



April 10, 2023

Arte Moreno
Owner, Los Angeles Angels
via email: arte@angels.com

To Mr. Moreno,

We recently learned of the Angels' use of "Rally Monkey" footage and animal appearances, and respectfully ask that you replace this tradition with one using computer generated imagery, or one that does not rely on animals at all. **The footage and appearances are harmful because they directly promote the unethical treatment of primates.**

The use of primates in entertainment causes [lasting trauma](#) to the individuals involved. **The entire lifetime of a monkey or ape is negatively affected when they are used in entertainment.** Training and living conditions for animal "actors" can be incredibly stressful and even abusive. A life spent performing in disorienting and unnatural environments denies them virtually all of the experiences they need to be healthy, including social housing, grooming, and exercise. When they are denied these opportunities, primates develop aberrant and harmful behaviors, such as obsessive compulsions, self-mutilation, and aggression.

Misleading representations of primates in the media have lasting negative repercussions. This promotes future use of primates in entertainment and the exotic pet trade and has a negative impact on conservation. The public now turns away from this type of footage due to heightened awareness of the sadness and cruelty behind the camera. [Hollywood is no longer filming with chimpanzees](#) because such imagery of endangered animals is archaic and harmful for their species as a whole.

The North American Primate Sanctuary Alliance (NAPSA) is a coalition of eight of the leading primate sanctuaries on the continent. In our member sanctuaries, we care for close to 800 nonhuman primates, many of whom were formerly used in entertainment. We have advised many baseball teams about the harms of using monkeys for fan entertainment, most of whom have elected to end the practices. This is the current trend in your industry.

Los Angeles is a progressive city with a high interest in animal welfare. Your fans do not need animal exploitation to be happy and engaged. We urge the Los Angeles Angels to make the compassionate choice and avoid using footage and appearances of live monkeys at games.

Sincerely,

Erika Fleury
Program Director