



For Immediate Release

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Media Contact: Jody Gray, El Dorado County Fair CEO at  
530.621.5860 or Suzanne Wright [Suzanne@eldoradocountyfair.org](mailto:Suzanne@eldoradocountyfair.org)

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## Monkeys Steal the Show

“Wild About Monkeys” Live Performance Plays Three Times  
Daily at the El Dorado County Fair, June 16-19

Placerville, CA (June 10, 2011) -- It's bananas...but what else would you expect from a pack of Baboons? At the “Wild About Monkeys” show at the El Dorado County Fair in Placerville this year, you can expect a lot of laughs and, well, monkey business.

"Wild About Monkeys" is a captivating, live animal encounter. The show is educational and entertaining and features trainers Kevin and Martina Keith and their five baboons.

The Keiths, of the Napa Valley, are good at bringing the animals' personalities out on stage. The most lovably flamboyant of those belong to Dagney and Mickey.

They're movie and TV stars, after all.

Dagney and Mickey have performed in movies such as "Evan Almighty," "The Rundown," starring Dwayne Johnson, aka The Rock; and they've done commercials for the Super Bowl. In 2003 they starred in a commercial for Sierra Mist, one of the top ranking Super Bowl TV ads of all time, according to Keith.

The rest of the monkey troop ranges in age from about two years old to 23 year old Azuma, a Mandrill baboon with a colorful blue face and a nose that is bright red when he is "feeling good," Kevin Keith said. Azuma performed in "Tears of the Sun," starring Bruce Willis.

Martina Keith has been working with the primates for about nine years. Her husband has been at it for over 25 years.

"A lot of people think they're aggressive," Martina Keith said of the baboons, "but that's why we take them on the road, because they have a personality. The Mandrill baboon is the only one of his kind to be safely and humanely handled on stage today."

The performance isn't all about the monkeys. There are appearances by the bright-colored bird Chico, a sun conure parrot that will show the crowd the value of a dollar; and the dog Manney, a Louisiana Catahoula.

Kevin Keith said the exotic animals were all born in the United States.

"People think we're snagging monkeys from the wild. Two of our monkeys were rescues from biomedical research."

The Keiths travel around the country with their band of primates. Their performances are equally educating as entertaining.

In fact, when a movie producer needs a performing baboon, chances are they will call Kevin and Martina Keith. Training baboons is their specialty. They believe baboons to be the most socially intelligent primate, by far, and theirs is the only traveling animal exhibition that features trained baboons.

The "Wild About Monkeys" show performs in the Plaza Area three times daily at the El Dorado County Fair, Thursday, June 16 through Sunday, June 19; admission is free with entry to the Fair.

## Calendar

"Wild About Monkeys" live animal encounter  
June 16-19, three shows daily  
Plaza Area, El Dorado County Fairgrounds  
100 Fairgrounds Drive, Placerville CA  
Free with admission to the Fair

The 2011 El Dorado County Fair, themed "Rockin' & Wranglin'", will take place Thursday through Sunday, June 16 to 19 in Placerville. For more information, visit [eldoradocountyfair.org](http://eldoradocountyfair.org) or call the Fair office at 530.621.5860.

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