

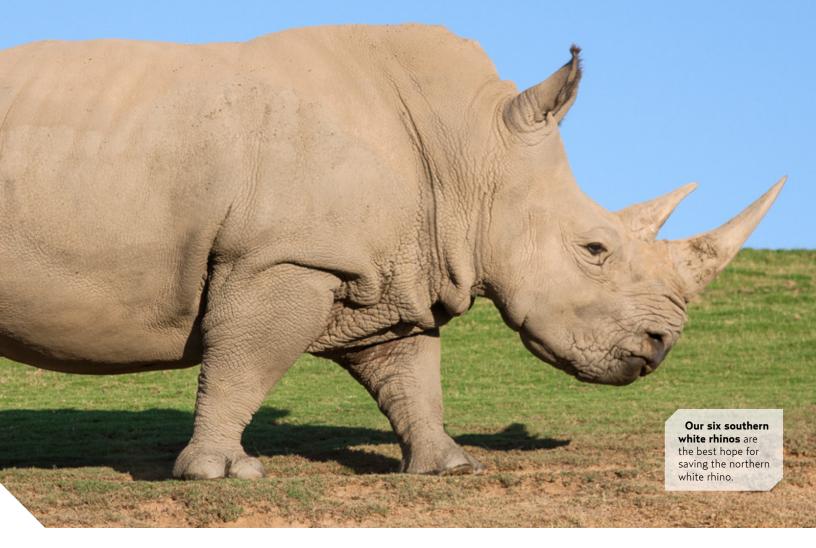


FROM THE LANGE OF THE LANGE OF

Nikita Kahn Rhino Rescue Center

BY JUSTIN WEBER | DIGITAL FUNDRAISER, DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

PHOTOS BY KEN BOHN | SDZC PHOTOCRAPHER



s a young girl growing up in Ukraine, Nikita Kahn fell in love with animals at an early age. Like many of us, her dogs, cats, and even her grandmother's farm animals were among her best friends. "Animals are innocent and beautiful," she shared. "They bring happiness to our lives every day, and some of my best friends are animals." Today, as an animal advocate, one of her newest friends is a 2,861-pound southern white rhinoceros named after her!

Nikita the rhino, along with five of her gal pals, arrived at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park last November as part of San Diego Zoo Global's efforts to save their cousin, the northern white rhino. A year ago there were five northern white rhinos left on our planet, but with the passing of Nabire last July, and our beloved Nola last November, today only three remain on Earth.

Nikita Kahn first met Nola during a visit to the Safari Park and fondly remembers their time together: "It touched my heart. I'm forever grateful to have met Nola." It was an encounter that would change the course of rhino conservation forever.

With time quickly running out for Nola's species, a sanctuary for rhino conservation needed to be built—and it needed to be done quickly! Nikita Kahn came forward with a transformational gift and was joined by 3,000 others to build a home for 6 southern white rhinos



en route from South Africa to join the rescue effort.

The Nikita Kahn Rhino
Rescue Center officially opened on
May 18, 2016, and Nikita and other
top-level donors welcomed the
rhino residents to California.
Nikita's vision for the Rhino
Rescue Center was clear:

"We hope to save the northern white rhino from extinction. I'm so very proud to be a part of this important effort to save these majestic animals."

At this one-of-a-kind safe haven, San Diego Zoo Global scientists, veterinarians, and animal care staff will partner with others from around the globe to discover alternative methods of assisted reproduction and create the cutting-edge technology that will be necessary to save the northern white rhino from extinction.

Our battle to save Nola's species will be challenging. In fact, many of the techniques we are developing have never been attempted, much less used successfully! But as an

organization on the forefront of saving species, we know that with the generous support of newfound friends like Nikita, and countless others like you, we can save these iconic animals so that Nola's family will be here to meet your family for generations to come.

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"We all came into this world with a responsibility to protect and preserve the planet that we inherited and pass it on undiminished to future generations."

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Number of rhinos killed every day

Rhinos like Nola and Nikita are disappearing at an alarming rate. San Diego Zoo Global is leading the fight to save these critically endangered species—but we need your help! Become part of this revolutionary effort to save them and learn more about this state-ofthe-art center dedicated to rhinos by visiting sandiegozoo.

org/rhinos.