

Johnny Morris
WONDERS OF WILDLIFE
— NATIONAL —
MUSEUM & AQUARIUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wonders Of Wildlife Welcomes Baby Gentoo Penguin

Springfield, MO – Johnny Morris’ Wonders of Wildlife National Museum & Aquarium is excited to announce the birth of a healthy gentoo penguin chick, marking an exciting milestone for the aquarium’s animal care team and its ongoing commitment to wildlife conservation and education.

The newest addition to the penguin colony was welcomed on July 19 in the Penguin Cove habitat, where dedicated animal care specialists are closely monitoring its growth and development. The chick is thriving under the attentive care of its proud parents, Dora and Weddell, and the expertise of the Wonders of Wildlife animal care team.

"We're thrilled to celebrate this special addition to our penguin family," said Ben Houghton, Curator of Life Sciences. "Dora and Weddell are doing great, and baby is healthy and growing stronger every day."

Located within the Wildlife Galleries, Penguin Cove is home to Wonders of Wildlife's colony of penguins and provides an immersive experience that connects guests with wildlife from one of the planet's most remote environments. The exhibit helps educate visitors about the importance of protecting marine ecosystems and conserving species around the globe.

Home to more than 35,000 live fish, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and birds, Wonders of Wildlife is dedicated to creating meaningful connections between people and nature through compelling experiences and conservation-focused education.

Guests are encouraged to come and witness the early life stages of one of the world's most beloved seabirds. Over the coming weeks, visitors may observe the chick growing rapidly as it develops its juvenile plumage and gains strength.

Wonders of Wildlife plans to share updates with guests and followers, offering a unique opportunity to watch one of the aquarium's newest ambassadors for conservation take its first steps into the spotlight.

Event Details

What: Announcement of Wonders of Wildlife's new baby penguin

When: Born July 19, 2026

Who: Parents Dora and Weddell, and the Wonders of Wildlife Animal Care Team

Where: Wonders of Wildlife National Museum & Aquarium

About Wonders of Wildlife National Museum & Aquarium

Johnny Morris' Wonders of Wildlife National Museum & Aquarium is a 350,000-square-foot conservation attraction in Springfield, Missouri, featuring more than 35,000 live animals and immersive exhibits that celebrate wildlife, outdoor heritage, and conservation. The attraction includes Penguin Cove, home to a colony of live penguins and educational guest experiences focused on Antarctica's iconic seabirds.

Media Contact

Wonders of Wildlife Communications
press@wondersofwildlife.org
417-818-2600