



# Monte L. Bean Life Science Museum Brigham Young University

## BYU Student Employee of the Year - Nathan Hawks

At BYU, there are a variety of student jobs. Once a year, supervisors from all over campus are given the chance to nominate one of their employees for BYU student employee of the year. This year one of the members of the “Bean Team” was nominated and chosen as the winner! The Bean Life Science Museum is lucky to have so many great educators, but Nathan Hawks has always been known to go above and beyond what is expected of him. He has worked at the museum for 2 years. He created a new education program called Discovery Drawing where he helps kids learn to draw animals while teaching them about the animals they are drawing. This idea came to him because when he was little he would love to come to the museum and draw the animals, so he wanted to share that passion with others. When asked how he felt about winning BYU student of the year, Nathan said, “I was very flattered, it came as a complete



surprise. It was a really cool experience. I hope it means I get to keep my job for a long time. Nathan’s supervisor, Katy Knight said, “Nathan’s talents in a variety of areas makes him one of the most unique, dynamic, and valuable employees I’ve ever had at the museum. His outgoing and approachable personality make him valuable as a docent, his knowledge about animals and science allow him to focus on teaching students and patrons rather than content or script.” The Museum is very excited and lucky to have Nathan as an employee and we hope to see many more great things from him.

*Candace Elmont, museum educator*



### IN THIS ISSUE:

- From the director - Larry St. Clair
- Collections Corner - Mammals with Dr. Duke Rogers
- Junior Naturalist Summer Camp with Thanksgiving Point
- Exhibits Spotlight - Monte Bean’s Bengal Tiger
- Adventures of Katy & Ken the Conservation Kids

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BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY

Museum Newsletter

BRIGHAM YOUNG  
UNIVERSITY

645 East 1430 North  
Provo, UT 84602

East of the Marriot Center

FREE ADMISSION

## From the director - Larry St. Clair

During April, with a generous gift from Fred and Sue Morris, the museum will install beautiful new cabinetry in the Morris Bird Gallery. We deeply appreciate Fred and Sue's support of the museum and look forward to this impressive addition to the bird space. The gallery will now be home to the museum's collection of the world's waterfowl – the most complete collection available anywhere in the world! At this point we are missing 12 species – 8 of which are still obtainable. Over a period of many years Fred Morris has diligently worked to secure male and female specimens of every species of water fowl. All specimens have been obtained in strict accordance with federal and international laws and treaties and



with the appropriate permits. As you visit the gallery and admire the beautiful birds, also take a moment and look at the variety and beauty of the natural wood bases. The taxidermy

work was done by Troy Garner and the crafting of the bases was by a local artist – Kelly Thurgood. The new cabinetry will accentuate the natural beauty of the birds and create a remarkable environment for observing and appreciating this unique and impressive collection of the world's waterfowl! With the changes in the Morris Gallery, the Peacock display, also in new cabinetry, will now move to either side of the east-facing entrance of the President Boyd K. Packer Gallery – a beautiful addition to the east center atrium and an appropriate accent to President Packer's gallery.

We are also working on several exciting new exhibits that will come online over the next couple of years. For example, we are looking forward this fall to the opening of the "Quest for Knowledge" exhibit which will occupy the alcove just outside the museum's offices and will feature several innovative and exciting technical features. We are also gearing up to begin work on the "Discover Utah" exhibit on the 3rd level of the addition – which will provide our students and the public with a remarkable opportunity to explore the biodiversity, complexity, and beauty of several natural Utah landscapes. This exhibit has been on our table for several years and now with a generous gift from the Wadman family we are able to move forward with this amazing exhibit! The museum is a dynamic environment – we are constantly thinking about what will work better and make the museum an even more engaging experience for all of our guests!

## Junior Naturalist Summer Camp

(new partnership program with Thanksgiving Point Institute)

Don't miss your chance this summer to join us in our limited admission Junior Naturalist program. Registrations are open NOW. The camp will be from July 6-9 from 9am-3pm, and is for grades 4-6. For this special program the Monte L. Bean Life Science Museum will be partnering with the Thanksgiving point institute for an exciting time of adventure and discovery! Junior Naturalists will spend three days exploring nature, as well as participating in the process of collecting, recording, preparing, identifying and sharing. Registration is limited so don't wait!



*Kelsey Fackrell,  
museum educator*

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## Collections Corner - Mammology with Dr. Duke Rogers

Growing up, my dad had a career in the Army, so we lived in all over – Europe, New Jersey, South Carolina and I went to High School in Texas. Now, I am a university professor, and the mammal curator for the Monte L. Bean Life Science Museum. My job entails a combination of teaching, curating, serving on committees and research. BYU professors divide their efforts into scholarship (research), citizenship (examples are work on committees and curating the mammal collection) and teaching (undergraduate classes and student mentoring). My work week



varies because sometimes I am away doing field work or spending a lots of time grading papers. I like what I do because it is quite varied. I also love what I do because I get to work with animals, which is my passion, I developed this love while enjoying the outdoors as a kid and then by taking specialized classes as an undergraduate. I decided to go to graduate school and study mammals, specifically, after taking a class in Mammalogy my junior year in college – my undergrad was in Wildlife and Fisheries Science, and included many truly amazing field trips. I love my position at the Bean Museum. Of all of my responsibilities, museum curating is the best, and filing reports is the worst. I have found that working to become a good educator has been the most challenging. However, having positive student feedback is the most rewarding, so those two things go hand in hand. Most people think that because I am a professor I spend all or most of my time teaching, but I do much more. I love my job because of the different things that I do. It is (almost) never boring and I feel very lucky to be able to have a job where I get to learn and pass on some of that insight to my students.

## Exhibit Spotlight - Bengal Tiger

The Bengal Tiger located in the south hallway of the museum is originally from India and is over 50 years old. It was originally hunted by Monte L. Bean himself in 1966. At the time, wildlife in the country of India was flourishing. After unsuccessfully hunting from a machan, or hunting platform, Monte's guide had him try spotlighting at night. They did this from an open jeep which almost resulted in Mr. Bean being thrown from the vehicle. In spite of these obstacles, he was successful and we now have this Tiger on display. Tigers are now endangered and India has put in place 48 tiger reserves to help protect this majestic hunter, the largest of the cat family. It is also the national animal of India and is a part of many different cultures to represent power and energy. The tiger is one of the greatest animals and we should cherish and lend our efforts to protect it as much as possible.



*Chris Jacobs,  
museum educator*

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# Museum Event Calendar

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## Daily Events & Programs:

*Free Public Live Animal Shows*

- Mon: Utah's Diversity at 6:30 PM  
Adaptations at 7:30 PM
- Tues: Adaptations at 7:30 PM
- Wed: Utah's Diversity at 7:30 PM
- Thurs: Classification at 7:30 PM
- Fri: Adaptations at 7:30 PM
- Sat: Animal Discovery at 1 PM  
Animal Comparisons at 3 PM

## Weekly Events & Programs:

*Discovery Reading - Thursdays at 11AM*

## Monthly Events & Programs:

*Conservation Kid Visits*

First Sat of the month from 2-3 PM

*Discovery Drawing*

Second Sat of the month from 2-3 PM

## Summer Camps & Programs:

*Wildlife Adventures (children ages 6-12)*

- June 14 & 16 - Water Wildlife
- June 21 & 23 - Rock On
- June 28 & 30 - The Bees Knees
- July 12 & 14 - Feathered Friends
- July 29 & 31 - Reptile Retreat
- July 26 & 28 - Animal Occupations
- Aug 2 & 4 - Cave Crawlers

*Junior Naturalist Summer Camp (3-4 grade)*

July 11-15, 9AM - 3PM

Mon - Bean Museum

Tues - Thanksgiving Point

Wed - Bean Museum

Thurs - Thanksgiving Point

Fri (morn) - Thanksgiving Point

Fri (afternoon) - Thanksgiving Point

*Visit our website ([mlbean.byu.edu](http://mlbean.byu.edu)) for more information on any of these events or programs.*

# The Adventures of Katy and Ken, the Conservation Kids

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*Nathan Hawks,  
museum educator*