



WITH YOUR SUPPORT, WE ARE  
**Saving Gorillas:  
Every. Single. Day.**



**2016 Annual Report**  
DIAN FOSSEY GORILLA FUND INTERNATIONAL

## Karisoke Research Center, founded by Dian Fossey in 1967

The Karisoke Research Center was founded by Dr. Dian Fossey in 1967, as she began her groundbreaking work studying the mountain gorillas of the Virunga mountains.

She set up two small tents between Mt. Karisimbi and Mt. Bisoke, and created the name "Karisoke." Fossey soon realized that the mountain gorillas' survival was in extreme danger, with fewer than 250 of them left at the time. She then founded the "Digit Fund" to raise funds for their protection. Even though she was murdered in 1985, her work has not only continued but greatly expanded since then, carried out today by the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International.

The Karisoke Research Center today is a world-renowned center for gorilla protection and research, with its 75 award-winning gorilla trackers protecting the gorillas every day, anti-poaching teams patrolling the forest, and scientists undertaking numerous studies that help us learn more about the gorillas and the best conservation methods.

Karisoke is now also a leading center of education, providing high-level field courses and research opportunities for hundreds of local science students, helping to train the next generation of conservation leaders.





# THE DIAN FOSSEY GORILLA FUND INTERNATIONAL



# Thank you from the CEO and the Chair of the Board

## Fifty years of working together **Saving Gorillas**

When Dian Fossey founded the Karisoke Research Center in 1967, her main goal was to begin a long-term study of mountain gorillas. But she soon came to see how many threats they faced, and that they were in imminent danger of extinction. Thus began what is now 50 years of gorilla protection, successfully bringing this population back to stability.

We are proud to carry on and continue expanding Dian's mission and vision. We still face many challenges, but unlike Fossey, we don't work alone. We have teams of people protecting gorillas every day, as well communities, local authorities, scientists, and our many generous supporters and partners all working together toward saving gorillas.

Our model of conservation – combining daily protection, cutting-edge science, educating local conservationists, and empowering communities – is proven to work and we are now using it to help save the critically endangered Grauer's gorillas in nearby Congo, in an area that has received almost no protection or study. We are pleased to report that, thanks to supporters like you and our amazing staff, 2016 was a record year for us, with significant successes in all of our programs. Some of the highlights include:

- ◆ **No gorillas caught in snares** – for only the second time in a decade
- ◆ **An amazing 12 births** in the gorilla groups we monitor
- ◆ **Opening a gorilla conservation exhibit** for the public at Karisoke
- ◆ **Reaching a record 13,500 people** in our community education programs
- ◆ **Doubling our staff in Congo** to help address the Grauer's gorilla crisis



We feel privileged to carry on this important work, and gratefully honor all of those who have dedicated their lives to this mission over the past 50 years, as well as the generous supporters like you who have made all this possible.

You are among more than 10,500 supporters who make our work a reality. Thank you so much for being part of the gorilla team, and for enabling us to look forward, with great hope, to a future where gorillas are safe and thriving.



Sincerely,

*Tara Stoinski*

**Tara Stoinski, Ph.D.**  
President and CEO/Chief  
Scientific Officer



*Dwight Scott*

**Dwight Scott**  
Chair of the Board of Trustees  
Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund  
Director, San Diego Zoo

# Mission and Strategic Priorities

The Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund has an integrated conservation model for saving the gorillas that we know works, as shown by the increase in the mountain gorilla population in Rwanda over the years since our intensive protection efforts began. We now also use the same model in nearby Democratic Republic of Congo to protect Grauer's gorillas, which are among the world's most-endangered apes.

## OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Our integrated model of conservation includes these four pillars:

- 1 Daily Protection**  
To ensure that gorilla populations are stable, through daily intensive presence in the forest every day.
- 2 Scientific Research**  
To have the best information available for use in preserving the gorillas and their ecosystems.
- 3 Educating Conservationists**  
To equip the next generation of African scientists with the skills they need to address the conservation challenges of the future.
- 4 Helping Communities**  
To create the basic conditions necessary to support effective conservation activities where they are most needed.



OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

# Daily Protection

**GOAL 1** To ensure that gorilla populations are stable. Our long-term data shows that their increase is a direct result of intensive protection.

In Rwanda, we provide daily protection for about half of the mountain gorillas in Volcanoes National Park. Mountain gorillas are the only great ape whose population is increasing, and we have shown with our long-term research data that this type of intensive tracking and anti-poaching is responsible for the increase. In 2016 this included daily protection and anti-poaching patrols for approximately 117 mountain gorillas, currently living in 9-11 groups.

In Congo, our teams work differently because the Grauer's gorillas are not habituated to the presence of humans. Many illegal armed groups operate in the region, making field conditions incredibly dangerous for both humans and gorillas. So, our trackers follow the gorillas at one day's distance, and also use remote cameras, to collect information without disturbing them.



**0** In Rwanda: No gorillas were caught in snares due to intensive protection efforts in 2016.

### Accomplishments in 2016

In Congo: **2x** 

We have doubled our tracking staff and wildlife is returning to the areas we protect.

Conducted new surveys to the east and north of our Congo research station to identify more gorilla groups that need protection.



Our Karisoke trackers received the Conservation Hero award from the Disney Conservation Fund, for their 50 years of successfully protecting gorillas.



Karisoke staff played a major role in the latest count of mountain gorillas throughout the Virungas, with results due in 2017.



Installed **18**  camera traps in Congo forests, capturing photos of gorillas, leopard, owl-faced monkeys, bushpigs, and other mammals, including this family of gorillas.

Accomplishments in 2016



Produced data and analysis to help with the **reclassification of Congo's Grauer's gorillas to "critically endangered."**

**117** individual mountain gorillas observed daily, helping us create the most complete family trees of these animals.



Worked with researchers from universities around the world to **study important aspects of gorilla life, ecology, health, genetics and more.**



OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Scientific Research

**GOAL 2** To have the best information available for use in preserving the gorillas and their ecosystems.

As the world's longest-running gorilla research site, we use cutting-edge science to understand gorillas and their habitats, and to develop effective conservation strategies.





OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

## Educating Conservationists

**GOAL 3** To equip the next generation of African scientists with the skills they need to address the conservation challenges of the future.

The Fossey Fund is dedicated to enhancing the capacity of our staff, as well as university students and aspiring scientists in Rwanda and Congo. By creating educational opportunities for the next generation of scientists and conservationists, we are actively contributing to building the conservation culture in the countries where we work.

### Accomplishments in 2016

**42** Supported 42 of our staff to pursue undergraduate and graduate education, including two master's degree students and one doctoral student.

#### Karisoke

Hosted **396 Rwandan students** for field courses and to **complete their undergraduate studies**, our largest group yet.



#### In Congo:

Fossey Fund staff taught classes at two universities in ecology, natural resources management, sustainable development, and environmental economy.

#### Supported 10 senior thesis projects in

Rwanda. More than 120 Rwandan college students have now completed thesis work at Karisoke and 90 percent have gone on to careers in conservation and science.







OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

## Helping Communities

**GOAL 4** To create the basic conditions necessary to support effective conservation activities where they are most needed.

Conservation cannot be done in isolation, so we work closely with local communities in Rwanda and Congo to address critical needs, especially those that may affect nearby gorilla habitat, like clean water and health care. By engaging local communities where we work, we commit to improving their understanding of gorillas and the unique environment in which they live, and to improving health, well-being and education.



### Accomplishments in 2016



**Reached 13,078 Rwandans**, including more than 5,000 students, through our conservation education programs, and 80 community leaders with conservation training in Volcanoes National Park.



**More than 4,000 people** from 12 villages attended our gorilla conservation movie series, which was translated into the local language and followed by discussions. Many have never seen a gorilla in the wild, despite living so close to the park.

**Launched a farming project** with Congolese families that yielded crops and income for the participants – and provided an alternative to hunting in the forests.



## Gorilla Group Five: Fifty Years and Counting...



**When Dian Fossey began her pioneering study of mountain gorillas in 1967, one of the groups she identified turned out to create a historic legacy of its own.** Today, nearly 50 years later, our staff still follow many of the offspring that originated from this group, including the elderly silverback Cantsbee, who has helped lead a major outgrowth of it since 1995.

Fossey called the initial group “Group Five,” and it contained 12 gorillas at the time, including matriarch Effie, who would later become the grandmother of Cantsbee. The group also included infant Pansy, who would later become the mother of silverback Gicurasi.

### Big changes start in 1993

Group Five lasted until May 21, 1993, when its dominant silverback at the time died and the group split into Shinda’s group and Pablo’s group. A version of Pablo’s group still exists today, led by silverback Cantsbee for more than 20 years and now by his son, Gicurasi. The first dominant silverback – Pablo – led the group for less than two years, ceding dominance to the more effective Cantsbee. Under Cantsbee’s leadership, the group reached a high of 65 gorillas in 2006, the largest gorilla group ever observed!

In 2012, Cantsbee’s son Gicurasi began to challenge his father for leadership of this historic group, but it was a slow and peaceful transition. Father Cantsbee had actually helped raised Gicurasi, after his mother (Pansy) died when Gicurasi was not even 4 years old.

### Long-time leader Cantsbee disappears

On Oct. 10, 2016, Cantsbee was not seen in the group and despite weeks of massive searches, no sign of him was found. He was presumed to have died, at nearly 38 years old, having lived longer than the statistical life expectancy

“I think Dian Fossey would be amazed to see our daily operations to monitor and protect gorillas in Rwanda, how the team at Karisoke has grown, and how it has also inspired us to expand our work to help Grauer’s gorillas in the Democratic Republic of Congo.”

- Felix Ndagijimana  
Director of the Fossey Fund’s Karisoke Research Center and Rwanda programs

for mountain gorillas. But then, on Jan. 4, 2017, he suddenly reappeared in his group! Staff were incredulous and overjoyed, since such an event was unprecedented.

Cantsbee is the last of the dominant silverbacks first observed (and named) by Dian Fossey, who thought his mother was a male until “she” gave birth. Fossey exclaimed “It can’t be,” which evolved into the name Cantsbee.

“I was totally shocked and thought I was dreaming, and I kept asking myself if it is real! It took me time to understand that Cantsbee is still alive — it is like he is resurrected. He has been a surprise since birth and he continues to live up to the name that Dian Fossey gave him,” says Samedi Mucyo, Fossey Fund gorilla monitoring and protection officer. Unfortunately, Cantsbee then disappeared again in February 2017.

Cantsbee’s group continues to persevere, with a current composition of 33 gorillas, including lots of youngsters, so we expect this historic lineage to continue. Our nearly 50 years of monitoring and protection have helped make this long-term group possible and we have learned much from them. We look forward to many more years of learning from these amazing gorillas.

### Fifty years and still learning

The story of this group is now being filmed for National Geographic television, for a three-part series to air in the fall of 2017. Film crews spent weeks in the forest with our trackers in 2016 following these gorillas as they continue to make history.



## Staff profile: Felix Ndagijimana, Director of the Fossey Fund's Rwanda programs

**Felix Ndagijimana became the first Rwandan director of the Fossey Fund's Karisoke Research Center in January 2012.** He now oversees all of the Fossey Fund's gorilla research and protection programs in Rwanda. He leads a staff of more than 115, including trackers, anti-poachers, research assistants, and administrative personnel.

Felix joined Karisoke as a research assistant in 2004 and served as its deputy director after earning a master's degree in primate conservation from Oxford Brookes University (UK) in 2008. But he first learned about Dian Fossey when he was in primary school, and saw a story about the mountain gorillas and Dian Fossey in a children's magazine. A few years later, he had the opportunity to view the movie "Gorillas in the Mist" and learned that the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund had taken over Fossey's original Digit Fund and was continuing her work in Rwanda.

### Events in 2016

There were quite a few interesting events among the Karisoke gorilla groups in 2016, Felix says, including the rare birth of twins, the return of one group from almost a year in Congo, and the completion of the latest mountain gorilla census.

He's also extremely proud to report that the number of Karisoke staff studying for college degrees nearly doubled in 2016, with 39 trackers working on undergraduate studies and several other field staff working on graduate degrees, all with support from the Fossey Fund and its partners. This is in addition to their very demanding full-time jobs!

### A unique and rewarding job

"I think the most special thing about mountain gorillas is their social life and the level of organization they have within their groups, with each individual assuming a certain rank and role within the group. They resemble humans in many aspects," says Felix.

Each day, after the trackers and researchers come back from the park, Felix gets a report from them about the gorillas and all the activities of the day, and may hold a meeting to plan for the next day. But he also spends a lot of his time working with Fossey Fund partners, park authorities, other local organizations, community projects, and weekly planning with program managers.

"I think Dian Fossey would be amazed to see our daily operations to monitor and protect gorillas in Rwanda, how the team at Karisoke has grown, and how it has also inspired us to expand our work to help Grauer's gorillas in the Democratic Republic of Congo," Felix says.

"I am very honored to be the first Rwandan to lead the Karisoke Research Center, and incredibly lucky to be doing what I am doing and working with such a dedicated team at Karisoke."

## Looking Forward: Grauer's gorillas of Congo now at critical level

After decades of extreme survival pressure, the conservation status of Grauer's gorillas, found only in the Democratic Republic of Congo, was officially raised in 2016 to the highest threat level – **critically endangered** – by the International Union for Conservation of Nature. Our chief Congo scientist, Dr. Damien Caillaud, was on the team that carried out the re-assessment.

This change in status confirms what we already know from our work on the ground in the core of Grauer's gorilla range – their situation is dire and they are headed toward extinction in as few as five years, if the current rate of decline continues.

### Fossey Fund brings expertise to crisis

The Fossey Fund is in a unique position to help save this close relative of the nearby mountain gorilla, by applying some of the techniques we have used successfully at our Karisoke Research Center. However, Grauer's gorillas are in such grave danger that we cannot habituate them to the presence of humans, since it makes them susceptible to poaching, so we have adapted our tracking to follow them at a day's distance, without them observing us.



Several years ago, we set up a permanent field station in the core range of the Grauer's gorilla, and now have four

teams of trackers protecting them on a daily basis, with a fifth team in development. Other than separate populations protected by the Congolese wildlife authorities (ICCN) in two national parks, this is one of the only locations where Grauer's gorillas are receiving daily, direct protection. We are now surveying additional areas to confirm the presence of gorillas, to establish where new protection is needed.

Our Congolese tracker teams all come from local villages and we are working closely with these communities and traditional landowners in all of our efforts. This includes helping to set up family farms and other livelihood projects, as well as educational efforts.

### Facing challenge with determination

In 2016, our Congolese trackers faced extra challenges, in addition to the days of strenuous hiking and weeks of camping in the forest that are needed to monitor Grauer's gorillas. In September and October, one of our field teams was briefly held in the forest by an armed rebel group. Yet, they say they are now more determined than ever to save the gorillas.

"We are aware that there is a price to protect Grauer's gorillas. **But to stop their extinction, we are ready to afford that price,**" say our Congo trackers. "These challenges are a reason for us to double our efforts and increase our **commitment** – the future of Grauer's gorillas living in our forest is in our hands!"



## Looking Forward: **Staff profile: Urbain Ngobobo** Director of the Fossey Fund's Congo/Grauer's gorilla programs

**Urbain Ngobobo joined the Fossey Fund in 2011**, and has since established new research and protection programs for the critically endangered Grauer's gorillas in the Democratic Republic of Congo. These include a research program at Kahuzi-Biega National Park, and a full tracking and protection program in the Nkuba-Biruwe area, where Grauer's gorillas live in unprotected forests.

Urbain holds a master's degree in innovation development and society. Before joining the Fossey Fund, he worked with the Zoological Society of London and with the Frankfurt Zoological Society and did field work in several Congolese protected areas, including Virunga, Maiko, Garamba and Upemba National Parks.

Urbain's work for the Fossey Fund is extremely varied, including overseeing program staff, organizing field work, investigating new areas where gorillas may be found, and representing the Fossey Fund with local and international partners. He works very closely with local communities, who face many challenges, including extreme poverty, malnutrition and security concerns. Urbain says his background provides him with the skills and tools to work with these communities, to understand their development needs, appreciate their strengths and weaknesses, and look for opportunities and innovative models to help improve their lives while engaging in critical conservation activities. "This is very important when working in community forests, where there is no model for natural resources management," says Urbain.

### **Community participation growing**

"In 2016, we were able to convince the most reluctant community leaders in the Nkuba area to join and support conservation in their forest and village, extending our network to eight landowners. Plus, we identified an important new gorilla group in a neighboring forest," Urbain says. "And, we are now seeing the differences made by our conservation efforts, as some formerly rare species are now seen regularly in our protection area," he adds.

### **A unique opportunity**

"This work is very important to me and allows me to help protect one of the world's most endangered species, in an area where most conservationists don't want to work because of the many challenges involved. These community forests otherwise receive few protection efforts and so our conservation model is very important."

"Developing a fair and effective community forest management structure is key to protecting the Grauer's gorillas and their habitat."



# 2016 Financial Summary

## The Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund has a long-standing reputation for meeting the highest standards of financial excellence.

We take the same care and precaution to protect our financial resources that we do with our natural resources in the field. We work to ensure that every single dollar we receive is used to its full potential. Once again, we wish to express our appreciation for the generosity of many loyal and generous donors on whom we rely to carry out the vital mission of protecting wild gorillas and their habitats in Africa. From all of us at the Fossey Fund, thank you for making a difference!

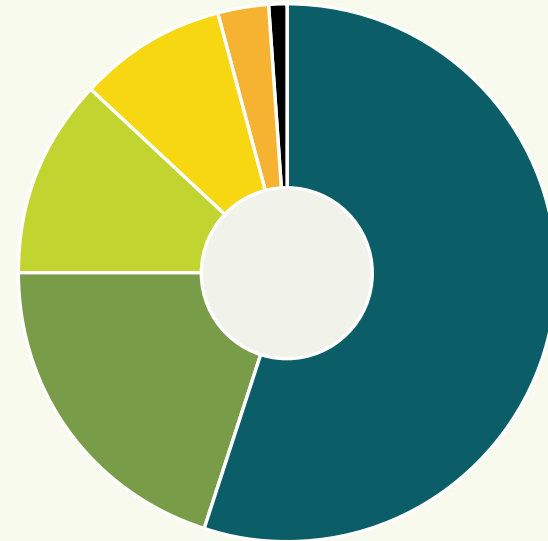


## Sources of Funds

Total Revenue \$ 4,471,731

- 55% Individuals
- 20% Foundations
- 12% Organizations
- 9% Corporations
- 3% Government Grants
- 1% Earned Income

*Includes \$824,993 in pledged revenue to be spent for activities in future years*

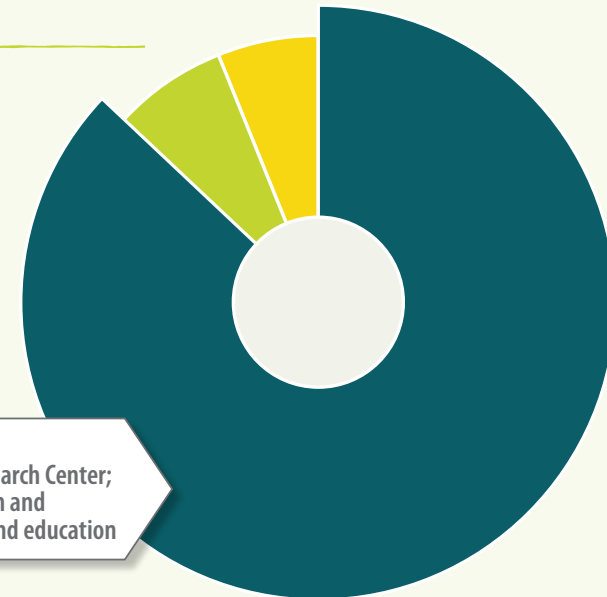


## Uses of Funds

Total Expenses \$ 3,165,329

- 87% Programs
- 7% Fundraising
- 6% Management and General

**Programs,**  
including Karisoke Research Center;  
Grauer's gorilla research and  
conservation; science and education





Mountain gorilla silverback Iyambere

# Our Donors

We are pleased to recognize the following **Dian Fossey Circle donors** for their generosity to the **Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International in 2016**. Members of the Dian Fossey Circle make an annual donation of \$1,000 or more, whether by single gift, recurring giving, cumulative gifts, or in-kind.

## INDIVIDUALS

Joseph D. Acosta  
Estate of Harriet A. Alexander  
Victoria P. Anderson  
Lucy J. Armstrong  
Robert and Amber Auman  
Oliver Baltuch and Michele G. Rissman-Baltuch  
Estate of Jere Lowell Barnhart, Jr.  
William D. Barrett  
Frederick H. Bear  
Michele Becker  
Ivey M. Bedsole  
Alexander A. Belinson  
Jane and Phillip Bellomy  
Rosamond L. Bennett  
Alison N. Bernard  
Anonymous  
Christopher D. Bierly and Margaret E. Boasberg  
Charlotte L. Bischel  
Barbara L. Borylla  
Graeme and Veronique Bradstock  
Diane and Hal Brierley  
Marla M. Bruemmer  
Daniel N. Bruening  
John Bull  
Matthew Burke  
Sharon E. Burke  
Catherine Caitlin  
Gloria M. Castillo  
Kim M. Ciborowski  
Dion F. Coakley  
Lee and Mariella Compton  
Marie-France Côté  
Anonymous  
Julie and Frank Crispigna  
Theresa M. Daniel  
Christy A. Davis  
Anonymous  
Melanie L. DeVore  
Lance and Patricia Disley  
Manjul Dixit  
Mikael Doktor  
Alison L. Doone

Bill and Julie Evans  
Kristopher and Lisa Fabian  
Elisa C. Fasulo  
Nick and Cheri Faust  
Glenn L. Felner  
Wayne E. Ferguson  
Leah and Sam Fischer  
Patricia W. Forrest  
Alan and Karen Fox  
Connie C. Frazier  
Vicki D. Friedberg  
Deborah K. Fulbright  
Dennis Gaitsgory and Natalia Bershadsky  
Francois B. Gaudin  
Susan and William Geoghegan  
Jutta and Ole Georg  
Barbara and Kenneth Glaze  
Lawrence Glen  
Yue Yun Goh  
Russell Goldsmith  
Bob and Lacey Greer  
Karl Griffiths and Anne Maye  
Rita Grolitzer  
Kenneth and Elizabeth Gunn  
Sondra and Stephen Hardis  
Judith C. Harris and Robert Singer  
Robert and Bhanu Harrison  
Kathryn S. Head  
Joan Hero and William Baumgardt  
Polly V. Heyward  
Don and Scarlett Hibner  
Thomas and Ann Hill  
Ellen Hoberman  
Nikki J. Holbrook  
Richard A. Horder  
Ulrich Horn  
Reza Jalili  
Kathy L. Jamison  
Christina H. Jarvis  
Linda A. Jasper  
David and Alexandra Jenkins  
Jeffrey Jenkins  
Estate of John Norris Wood  
Jane B. Johnson

Grace Johnson  
Karen W. Johnson  
Milla Jovovich  
Fernando Juarez  
Judy M. Judd  
Donna Kaplan  
Carol A. Kauffman  
Karen and Phil Kay  
Walter and Margaret Kirsop  
Madelynn Kopple  
Deborah Krupp  
Brigitte Lacouture  
Nicole Lafferty  
John and Diana Lamb  
Anonymous  
Peter and Carolyn Laskas  
Anonymous  
William L. Lewis  
Michael J. Linahan  
David and Malia Litman  
Robert R. Littman  
David and Janette Long  
Roger Lowenstein  
Kristen E. Lukas  
Herb and Shari Lurie  
Pamela B. Lyons  
Margaret A. Macfarlane  
Susan L. Mack  
Elizabeth Magee  
Victoria Marone  
Jon and Diane Marquis  
Redge and Carole Martin  
Dennis P. Martino  
Doretta and Robert Marwin  
Robert J. Maughan  
Wesley McCoy  
Carse McDaniel  
Carl E. McGill  
Rankine McMillan  
Francis X. Melvin  
George R. Mende  
Susanne Meyer-Sparenberg  
Adrienne A. Miller and Lisa G. Dempsey  
Francois Mol

Manuel and Marilyn Mollinedo  
The Monlux Family  
Eugene and Lynn Monroe  
George and Clara Moreno  
John D. Moritz  
Jeffrey and Sharon Morris  
Catherine Morrison and Philip Davies  
Sandra J. Moss  
Marcia Mueller  
Joseph E. Munyaneza  
Thomas J. Myers  
Mark and Vickie Nysether  
Jason and Elizabeth Oberhand  
Armin Osswald Zamorano  
Chip Patterson  
Betsy H. Perry  
Philip V. Petersen  
Keith Peterson and Francois Roux  
Jarrod and Catherine Phillips  
John and Nuri Pierce  
Elizabeth and Felicity Pool  
Natalie H. Portman  
Laura S. Powell and John A. Hartman  
Sandra and Harold Price  
Roberta N. Quait  
Nader Rahmanian  
Donna Rich  
Clare and Nigel Richardson  
Daniel Robert  
Rebecca F. Rooney  
Rick and Elizabeth Ross  
John Rubin  
Rhoda A. Runzheimer  
Keith Salvata  
Thomas P. Scanlan  
Scott Schaeffer  
Pierre F. Schlemel  
Martha Seeligson  
Morris H. Shafter  
William J. Shanahan  
Stanley and Patricia Silver  
Richard Singer  
Nicole Skerry  
Carol Ann and Scott Smallwood

Stanley C. Smith  
Lawrence I. Solomon  
Linda L. Stavola  
Jonathan Steel  
Elizabeth Steele  
Bruce Stern  
Tara Stoinski  
Richard L. Stone  
Leila M. Straus  
Sandor and Faye Straus  
Julie R. Stroup  
Scott and Susan Struthers  
Katie and Dan Sullivan  
Jan and Susan Suwinski  
Patricia G. Swope  
Sheree D. Terra  
Susanne Timmermann  
Robert and Gail Tober  
Christine M. Tomlinson  
Christopher D. Tower  
Eric and Melissa Trautman  
Joanne Truffelman  
Steven and Joanna Tschudy  
Dennis and Sue Umshler  
Richard D. Urell  
Renee Van Dieen  
Jacqueline Vestevich  
Brandee L. Wagner and Eric D. Bischoff  
Charles L. Ward, III  
Andrea G. Watt and Robert A. Teitelbaum  
Brian Weber  
Genevieve Wenger  
Estate of David Wenzel  
Anonymous  
Sage and Doug Wicinski  
Dean and Linda Wierman  
Estate of Betty Carlton Wilkinson  
Kent Williams  
Catherine S. Willis  
Roddy Wong  
Penelope Wright



## ORGANIZATIONS

APE Conservation Effort  
Arcus Foundation through the Jane Goodall Institute  
AZA Ape TAG Conservation Initiative  
Birmingham Zoo  
Chapel Street School  
Cleveland Metroparks Zoo  
Combined Federal Campaign  
Dallas Zoo  
European Outdoor Conservation Association  
Glennwood Elementary  
The Indianapolis Zoological Society  
Jacksonville Zoological Gardens  
Lincoln Park Zoo  
Lions Club Pieve di Cadore  
Little Rock Zoo  
Louisville Zoological Garden  
The Nature Conservancy  
Oklahoma City Zoological Park and Botanical Garden  
Partners In Conservation/Columbus Zoo and Aquarium  
The Phoenix Zoo  
San Diego Zoo  
Sedgwick County Zoological Society, Inc.  
**Zoo Atlanta**

## FOUNDATIONS

William H. Anderson Foundation Inc.  
**Anonymous**  
Aspen Grove Foundation  
Kari & Fred Barton Charitable Foundation  
V. Lorel Bergeron Living Trust  
Bloomstein Family Charitable  
Aaron and Patricia Blumberg Foundation  
Hal & Diane Brierley Foundation  
The Broder Foundation  
Lewis D. Brounell Charitable Trust  
The Casey 1995 Trust  
The Coffman Foundation  
Cooper Family Foundation, Inc.  
The Dillon Fund  
The Double Eagle Foundation  
Gale Epstein Charitable Fund  
Anonymous  
Jane Finkel Family Fund  
Peter Fogliano & Hal Lester Foundation  
The Goergen Foundation, Inc.  
Brickman Gross Family Foundation  
Steve & Debbie Haas Charitable Fund  
Georgette Haigler Jones Trust  
Kasdan Giving Fund  
Kayne Foundation  
Michael and Ina Korek Foundation Trust  
Rosemary & Ted Lassiter Foundation  
Leiden Conservation Foundation  
Connie and Bob Lurie Foundation Inc.  
**Milton and Tamar Maltz Family Foundation**  
Mandler Family Charitable Fund  
Chauncey and Marion D. McCormick Family Foundation  
Margot Marsh Biodiversity Foundation  
Milligan Family Foundation  
**Orange County Community Foundation**  
Josephine Peiser Charitable Foundation  
Ratner Family Foundation  
Reynolds Family Foundation  
Rosenthal Family Foundation  
The Sahsen Fund  
SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Conservation Fund

Frances Seebe Charitable Trust  
The Seedtime Fund, Inc.  
Select Equity Group Foundation  
Shulman-Rochambeau Charitable Foundation  
Stearns Charitable Trust  
Daniel K. Thorne Foundation, Inc.  
David and Deborah Trainer Fund  
**Turner Foundation, Inc.**  
Von Felsing Primate Fund  
Robert A. Waller Foundation  
John & Marilyn Wells Family Foundation  
The Whitley Family Charitable Fund  
Harry L. Willett Foundation  
The Wils Family Fund  
The Wise Family Trust U/T/A

## CORPORATE

African Wildlife Safaris and Tours  
Adobe Systems Incorporated  
Amazon Services, LLC  
Big A, LLC  
Chevron Humankind  
Clearleft Ltd  
Cosmoproject SRL  
Craghoppers  
Disney Worldwide Conservation Fund  
Global Adrenaline, Inc.  
Google  
**Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, LLP**  
**Maine Beer Company, LLC**  
Microsoft Matching Gifts Program  
**Nature's Path Foods, Inc.**  
**Oracle America, Inc.**  
Thanksgiving Coffee Co., Inc.  
Toyota Motor Sales USA  
**Vacations To Go**  
Walt Disney Parks and Resorts  
Wells Fargo Community Support

## GOVERNMENT

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**

## Collaborating Funders

Collaborating funders make significant investments in the Fossey Fund's programs, often providing support over multiple years, creating the foundation for achieving our mutual conservation goals.

## Corporate Sponsors

Sponsors provide financial and in-kind resources, enabling the Fossey Fund to carry out its mission and programs each year.

**More than 10,500 supporters from around the world made our work possible this year.**

Unfortunately, we are unable to gratefully acknowledge each and every one in this Annual Report. We hope that all of our donors know that we are fully aware that every gift – large and small – has a direct and meaningful impact on the survival and flourishing of the wild gorillas we protect and study in Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo. So thank you each one for investing in gorillas through us. We hope to keep earning your trust and enthusiasm!

*Also, please accept our apologies if you discover an error in this listing. We would like to be made aware of the mistake, so please contact our office at 1-800-851-0203 or by email at [info@gorillafund.org](mailto:info@gorillafund.org). Thank you.*

# 2016 Board of Trustees

## HONORARY CHAIR

**Sigourney Weaver**  
*Actor and Conservationist*

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**Dwight Scott** - Chairman  
*Director*  
*San Diego Zoo*

**Judith C. Harris** - Chair Elect/Vice Chair  
*Philanthropist and Conservationist*

**Joanne Truffelman** - Vice Chair  
*Executive Director*  
*Chemistry Atlanta*

**William L. Evans** - Treasurer  
*Special Counsel*  
*Dallas Zoo Management, Inc.*

**Richard A. Horder** - Secretary  
*Partner*  
*Kazmarek Mowrey Cloud Laseter, LLP*

**Greggory Hudson** - Immediate Past Chair  
*Executive Director and CEO*  
*Dallas Zoo and the Aquarium at Fair Park*

**Rebecca Rooney**  
*Philanthropist and Conservationist*

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Christian Bale**  
*Actor and Conservationist*

**Sibi Bale**  
*Actor and Conservationist*

**Oliver Baltuch**  
*CEO*  
*Renderstorm, Inc.*

**Diane Brierley**  
*Philanthropist and Conservationist*

**Michael I. Crowther**  
*President and CEO*  
*Indianapolis Zoological Society*

**Lawrence J. Ellison**  
*Executive Chairman of the Board*  
*and Chief Technology Officer*  
*Oracle Corporation*

**Nick Faust**  
*Resident Scholar*  
*Center for Geographic Information Systems*  
*Georgia Institute of Technology*

**Wayne E. Ferguson**  
*President*  
*The Kennel Club of Philadelphia*

**William R. Foster, DVM**  
*President and CEO*  
*Birmingham Zoo*

**Alicia Grahn Jones**  
*Partner*  
*Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, LLP*

**Kristen Lukas, Ph.D.**  
*Director, Conservation and Science*  
*Cleveland Metroparks Zoo*

**Ruth S. Musgrave**  
*Attorney and Conservationist*

**Mark Penning, BVSc**  
*Director, Animal and Science Operations*  
*Animals, Science and Environment*  
*Walt Disney Parks and Resorts U.S.*

**Sandra L. Price**  
*Philanthropist and Conservationist*

**Andy Serkis**  
*Actor and Conservationist*

**David S. Singer**  
*Vice President*  
*Insero Corporation*

**Daniel K. Thorne**  
*President*  
*Daniel K. Thorne Foundation*

## EMERITUS TRUSTEES

**Glenn L. Felner**  
*Businessman and Rwanda Advocate*

**Terrance Harps**  
*Chairman and CEO*  
*Global Concessions, Inc.*

**Terry L. Maple, Ph.D.**  
*Consultant and Former Zoo Director*

**The Hon. R. Kenton Musgrave**  
*Senior Judge*  
*U.S. Court of International Trade*

**Mary G. Smith**  
*Editor, National Geographic (ret.)*



We rely heavily on individual donors, who provide the funding to support all of our programs and are the key to helping us save gorillas, work with communities, and create a future where all thrive together.

In addition to our collaborating funders and sponsors, the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund depends upon the generous support of marketing partners throughout the world, who provide donations from the sales of their goods and services.

**If you already support our work, we extend our heartfelt thanks and gratitude. For more ways to help, please visit [gorillafund.org](http://gorillafund.org) or call 800-851-0203.**

## Partners and Sponsors

### Collaborating Funders

*Collaborating funders make significant investments in the Fossey Fund's programs, often providing support over multiple years, creating the foundation for achieving our mutual conservation goals.*

ANONYMOUS  
FOUNDATION

THE MILTON AND  
TAMAR MALTZ FAMILY  
FOUNDATION

ORACLE®



### Corporate Sponsors

*Sponsors provide financial and in-kind resources, enabling the Fossey Fund to carry out its mission and programs each year.*

Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, LLP  
Maine Beer Company

Nature's Path – EnviroKidz  
Vacations To Go





**Biodiversity of The Volcanoes National Park (VNP), Rwanda**

**WHAT IS BIODIVERSITY?**  
 Biodiversity or biological diversity is the variability among living organisms of all types, including terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part.

**BIODIVERSITY IN VNP**  
 Volcanoes National Park (VNP) in Rwanda is one of the three national parks forming the Virunga massif. Others two parks are Virunga National Park (VNP) in the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Mgahinga National Park in Uganda. Created in 1925, VNP in Rwanda hosts many animal and plant species that are endemic to the Albertine Rift.

**FLORA**  
 VNP holds more than 900 plant species. Mountain gorillas and golden monkeys eat around 200 and 80 plant species respectively. Bamboo is a key food species for golden monkeys, gorillas and buffaloes. However, bamboo faces illegal harvesting. VNP is made by different vegetation zones:  
 • Lower montane forest: below 2,800m, was mainly lost to agriculture in 1960s.  
 • Bamboo forest: 2,500-2,800m.  
 • Haplophytic forest:  
 • 2,800-3,200m.  
 • Subalpine zone: 3,200-3,600m.  
 • Alpine zone, from 3,600m.

**FAUNA**  
 The park is home to a rich variety of mammal, birds, reptiles, amphibians and insects.

• Large mammals include two primates species: mountain gorilla, and golden monkey, which are endangered and endemic to the Albertine Rift. Both are visited by tourists. Other large mammals living in the park are elephant, buffalo, topi, black-fronted duiker.

• Carnivores: Jackson's civets, genetis, serval cats, and golden cats.

• Birds: many species, as the Turaco (Eupaco johnstoni) and the endangered Grauer's swamp-warbler.

• Amphibians and Reptiles: many species as the chameleon *Chamaeleo nudis* and the endangered tree frog *Leptopelis karisimamensis*.

• Insects: many species as the Albertine Rift *Harpandrius marlieri*.

**IMPORTANCE OF BIODIVERSITY**  
 Animals and plants found in the VNP are very important to the local ecosystem in general and to humans:  
 • Touristic attraction.  
 • Plant substratum.  
 • Soil fertility.  
 • Ecological balance.  
 • Indicators of climate change.  
 • Promote scientific research.  
 • Beauty of the country.  
 • National emblem.

**THREATS TO WILD ANIMALS IN VNP**

**Indirect**

- High human population density around the park.
- Limited buffer zone.
- High level of poverty in community living near the park.

**Direct**

- Habitat loss: forest cleared for agriculture and charcoal production.
- Poaching for subsistent and biodiversity trade.
- Disease.
- Climate change.

**YOU CAN HELP PROTECT BIODIVERSITY**

- Fight fires near home.
- Pick up rubbish to keep areas clean for people and animals.
- Report to leaders any sign of poaching.
- Read books.
- Learn more about laws protecting animals.
- Join a wildlife club.
- Talk kindly and frankly about the importance of wildlife.

**IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT THE BIODIVERSITY OF THE VNP**



Helping people. Saving gorillas.  
 gorillafund.org

*Saving Gorillas*  
 50 Years & Forever

800 Cherokee Avenue  
 Atlanta, GA 30315  
 800-851-0203 • gorillafund.org