

WESTERN FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS

WFO 2016 Conference, Humboldt County, California

28 September - 2 October, 2016

Youth Scholarship Recipients



The WFO Youth Scholarships are 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.

Maia Nguyen

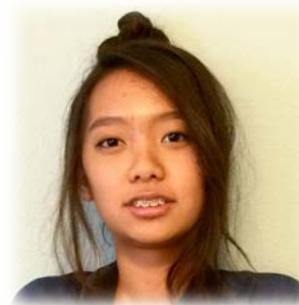
Age: 16

Grade: 12th

From: Irvine, California

About Me: I hope to one day become a field ornithologist or a wildlife rehabilitator/vet after college.

Essay Excerpt: I have participated in the Western Snowy Plover Count Survey, Tree Swallow Nest Monitoring Program, beach cleanups, and habitat restoration. My definite favorites are the Tree Swallow and Snowy Plover programs. With the Tree Swallow Program I get a hands-on experience with the birds as well as training in bird banding and field study.



Max Leibowitz

Age: 17

Grade: 12th

From: San Diego, California

About Me: I am an enthusiastic birder who loves the outdoors and nature.

Essay Excerpt: I became even more interested in my birding because I got my first digital camera, and it gave me the ability to make life memories of what I saw. As I started to photograph all the birds I chased, I realized I loved the challenge of capturing them in their natural setting, whether it be an ocean, bay, marsh or grassland.



Lucas Corneliussen

Age: 12

Grade: 7th

From: Novato, California

About Me: I have been birding for the past 10 years. It is my passion and what brings me the most happiness in life.

Essay Excerpt: When I was three, I got a huge book from Costco for Christmas. It had all the birds and animals from around the world and it showed which birds and animals came from which continents and that is when I started classifying animals and birds. I started memorizing African birds and animals, Australian birds and animals, etc.



Morganna Rose Beliz

Age: 13

Grade: 7th

From: Rohnert Park, California

About Me: I discovered my love for birds in preschool, and my passion for raptors when I was eight.

Essay Excerpt: Though I have taken various field sketching classes in the past, I have just recently begun attempting to sketch, though, frankly, I just can't draw fast enough. I will, however, continue work on my sketching ability.



Parker Gerard

Age: 17

Grade: 10th

From: Bend, Oregon

About Me: I love studying and watching birds. My other interests include backpacking, trains and World War II history.

Essay Excerpt: I helped my Mom start the Young Birders of Central Oregon, a club for teenagers. I have spent time with other kids doing activities like bird drawing, camping and birding, and going to bird festivals. Highlights of hanging out with other teens and birds include seeing thousands of Snow Geese at the Winter Wings festival in Klamath Falls.



Kai Dylan Frueh

Age: 13

Grade: 8th

From: Corvallis, Oregon

About Me: I am outside a lot and I love birds and Classical Music.

Essay Excerpt: Last year in eastern Oregon I went out with White-headed Woodpecker researchers. We monitored a White-headed Woodpecker nest. They taught me their protocols and showed me how the call and response protocol works. After we monitored a nest, they showed me a Flammulated Owl nest. I was excited because Flammulated Owls are hard to find and I got to see one closeup.



Fanter James Lane

Age: 18

Grade: College Freshman, Humboldt State University

From: Acme, Washington

About Me: I have been interested in nature and birds since a very young age, and have had the opportunity to be an active member for the WOS and attend many youth birding camps.

Essay Excerpt: I had the opportunity two years ago to do a three day bird banding and monitoring workshop with the Vancouver Avian Research Center, where I got my certificate of advanced course completion. I had gone to banding stations at youth birding camps, but this experience got me really excited to learn more about molt, age, and the sex of birds. This also got me hooked on banding, which I intend to pursue in my future.

