

Meet Sierra, our Golden Eagle!

The Koret Center of Animal Rescue and Conservation (ARC) is home to rescued animals, including rehabilitated wildlife, like Sierra.



This is Sierra, our Golden Eagle! Sierra has been a long time resident of the Koret Center of Animal Rescue and Conservation (ARC). In 2002, Sierra was unfortunately hit by a car in the Sierra Nevada mountains, resulting in a 90% amputation of her right wing. Due to the injury, Sierra is no longer able to fly and was deemed non-releasable. She found her permanent home here at the Zoo, where she has been living ever since. She is estimated to be about 28 years old (hatched in 1998).

Even though she can no longer fly, Sierra still has powerful legs and is able to navigate her aviary with ease. She has a connecting hallway between her aviary and her nighttime enclosure, so she can choose how she spends her time. If you don't see her, she might just be hanging out in her hallway! You can view Sierra daily at the ARC front aviary or during our daily Raptor Talk at 10:30 AM and 4 PM where you can meet Sierra and learn all about eagles!

Meet Mabel, our Red tailed Hawk!

The Koret Center of Animal Rescue and Conservation (ARC) is home to rescued animals, including rehabilitated wildlife, like Mabel.



This is Mabel, our Red tailed Hawk! Her left wing has a slight droop to it because she sustained an injury to her wing in the wild and can no longer fly. As a non-flighted bird of prey, she is unable to hunt for herself or evade predators, resulting in her receiving non-releasable status. Fortunately, she made her way to a rehabilitation center in Auburn County, where she received life-saving veterinary care. We are thrilled to serve as a forever home for Mabel here at the Koret Center of Animal Rescue and Conservation (ARC). She is estimated to be 13 years old, and is a powerful ambassador for our local birds of prey.

Even though she can no longer sustain flight, she can still hop and glide to her various perches. She is an active participant in the Zoo's Animal Training Program, where she is in training to participate in Wildlife Theater and other programs at the ARC. Check back in a few weeks, where she may be out in one of the ARC aviaries, and one of the new Wildlife Theater programs!

Meet Athena, our Eurasian Eagle Owl!

The Koret Center of Animal Rescue and Conservation (ARC) is home to rescued animals, including animals confiscated from the illegal pet trade, like Athena.



This is Athena, our Eurasian Eagle Owl! In 2005, as an egg, Athena and her siblings were stolen from their nest, painted to look like Easter eggs, and smuggled into the United States through the San Francisco Airport. Once in California, the smuggler was caught, after the Eagle Owls had hatched, and they were confiscated. Unfortunately, when illegally smuggled wildlife is confiscated, they cannot be returned to their wild habitats due to the risk of exposing wild populations to unfamiliar disease and bacteria that may have been contracted in transit.

Athena found her forever home here at the Koret Center of Animal Rescue and Conservation (ARC) where she serves as an ambassador for her species and educates guests on the illegal pet trade and wildlife trafficking.

At 21 years old, Athena has participated in many programs over the years. She resides in an aviary behind-the-scenes at the ARC, where she can be watched, utilize her favorite enrichment items, and socialize with her male-Eagle-Owl-neighbor, Thatcher. You can catch a glimpse of her if you peak over behind the front facing aviary, just please respect the rope barrier and observe from a distance!

Meet Harley, our Kinkajou!

The Koret Center of Animal Rescue and Conservation (ARC) is home to rescued animals, including confiscated former pets, like Harley.



This is Harley, our kinkajou! Kinkajous are a carnivore species in the family of Procyonidae, making them close relatives of raccoons and coatis. While they were popularized as pets in the early 2000s, they are illegal as pets in many states including California. This is because even though they may be cute, they have sharp teeth, deliver a painful bite, and can be quite destructive in the home. Harley is a confiscated illegal exotic pet. Animals confiscated from the illegal pet trade cannot be released back into the wild because they have already lived under human care. Harley found his forever home at the Koret Center of Animal Rescue and Conservation (ARC).

At 21 years old, Harley lives behind-the-scenes and gets plenty of socialization from his caretakers. Kinkajous are also nocturnal, so animal care staff monitor his overnight behavior by setting up night cameras to catch how he spends his time, which is one of the many metrics we use to keep an eye on his physical health and wellness.

Meet Hal & Tambi- our Ball Pythons!

The Koret Center of Animal Rescue and Conservation (ARC) is home to rescued animals, including surrendered pets like Hal and Tambi.



This is Hal and Tambi our Ball Pythons! Hal and Tambi are former pets, who were surrendered by their respective owners when they could no longer provide appropriate care. They have been living here at the Koret Center of Animal Rescue and Conservation (ARC), ever since. Ball pythons are popular exotic pets due to their calm nature; however, they can still be tricky to care for. Snakes require specialized heating and UV, unique dietary items, specialty veterinary care, and live 30+ years under human care. Quite a few of our reptile residents at the Zoo are surrendered pets!

Our Ball Pythons all live behind-the-scenes in the ARC Herp Room. You may be able to catch a glimpse of them through the ARC windows, but more likely you will be able to visit them at various ARC programs. The Ball Pythons are active participants in our Wildlife Theater programs.