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Toledo Zoo Repeats as Best Zoo Lights Display

TOLEDO, Ohio – Toledo Zoo's *Lights Before Christmas* presented by KeyBank has been voted Best Zoo Lights by USA Today's 10Best Readers' Choice online public voting contest for the second time!

Toledo Zoo competed against 20 other zoos, including regional competition from Detroit Zoo (2nd), Indianapolis Zoo (5th), Columbus Zoo (7th) and Cincinnati Zoo (8th). In 2014, the Toledo Zoo was also named #1 Zoo in America by the same organization.

"We are extremely thankful for the outpouring of support from Zoo friends here and abroad that helped us repeat as Best Zoo Lights! We could not have done it without our amazing staff who works incredibly hard for months to turn our campus into a nationally known holiday destination. We sincerely appreciate all of our supporters voting every day and encouraging others to do the same. It is truly a win for this whole community, by this whole community. The country now knows what this area has for more than 30 years: Our *Lights* truly are the best," said Shayla Bell Moriarty, Toledo Zoo's director of communication.

The 2017 edition of *Lights Before Christmas* presented by KeyBank continues to shine through Sunday, December 31, New Year's Eve. The display will be closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Hours of operation for *Lights* are 3-8 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 3-9 p.m. Friday and Saturday. The Zoo closes one hour after last admission to allow guests to complete their visit.

Toledo Zoo members receive free and unlimited Monday-Thursday *Lights Before Christmas* visits plus one free weekend visit. Visitors can save \$1 per ticket by ordering online at toledozoo.org/lights.

The Zoo is open daily at 10 a.m. and is located on the Anthony Wayne Trail (US 25), four miles south of downtown Toledo. For more information, please visit toledozoo.org or call 419-385-4040. Lucas County residents are admitted free of charge on non-holiday Mondays from 10 a.m. - noon. Valid ID showing proof of residency is required. *Submitted by: Kim Haddix*

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