

ARIZONA-SONORA  
**DESERT  
MUSEUM**



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## **Beloved Resident Bear Passes at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum**

**TUCSON** –January 2, 2014 – After delighting visitors on exhibit for over five years, the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum’s cherished cinnamon-phase black bear passed away on December 31, 2014. She was 15-1/2 years old.

“All of us at the Desert Museum are extremely saddened by this unanticipated loss. This beautiful cinnamon-shaded bear was a member of the Desert Museum family and will be greatly missed by us and all those who were fortunate enough to be touched by her during her lifetime,” states Craig Ivanyi, the Museum’s Executive Director.

The bear’s passing was unexpected and a post-mortem examination was performed by the Arizona Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (a division of the University of Arizona). The initial findings indicate the cause of death to be acute cardio-pulmonary failure pending a histo-pathology report.

The Desert Museum is dedicated to providing the highest quality veterinary care to its animals. Keeper and curatorial staff work on a daily basis to ensure that animals are in good health and consult with Desert Museum veterinarians on a regular basis. The bear’s last veterinary exam was performed in November 2014.

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The cinnamon-phase black bear came to the Desert Museum from Southwest Wildlife and Rehabilitation Center in Scottsdale, Arizona in November 2009. The Desert Museum has had a long relationship with Southwest Wildlife and Rehabilitation Center. This charismatic bear will be deeply missed by the entire Desert Museum family.

### **The Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum**

The Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum is one of the nation's leading outdoor, living museums, featuring more than 230 animals and 1,200 varieties of desert plants. Its mission is to inspire people to live in harmony with the natural world by fostering love, appreciation, and understanding of the bi-national Sonoran Desert region. The museum is located at 2021 N. Kinney Road, in Tucson Mountain Park adjacent to Saguaro National Park (West). It is open daily year round with operating hours varying by season. Call (520) 883-2702 or visit [www.desertmuseum.org](http://www.desertmuseum.org) for more information.

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