-95)