

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

---

**Michelle Lujan Grisham**  
Governor

**Sarah Cottrell Propst**  
Cabinet Secretary Designate

**Christy Tafoya, Acting Director**  
State Parks Division



## News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**January 11, 2019**

Contact: Christina Cordova 505-476-3363; E-mail: [christina.cordova@state.nm.us](mailto:christina.cordova@state.nm.us)  
Beth Wojahn 505-476-3226; E-mail: [beth.wojahn@state.nm.us](mailto:beth.wojahn@state.nm.us)

## **CELEBRATE MAGGIE BEAR'S BIRTHDAY AT LIVING DESERT ZOO AND GARDENS STATE PARK**

**Carlsbad, NM** - New Mexico State Parks invites you to celebrate Maggie's 14<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party on Saturday, January 19, 2019. Maggie, the Park's black bear, has become a local celebrity because she paints with her feet.

Maggie was orphaned at the age of one month and was raised by a wildlife rehabilitator in Missouri until she found a home at the Living Desert Zoo and Gardens State Park when she was five months old. General Curator Holly Payne started Maggie on her artistic career shortly afterward as a behavioral enrichment activity.

- Guess Maggie's weight for a chance to win a painting by our famous bear.
- Watch Maggie unwrap her edible birthday gifts at 12:30 p.m.
- Face Painting, activities, and crafts from 1 to 3 p.m.
- At 2 p.m. and 3 p.m., a docent will read "Maggie's First Birthday," a children's story written and illustrated by former Docent Coordinator Susan Young.
- Maggie paintings and t-shirts are available for sale.

All visitor center activities are free, but regular admission fees apply to enter the zoo to see Maggie: children 6 and under free, 7-12 years \$3; 13 and older \$5. For more information call the park at (575) 887-5516.



Maggie Bear rips open her birthday present during the party



###

*The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection and renewable energy resource development services to the public and other state agencies.*

1220 South St. Francis Drive • Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505  
Phone (505) 476-3355 • Fax (505) 476-3361 • [www.nmparks.com](http://www.nmparks.com)