



“Guardians of the Wild” Brings Conservation to Life at Fernbank

ATLANTA, Sept. 22, 2026—Follow a global mission to save some of the world’s most endangered species in the giant screen film, “Guardians of the Wild”—coming to Fernbank on Oct. 10, 2026. Viewers will travel across three continents to see how dedicated conservationists are helping the Galápagos tortoise, Tasmanian devil and black rhino make remarkable comebacks from the brink of extinction. Discover the challenges these animals face and the people fighting to protect their future in this new film.

Set in some of the world’s most remote wildlife sanctuaries, “Guardians of the Wild” invites viewers behind the scenes of global conservation, where scientists, rangers, veterinarians and volunteers work tirelessly to protect vulnerable species. From breeding programs in the Galápagos Islands to shelters in Australia, the film offers a close-up look at the challenges and triumphs that come with protecting the planet’s wildlife.

“We’re very excited to be showing Guardians of the Wild at Fernbank this fall,” said Dr. Bobbi Hohmann, VP of Programming & Collections at Fernbank Museum. “The importance of conservation work and habitat restoration is something Fernbank has been passionate about for years as we’ve worked to preserve our 65-acre, old growth Fernbank Forest for future generations.”

The journey begins in the Galápagos Islands, where giant tortoises weighing over a quarter of a ton roam the lush forests surrounding the Sierra Negra Volcano. Viewers will meet Big Bertha, a giant tortoise who is over 150 years old, and learn about the dramatic decline of her species beginning with the arrival of humans on the islands. Despite the issues faced, Big Bertha’s story is also one of hope. Ranger Xavier Jatamillo and his dedicated team at the Charles Darwin Research Station care for hundreds of giant tortoises as part of one of the world’s most successful breeding programs, returning thousands of tortoises to the islands and securing a future for the species.

Across the Atlantic, in the Australian Alps, audiences will meet the Tasmanian devil—a small but fierce scavenger that plays a vital role in its ecosystem. Threatened by a rapidly spreading disease, the Tasmanian devil species faces an uncertain future—but conservationists are working to change its fate. Renowned ecologist Dr. Rae Wynn-Grant joins the Aussie Ark team to help restore the species, raising 500 Tasmanian devils from just 44 individuals and demonstrating how persistent conservation efforts can give species a second chance.

In Africa, viewers will follow the people working to protect black rhinos, a species whose population has been devastated by decades of hunting. Dr. Jacques Flamand and his team from the World Wildlife Fund are helping turn the tide by working with landowners to create protected sanctuaries and developing innovative ways to safely move rhinos across vast landscapes. Helicopter airlifts transport the rhinos without harming them, offering a powerful example of how collaboration and innovation can help bring a species back from the brink.

“Guardians of the Wild” offers an informative and heartwarming look at the importance of global conservation and an urgent need to protect Earth’s most vulnerable creatures before it’s too late. On a planet of 8 billion people and counting, perhaps any one of us can be a guardian of the wild.

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“Guardians of the Wild” is produced by Definition Studios and distributed by K2 Studios in IMAX®/Giant Screen and specialty theaters located in science centers, museums, and other cultural destinations and attractions worldwide.

Related Programming

Continue the wildlife adventure on Oct. 10 with the opening of The Secret World of Elephants, a new special exhibit exploring the remarkable abilities, intelligence and hidden lives of Earth’s largest land animals. Guests can celebrate opening day during Elephant Extravaganza on Oct. 10, featuring elephant-themed activities for the whole family.

Tickets

Exhibits, films and Discovery Days are included with daytime general admission and with CityPASS. General admission tickets include three floors of exhibits in the natural history museum, choice of one giant screen film, and 75-acres of nature explorations in Fernbank Forest and WildWoods. Fernbank After Dark and some other special after-hours events are available at a separate ticket price and may include access to special exhibits. Fernbank is located at 767 Clifton Road NE in Atlanta, minutes from midtown Atlanta and downtown Decatur.

General admission tickets vary by date and program and include a film in the Giant Screen Theater. Tickets purchased at FernbankMuseum.org are discounted (\$23.95-\$27.95). Members receive free general admission. More information is available at FernbankMuseum.org.

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About Fernbank

Fernbank is one of the most popular and iconic cultural destinations in Atlanta. Known as Atlanta's Science and Nature Experience, Fernbank invites guests to discover a World of Wow through an expansive natural history museum, 4-story giant screen theater, and 75-acres of nature adventures in WildWoods and Fernbank Forest. One of the oldest not-for-profit conservation organizations in the country, Fernbank was founded in 1939 to preserve Fernbank Forest, the largest urban, old growth, Piedmont forest in the United States. The museum and giant screen theater opened as "a school in the woods for nature studies" on Oct. 5, 1992, and is today known for its giant dinosaurs, hands-on STEAM* programming, immersive experiences, and year-round nature exploration. Visit fernbankmuseum.org and follow @fernbankmuseum on Facebook, Instagram, X, YouTube and TikTok for more information.

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