

Warner Bros. Makes Kind Decision for Owls, Reports
The Protego Foundation

Wizarding World rightsholder tells The Protego Foundation that no live owls will be featured in future live productions licensed by the company

CALIFORNIA - After a strong social media awareness campaign and hearing from fans around the globe, **The Protego Foundation is praising *Harry Potter* rightsholder, Warner Bros., for enacting policies to help owls used for entertainment.**

After private conversations with The Protego Foundation's President and creator, Tylor Starr, Warner Bros. has confirmed that there are no longer live owl experiences in "The Wizarding World of Harry Potter" at any Universal Parks & Resorts locations, including Osaka and the upcoming park in Beijing.

In addition to confirming no live owl experiences in "The Wizarding World of Harry Potter," Warner Bros. has confirmed that no live owls will ever make an appearance at any live productions licensed by Warner Bros.

"We learn in the *Harry Potter* series that owls are sensitive and remarkably intelligent birds who should be treated with kindness and respect. They shouldn't be subjected to loud music, large crowds, and flashing lights," says Protego Foundation President, Tylor Starr.

"The Protego Foundation is so thankful to Warner Bros. and the Harry Potter Global Franchise Development team for honoring Hedwig, Errol, and other beloved owls by implementing such a kind policy to help other sensitive owls like them."

When "The Wizarding World of Harry Potter" opened in Osaka, Japan in 2014, the opening ceremony featured live owls, and the park offered photo ops with live owls tied to a pedestal.

After The Protego Foundation highlighted this cruel use of these sensitive birds on social media, the live owl photo ops in Osaka were quietly retired.

To thank Warner Bros. and the Harry Potter Global Franchise Development team for enacting these kind decisions, The Protego Foundation is sending the company a box of delicious, owl-shaped vegan chocolates.

"To ensure that our magical fandom continues to be kind to owls, The Protego Foundation will be launching an online resource and historical record of live owls used for entertainment in our fandom," continues Starr.

"This online resource, going live at the end of March 2021, will feature actions that can be taken to protect owls from further neglect and exploitation."

To view The Protego Foundation's new online resource, visit ProtegoFoundation.org/owls on March 31st.

The page will also feature a report function where attendees of magical fan events can report live owls being used.

The Protego Foundation's goal is "a wizarding fandom that is more considerate of the rights, feelings, and treatment of all creatures regardless of species, size, or magical ability."

For more information, please visit ProtegoFoundation.org, or follow the organization on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Instagram.