



Panel of Judges for the Andean Bear Calendar Photo Contest

Armando Castellanos is one of the world's leading experts on the Andean bear and as far as we know is the only person successfully reintroducing captive Andean bears to the wild to improve genetic diversity in this endangered species. Armando researches Andean bears in Ecuador and is the President of the Andean Bear Foundation. www.andeanbear.org/armando-castellanos.html

Leonardo Arias is a veterinarian with extensive experience in wildlife. He has worked with Andean bear expert Armando Castellanos since 1998, and attended to dozens of Andean bears. Leonardo is President of the "Colegio de Medicos Veterinarios de Pichincha" (College of Veterinary Doctors of Pichincha [the province of Ecuador in which Quito, the capital, is situated]).

Rich and Margie Wagner are photographers and owners of **WildNaturePhotos, LLC**, an Arizona-based company that produces world-class imagery of wildlife, nature and environmental subjects. Rich and Margie's film/digital image collection represents a combined 35+ years of field work, with an emphasis on the natural history of birds, reptiles and other venomous animals, the Sonoran Desert, and Central and South America. Their first book, **Tread Lightly: Venomous and Poisonous Animals of the Southwest**, was published by Rio Nuevo Publishers in 2006. <http://stock.wildnaturephotos.com/>

Else Poulsen has worked at the Calgary and Detroit zoos and is known internationally for her captive bear husbandry and rehabilitation. In 2000 she won the Zookeeper Research Excellence Award from the American Zoo and Aquarium Association's Bear Taxon Advisory Group. She works as an animal management consultant for zoos, sanctuaries, wildlife rehabilitators, and other animal welfare groups and lives in southern Ontario. She is the author of **Smiling Bears- A Zookeeper Explores the Behavior and Emotional Life of Bears**, published by Greystone Books in 2009, and is currently working on her second book.

Amy Evans has worked at the Phoenix Zoo for five years as zoo keeper specializing in primates and carnivores. She is currently the Secretary of the Phoenix Chapter of the American Association of Zoo Keepers and the Andean Bear keeper. This year and last the Phoenix Chapter of the American Association of Zoo Keepers has chosen to support the Andean Bear Foundation through staging the Billiards for Bear Tournament in Phoenix. www.phoenixaazk.org/index.html

Geneviève Hamlin is a self-confessed arctophile and the creator of bear website www.surlespasdesours.fr/?lng=en. She is currently working on a book about bears to be published later this year. She has also brought Fundación Andígena's educational materials to the classrooms of French students learning Spanish through the "Club Amigos del Oso Frontino". Geneviève lives in Angers, France and helps to promote bear conservation in the college where she works.

Trish Stoll is the owner of **Mostly Bears** in Tucson, AZ. Her motto is "When all else fails, hug your bear". Trish obviously loves bears and sells an amazing assortment of Steiff, Charlie Bears, one-of-a kind artist bears, and bear-making supplies. She also loves raising money for charity and hosts raffles and other fund-raising events at her store and on-line, and is a true friend of the Andean Bear Foundation. www.mostlybears.com/

Sarah Clifford helps the Andean Bear Foundation as online coordinator of the various outreach, education and volunteer programs, both local and international. A volunteer herself, she is perhaps better known to friends of Bubu and Coya as "the secretary". www.andeanbear.org