

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 9, 2008

**ARTWORK CREATED BY FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO ANIMALS  
TO BE AUCTIONED DURING LIVE INTERACTIVE WEBCAST  
TO BENEFIT CONSERVATION**

*FRESNO, Ca.* – On Tuesday, September 16, the Auction Network will conduct a live auction featuring artwork created by animals from zoos and aquariums from around the country. Original paintings by Fresno Chaffee Zoo’s sea lion “Anacapa” and macaw “Sam” will be up for sale during The Arts by Animal auction, which will be broadcast online in high-definition beginning with a special pre-show at 1 p.m., followed at 2 p.m. with the live auction.

The three-hour live auction is expected to draw a worldwide audience and will feature 61 works of art from animals from organizations accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). People are encouraged to visit [auctionnetwork.com/AZA](http://auctionnetwork.com/AZA) to view the entire catalog, see bios on each animal artist, and even place proxy bids before the auction begins.

“We’re honored to have Anacapa and Sam represent our Zoo and our community during this important auction event,” says Zoo Director Lewis Greene. “Not only will this bring additional funds to enhance our wildlife conservation efforts, it will demonstrate the positive benefits of our animal enrichment activities which are an important part of the care and welfare of animals in zoos and aquariums.”

Anacapa creates her art with very deliberately placed nose prints and Sam creates airy designs with a paint tipped feather. Some animals use a paintbrush while others paint with their paws, claws, tails and scales. Other animals whose art is featured in the auction include penguins, elephants, meerkats, bears, alligators, great apes, exotic cats, and more. Creating art is safe for the animals; the paints are non-toxic and washable.

*Fresno Chaffee Zoo is open every day of the year from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. General admission during regular Zoo hours is \$7 for adults, \$3.50 for children 2-11 and seniors 62+, and children under 2 and Fresno Chaffee Zoo members are free. The mission of Fresno Chaffee Zoo is to provide a fun, unique and up-close experience that strengthens the bond between people and wildlife. The Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA).*

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