



AAZK, Inc. Certificate of Excellence in Exhibit Design Renovation
Deadline for nominations is **MAY 1st** of each year.

Qualifications:

1. Any North American zoological institution or organization is eligible.
2. The renovated exhibit must be in full operation for at least **two (2)** years.
3. The exhibit **must** be nominated by a keeper at that same institution or organization. Supporting nominations may be submitted by management personnel from the same institution.

Award Nominations should be submitted to:

Janet McCoy, Awards Chair
846 NW 170th Dr.
Beaverton, OR 97006 or
submit electronically to: janet.mccoy@aazk.org

Nominee's Name: _____

Institution:

Institution's Address:

Phone Number:

Director:

Recommended by: ".....Go ckn"

NOTE: Materials will not be returned.

Document local awards or commendations for exhibit, drawings, 8 X 10 color photos (or digital photos no larger than 576px x 720px) - no slides (2 before and 8 after), and renovated exhibit type: single or multi-species, and size.

Document keeper participation in the design and why the existing facility was renovated.

1. KEEPER INVOLVEMENT:
 1. degree of keeper involvement with conceptual development of exhibit
 2. degree of keeper involvement with facilitation of completion of exhibit, (fundraising, promotion, assist with construction)
 3. contribution to educational experience (graphics, conservation message)
 4. originality - is it something new and different, or has it been tried before?
2. EXHIBIT FUNCTIONALITY:
 1. versatility - indoor/outdoor, four seasons, protection from elements
 2. accommodates and encourages animal's natural behavior – climbing structures, land area, height, water
 3. hard (gunite, concrete) vs. soft (grass, dirt) environments - as to animal needs
 4. sight lines valuable to animal as well as visitor - important to some animals (polar bear, chimps)
 5. physical and visual barriers for animal's use, animal safety
 6. flexible entrance/exits (hoofstock - more than one entrance)
 7. ability to exhibit natural social grouping
 8. breeding success

Document interface with other zoo divisions; and maintenance of exhibit after completion.

3. EXHIBIT MANAGEMENT:
 1. how management of exhibit interfaces with other zoo divisions (grounds, maintenance - simple repair, paint)
 2. keeper serviceability, overall maintenance of exhibit and surroundings
 3. adequate drains and properly located
 4. quality and versatility of holding areas - ease of separating animals, moving, breeding, sick
 5. keeper sight lines - can you see animal when they come into holding or when shifting them between areas, keeper safety
 6. ease of providing time change items (browse, logs, feed, novel objects)
 7. environmental control (ease of seasonal adjustments - ventilation, heat)
4. VISITOR POINT OF VIEW/OTHER INFORMATION:
 1. educational experience (conservation message)
 2. immediate and sustained viewer interest
 3. sight lines - not see doors, drains, fencing - does it have aesthetics?
 4. bonus point - local awards, commendation, "wow" factor
 5. include anything else pertinent to the renovated exhibit that you think is important