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Cincinnati Zoo's Tiger Cubs Named

More than 3,000 Names Submitted

CINCINNATI – The Cincinnati Zoo's four-month-old tiger cubs finally have names. After sifting through more than 3,000 names submitted from across the country during the 17-day contest, judges finally selected the four winning names. The panel of judges included four members of the Cat House Animal Care Staff and the Zoo's Curator of Mammals.

"It was a tough decision between names of different origins, meanings and uniqueness," said Mike Dulaney, Cincinnati Zoo Curator of Mammals and Species Survival Plan Subspecies Coordinator for Malayan Tigers. "It came down to what name was fitting and appropriate for each cub."

The four winning names are Tahan (pronounced Tuh-Han, Malaysian for strength and endurance), Bashir (pronounced buh-SHEER, meaning harbinger of good things), Kadar (pronounced kah-DAR, meaning powerful) and Tanvir (pronounced Tan-Veer, meaning strong). Bashir was submitted by Christina Martin of Cincinnati, Ohio. Kadar was submitted by Rachel Gaines of Kettering, Ohio. Tahan was submitted by Ian Gabby of Oxford, Ohio and Tanvir was submitted by Christine Tan of Cincinnati, Ohio. Multiple entries of the winning names were placed in a random drawing for the final winner to be chosen. All four winning entries will receive a Basic Family Level Membership to the Cincinnati Zoo.

Cincinnati Zoo visitors can see Tahan, Bashir, Kadar and Tanvir with their mother every day from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Tiger Canyon.

The Malayan Tiger (*Panthera tigris jacksoni*) is one of six living subspecies of tiger. Currently, the Malayan tiger is considered endangered. There are 54 Malayan tigers living in North American AZA accredited zoos and it is estimated there are less than 1,000 remaining in the wild. The Cincinnati Zoo has had Malayan tigers since 1990 and has produced 28 cubs since that time.

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The world famous Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden was rated the #1 attraction locally and one of the top zoos in the nation by Zagat Survey. It was recognized by Parents Magazine as #7 on the "Top 10 Best Zoos for Kids." It has also been recognized by Child Magazine as one of "The 10 Best Zoos for Kids." Over one million people visit the Zoo's award-winning exhibits, and more than 500 animal and 3000 plant species annually. The Zoo is an accredited member of the American Zoo & Aquarium Association (AZA) and the American Public Gardens Association (APGA), is internationally known for its success in the protection and propagation of endangered animals and plants, and engages in research and conservation projects worldwide.