

WESTERN FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS

Youth Scholarship Application

Western Field Ornithologists is an organization of amateur and professional field ornithologists that promotes the study of birds throughout western North America. The organization strives to increase knowledge, appreciation, and protection of birds and their habitats through annual meetings, field trips, and publications (primarily *Western Birds*).



Scholarship Name: 43rd Annual Conference, Ventura, California
September 26–30, 2018

Description: The annual WFO conference is a four day event that includes scientific presentations, workshops, field trips, experts' sounds and visual identification panels, and social activities. The conference offers the opportunity for motivated youths to meet those who earn their living and/or volunteer in field ornithology, bird conservation, biology and other distinguished fields.

Included: Most expenses and fees associated with the annual conference, including: registration fees; a full-day field trip for both Thursday and Sunday (as space allows); box lunches for the full day field trips; a morning field trip and/or workshop for both Friday and Saturday morning; two tickets to the banquet for the recipient and a family member; and up to four nights hotel accommodations at the conference center, including breakfast for one person [please note that a double room will be reserved for those attending with family member(s)].

Not Included: Conference merchandise or registration fees for family members are not included (registration not required for family members solely attending as chaperones). Any and all travel expenses, including any form of transportation to or from the WFO event location, travel planning, flight or rental booking, etc., that may be incurred by the applicant are not included under this scholarship.

Submittal Deadline: April 22, 2018

Notification of Award: May 20, 2018

Limitations: Although all applications will be reviewed, preference is given to applicants who are not prior WFO youth scholarship recipients. Up to eight youth scholarships are being offered to youths between the ages of 12 to 22, with six scholarships for youths in Grades 6 through 12, and two scholarships for collegiate youths working towards a Bachelor's degree. Applicants must be residents of western North America (from the Rocky Mountain states and provinces to the Pacific, including Alaska, Hawaii, western Texas and northwestern Mexico).

Membership: Membership with WFO is required for the application to be considered. If not a member, the applicant **MUST apply before or at the same time the application is submitted**. Student membership is available for \$10/annually: <https://www.westernfieldornithologists.org/join.php>

Questions: Questions regarding the application process may be emailed to:
youthprog@westernfieldornithologists.org.

Application Submittal:

- I. Complete the following Youth Scholarship Application form.
- II. Provide one (1) letter of recommendation with signature (scanned as PDF's is preferred).
- III. Prepare a personal essay using the form provided.
- IV. Submit the application by email to youthprog@westernfieldornithologists.org no later than the above stated deadline. You will receive an email response no later than three (3) days after receipt of your application.

Conference: Information regarding the conference is available here:
<http://www.westernfieldornithologists.org/conference.php>

Questions: Questions regarding the application process may be emailed to:
youthprog@westernfieldornithologists.org.

Contributions: The WFO Youth Scholarship is made possible by the generous contributions from the Pasadena Audubon Society honoring the memory of Mike San Miguel, the Sierra Foothills Audubon Society, the Buena Vista Audubon Society, and individual contributions from WFO members.

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YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION		
Scholarship Name:	Event Date:	
APPLICANT INFORMATION		
Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	ZIP Code:
Date of birth:	Email:	Phone:
PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN INFORMATION		
Name of Parent/Legal Guardian:		
Address:		
City:	State:	ZIP Code:
Relationship:	Email:	Phone:
<i>Please be aware that if you are selected, your parent/legal guardian will have to complete required consent form(s) and a release of liability.</i>		
LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION		
Name	Relationship	Email
<i>One (1) letter of recommendation is required. The letter may be from a teacher, mentor, or other adult that may attest to your knowledge, appreciation, and/or study of birds (family members excluded).</i>		
ESSAY		
<p>Using the form provided on the following pages, please write an essay on the importance of birds in your life. The essay shall be no longer than the space provided. The following are suggestions that may aid in writing the essay; however, you are free to write about other themes as well.</p> <p><i>What is the importance of birds to you? How did you get into bird watching? Do you try to teach others about birds? Do you draw the birds you see? Do you do any survey or volunteer work? What is your favorite habitat for bird watching and why? Are you working on projects to protect birds and their habitats? Describe one of your most memorable experiences while bird watching and why it was important to you.</i></p> <p>NOTE: This application works best with Adobe Reader 10 and above. If you have issues entering your essay within the PDF document, please update your version of Adobe Reader or provide the essay in Microsoft Word or similar format as a separate attachment.</p>		

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