



# Highlights & Accomplishments

2023-2025

**LUBEE BAT CONSERVANCY**





Hello,

From the Board, staff, and animals at Lubee Bat Conservancy, Thank You for supporting our organization. Because of your generosity, we continue to make a significant impact in the lives of the bats at Lubee and imperiled species around the world.

We are once again excited to share with you our Highlights and Accomplishments from the past two years. In this report, you'll read about the many milestones we've reached, from forest protection to acquiring bats in need of forever homes. Every success is a direct result of your belief in our mission, and we are deeply grateful for the trust you've placed in us.

Although the past few years have been fruitful, rising costs coupled with a decline in funding have forced us to become increasingly financially resilient. Attempting to keep pace with the mounting pressure on bat populations and operating a world renowned facility means leveraging every dollar that Lubee gratefully receives. We hope you are proud of what we have achieved with diminished funds and our commitment to the animals at Lubee, their wild counterparts, education, social media, and the overall future of bat welfare, care, and conservation.

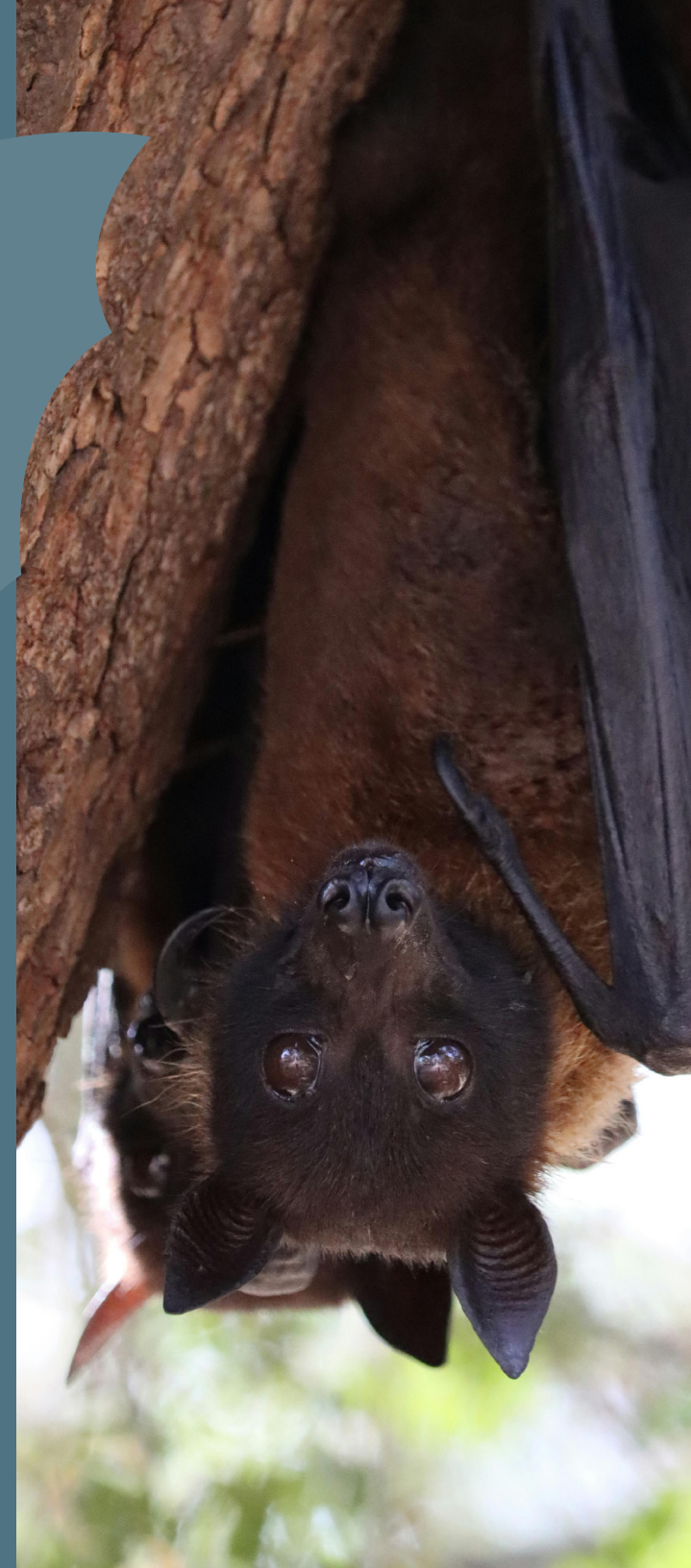
On the following pages are some of the highlights since 2023, and a look into the future of Lubee. As we reflect on these accomplishments, we are inspired by the potential of what can be achieved in the years ahead, and look forward to continuing this journey of growth, impact, and transformation together.

Please enjoy our report; we welcome any feedback you may have. Thank you for always supporting our bats, staff, and organization.

Sincerely,

*Brian Pope*

Director  
Lubee Bat Conservancy





The animals at Lubees are the heart and soul of our organization and we continuously strive to ensure their individualized care exceeds current zoological standards.

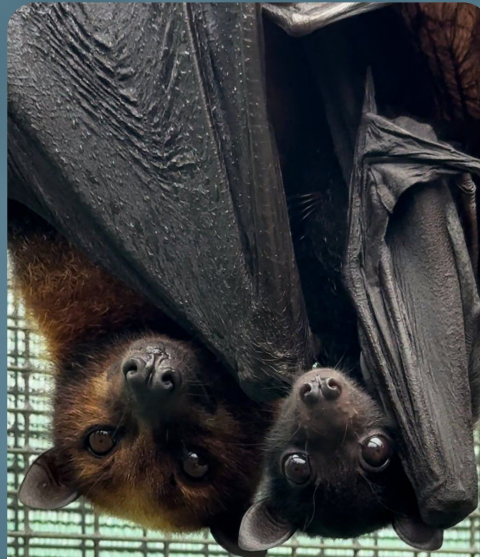
Although we mourn the inevitable passing of beloved animals, we marvel in the little things our bats do every day. From watching new friendships form, to observing them solve complex enrichment puzzles. We are so fortunate to work with these enigmatic species and happy to share their secrets with millions of people around the world.

- Lubees welcomed seven adorable Variable Flying Fox pups in 2024. These wonderful additions are doing great and 'almost' independent from their moms.
- 59 bats found forever homes at Lubees. 51 Straw-colored Fruit Bats, 4 Rodrigues Fruit Bats, and 1 Indian Flying Fox. These bats were in desperate need and it has been rewarding to watch them explore their habitats and feel sun and rain for the first time. We also acquired 1 Evening Bat, 1 SE myotis, and 1 Mexican Free-tailed Bat from a local vet practice. We are happy to provide all of them with the care and love they deserve.

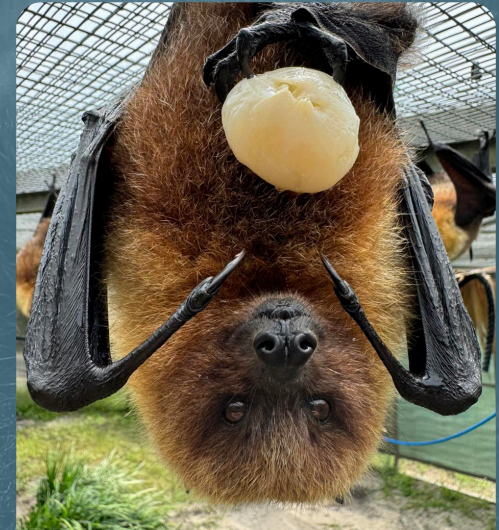
Lubees continues to provide excellent care to our beautiful collection thanks to you. Donors have significantly helped with rising food and medical costs. All of the animals THANK YOU! Want to order food, snacks, and enrichment for the bats?



CHECK OUT OUR AMAZON WISH LIST



*Mom Chibi and pup Cricket*



*Rodrigues Fruit Bat, Jigglypuff,  
enjoying a lychee*



*Some of the new Straw-colored Fruit Bats  
enjoying the outdoors*

## What's Next...

We are currently in discussion to acquire 11 Indian Flying Foxes that need a permanent home and are anxiously awaiting the arrival of Malayan and Variable Flying Fox pups. Stay tuned!



The dramatic transformation of our facility and grounds that has been essential to our long-term growth and appeal, has proceeded well into 2025. We continue to enhance aesthetics and make the property warm, inviting, and visually stimulating for all visitors.



### Oak Hollow

Lubee staff took an overgrown area of property and turned it into Oak Hollow – 33,000 sq. ft. of beautiful expanse nestled under oak trees hundreds of years old. This space is ideal for events and small groups looking to connect with nature.

### Roofs

The final four roofs in need of repair have all been replaced. That's nine total over the past few years. Thank you, donors!



### Murals

What better way to liven up our buildings than by adding colorful and engaging murals. Local artists were given free rein to showcase their fun bat interpretations. *Mural by Ari Uberti.*

### Kitchen

After 35 years, it was time for an upgrade. The Lubee staff completely renovated the kitchen by removing all cabinets and replacing with stainless steel racks, shelves, and tables.



### Wildlife Friendly Habitats

Lubee continued to create and enhance pollinator habitats bringing the total to 18. There has been a significant increase in birds (the bird feeders probably helped), bees, butterflies, and moths.

### Color!

Out with the old Lubee gray and in with reds, greens, and soft neutral colors. The barn, office, kitchen, and emergency animal shelter building all received dramatic makeovers that brings brightness and visual appeal to the facility.

## What's Next...

Property-wide assessments are conducted every January to determine the status and usage of existing structures and open spaces. A proposal has been drafted and is being implemented. Some of the projects include a large gazebo in Oak Hollow, new murals, and an educational feature showcasing actual sizes of the world's largest (and strangest) animals.





Ever heard of Dr. Jane Goodall? We're guessing you have. In Sep 2024, Lubee presented at a summit Dr. Goodall's organization hosted (and she attended) to engage children and inspire them to take action. It was an honor to be there. The following highlights some of the partnerships and opportunities Lubee undertakes to educate people of all ages.



### Discovery/LEGO

What a great experience we had teaming up with Discovery Education and LEGO to create the Night Navigators virtual field trip which showcased bat play behaviors, their importance to farmers, and how students can help bats thrive!

### Hope In Action - Youth Environment Summit

We were incredibly privileged and humbled to participate in Dr. Goodall's summit where children learned how they can make a lasting impact to preserve species and habitats.

## What's Next...

Lubee staff is currently updating the website and offering more educational content. Our live chats will be expanded to engage a larger audience. Additional signs, displays, and interactives are currently being created. Bat Fest 2025 will take place Saturday, Oct 25.



### Education Stations

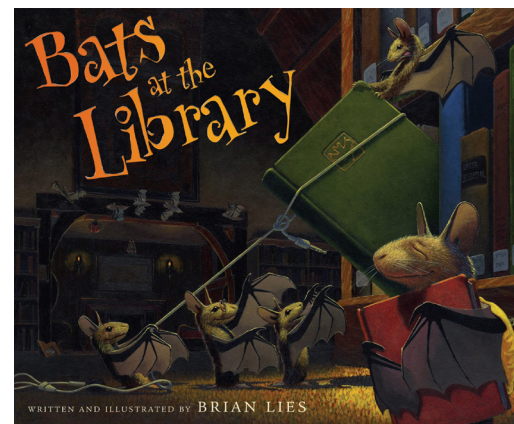
Nine stations were added throughout property for guests to learn about Lubee, the facility, and native wildlife.

### Tours

Since 2022, we have seen a 100%+ increase in VIP and school tours. Demand has been so high that we are now scheduling two tours/day.

### USDA Bat Welfare Symposium

Delivering the keynote speech and a presentation on fruit bat enrichment, Lubee staff highlighted this two day global symposium focused on bat care and management.



### Bats at the Library

We made the popular children's book come to life. Throughout the summer months, Lubee visits numerous local libraries where guests of all ages learn about these winged wonders and get to meet a few live bats in person.

### Baturdays of Summer

Beginning in 2023, Lubee provided additional opportunities for the public to visit the conservancy.



Lubee's social media presence continues to grow, with fun videos and informative content shared with nearly 3 million people worldwide. Every day, our followers get to discover the secret lives of bats and become directly involved with conserving wild bat populations. Of the 237 AZA-accredited institutions, Lubee has the second most combined followers on social media. Not bad! We're proud of the content we create and humbled to know that global perceptions are slowly changing by simply watching our bats.

*FROM VILIFICATION TO APPRECIATION WITH JUST ONE CLICK.*

	2023	2025
 <i>X (Twitter)</i>	<b>4,000</b> Followers	<b>5,000+</b> Followers
 <i>Facebook</i>	<b>34,000</b> Followers	<b>157,000+</b> Followers
 <i>Instagram</i>	<b>100,000</b> Followers	<b>243,000+</b> Followers
 <i>TikTok</i>	<b>2.1M</b> Followers	<b>2.3M</b> Followers

Live chats are hosted throughout the week to talk bats and answer questions from thousands of people around the world.


What's Next...


Continue to grow our followers on social media, enabling us to expand our mission and teach the importance of bats.





# The Impact of Social Media

In 2024, Lubee successfully launched the 'I Am Not Art' campaign to end the use of taxidermy bats as decor and ornamentals. Below are some comments we received and why these platforms are so important.


- 


great awareness. I refuse to obtain a taxiderm bat for this exact reason
- 

♥♥♥♥ beautiful bats ✨ protection ✨ love and respect ✨ ✨
- 

there are great alternatives out in the world 3D printed bones and there are artists that make fake bats even on this app
- 


Thank You so much for spreading awareness and for the info which I'll definitely use to get involved!! Heartbreaking 😞


2024-6... Reply
- 


If it wasn't for your organization I wouldn't have such an appreciation for bats today. Thank you for all you do 💜 🦇
- 


This account has made me love these adorable little sky puppies even more if possible. I learn so much from your page ❤️ 1


1d Reply


Liked by creator
- 

Thank you for posting these videos! I used to haaaaate bats and was really afraid of them. After seeing them up close, I see how they're just little furry friends with wings.
- 


never knew how much I liked bats until this page
- 


Omg i thought bats are scary but they are actually CUTE
- 


I thought that they were ugly but they are so cute 😊😊😊
- 

So freaking cute. Never thought I'd say that about a bat!
- 

I never thought in a million years I would think bats are cute but OMG!! So cute and that little sneeze 😊😊

50
- 

I was today years old when I found out I love bats 😊😊❤️
- 

Excellent!!!!!! Very important to demystify the horrible stories around these wonderful creatures. I love bats!!!!!!
- 

I have always had a fear of them!!! I do like these sky puppies tho ❤️



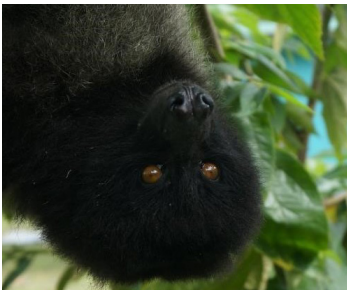
What better way to gauge a conservation organization's progress than by the achievements of their ongoing field programs. It's no secret that biodiversity is in trouble, but there are success stories and we are proud to share the following with you.

From bat houses in FL to the tropical forests of the South Pacific, our commitment to protecting wild bat populations through community-led efforts is unwavering.



### **Native Bats**

Lubee staff recently built and installed our 165th bat house, creating homes for thousands of displaced bats and helping homeowners and businesses control insect populations. WIN, WIN!!



### **Bougainville Island (Papua New Guinea)**

Local biologists found, identified, and mapped roost sites of Endangered Monkey-Faced Bats which will be used to guide the expansion and management of Key Biodiversity Areas, ensuring that they effectively protect biodiversity.

### **Rodrigues Island**

Since 2011, Lubee has supported The Rodrigues Environmental Education Project which leads community-action projects, reforestation, and field work on the endangered Rodrigues fruit bat. The population has rebounded from a low of 70 in the 1970s to over 20,000 today, thanks to their conservation efforts and Lubee's support.

### **Solomon Islands**

After months of court battles, the Zaira community retained their land rights and successfully defeated the Australian timber company determined to log on Vangunu Island. In Jan 2025, DOMAVOLA Company Limited Logging Company, further confirmed they were not going to proceed with operations in the rainforests.

## **What's Next...**

Lubee will continue to fund the Zaira community as they attend court hearings and finalize customary land boundaries while moving forward with income generating livelihood projects. Discussions will continue on critically endangered species and the need for assurance populations to prevent extinctions. Next areas of focus for larger scale projects include Palau, Fiji, New Caledonia, and the Solomon Islands.

### **I Am Not Art**

Lubee's campaign helped put an end to a market where taxidermied bats are intentionally killed and sold as art and décor. Etsy updated its policy on prohibited wildlife species to include ALL bats, while eBay removed listings of bats, including the Painted Woolly Bat. We want to extend a huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped make this change possible.



# Thank You

for supporting  
Lubee Bat Conservancy.

We hope this report provides insight into our organization and the work that is done locally and globally to support our mission. For more information about Lubee, our programs, events, or to make a contribution, please visit [www.lubee.org](http://www.lubee.org) or visit any of our social media channels.



[lubee.org](http://lubee.org)

