

L.A. Parent

SMART CONNECTIONS

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JUNE 2016

PARTY GUIDE
INSIDE

Our
(Full-Throttle)
2016
Dad Hero



Dealing with bad moods, and the importance of CPR

Chat Room

Sandra Tsing Loh: Using Comedy to Lower the Bar for Moms



on the cover

L.A. Parent 2016 Dad Hero Eric Castellanos enjoys the "Dinosaurs: Unextinct" exhibit at the Los Angeles Zoo (www.lazoo.org) with his sons Nick, 16, and Eric Jr., 7, and his daughter Catherine Amelia, 10. Photo by Joe Gonzales Photography (www.joegonzales.net). Clothing by GAP (www.gap.com). **The Zoo gave L.A. Parent special access to the exhibit for this photo shoot. The general public is not permitted inside the dino enclosures, but you can still get great photos. See page 13 for details.**

Zoo Rules

L.A. Parent had exclusive up-close access to the dinos in the "Dinosaurs: Unextinct" exhibit at the Los Angeles Zoo for our cover photo of Dad Hero Eric Castellanos and his kids. Zoo visitors aren't allowed to climb inside the enclosures the way the Castellanos family did, or to touch the dinosaurs – even for photo opps. But the Zoo has you covered!

After you've visited the 17 life-size animatronic dinosaurs (using the cool augmented-reality smart phone app to see 3D views of the dinosaurs and look at other special content, and dodging around the Dilophosaurus and her baby – who will try to spit on you), take a turn at the controls of the Stegosaurus robot, then stop by the Fossil Dig to uncover replicas of Maiasaura bones.

Now you're ready for a picture-perfect finish. Take your camera over to the huge Pachyrhinosaurus (also known as the "Selfie-saurus"), and lean in for a hashtag-worthy dino-size shot. For a close-up without getting too close, step in front of the exhibit's green screen photo opp, which will make it look like you are facing off against a roaring Tyrannosaurus rex, without the danger or dino breath.

The exhibit runs from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. through Oct. 31. Admission is free for kids under age 2 and \$5 for all others, plus Zoo admission of \$20 adults, \$15 ages 2-12. Fee for green screen photos starts at \$16.99. Learn more at www.lazoo.org.



Pose with a life-size Pachyrhinosaurus (but no climbing, please) for your "Selfie-saurus" photos at the L.A. Zoo.



Try the green screen photo opp for a hashtag-worthy faceoff with a raging T-rex.

PHOTOS COURTESY LOS ANGELES ZOO