

2022

American Birding Association's Young Birder Scholarships



Application Information

The American Birding Association (ABA) provides scholarships to help young people who are interested in birds to attend summer camps, workshops, training programs, conventions and other bird-related activities. Funds for ABA scholarships come primarily from donations from the ABA membership, private donors, sponsors, and fundraising initiatives. In addition, the ABA offers a special thanks to Anne Andrews and Family for their ongoing support of ABA's young birder programs. Over the years, the ABA has helped young birders embark on life-changing experiences, and many ABA scholarship recipients have gone on to discover careers in birding, research, ornithology, or other related fields of study.

Scholarship Guidelines:

- Determine which camp or event you want to attend.
- Create a budget with your parents/guardian.
- Contact the organizers of your event to register and to reserve your space.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you are planning on attending an ABA Camp, please register and pay the deposit as spaces go quickly. Once the scholarship applications are awarded, the scholarship funds will be deducted from the balance due. If you paid the full tuition, a check will be issued or your credit card will be refunded the scholarship amount.

- Complete the ABA Scholarship Application Packet.

Application Instructions

1. **Scholarship Application Form** - Complete all forms in the application packet.
2. **Essay** - Write an essay telling us about the importance that birds and the birding community have in your life. Do you try to teach others about birds? Do you draw or photograph the birds you see? Do you do any survey or volunteer work? Is listing the most interesting thing to you? We want to know what it is about birds that really stimulates and maintains your interest. Be sure to include information about why you want to attend your chosen event in the essay. Your essay should be typed in 12 point font and no more than two pages in length.
3. **Letter of Recommendation Form** - The form and letter of recommendation is to be completed by a teacher, mentor or bird club committee member that should advocate what they know about your interest and commitment to birds and birding.

ABA generally awards scholarships up to \$500.00, as funding allows, but in some exceptional circumstances, ABA may award more if we see a case with special need. The best way to increase your chances of receiving an ABA scholarship is to demonstrate your dedication to birds and creatively designing ways you can raise the matching half of your scholarship.

Some examples that young birders can do to earn matching funds are:

- Make goods that you can sell (T-shirts, note cards, bird photography or illustration prints, etc.)
- Approach a local bird club, garden club or similar organization for additional scholarship funds or sponsorship. In return you could offer to give a presentation following the event and/or contribute to their newsletter.
- Offer to lead a bird walk for a local birding group or club.

Your completed application form, essay, and letter of recommendation must be postmarked or emailed by **March 1, 2022**.

Scholarship awardee announcements will be made by **April 1, 2022**.

Email (preferred)

Scholarships@aba.org

Subject: 2022 Scholarship Application

Mailing Address

American Birding Association

Attention: Youth Birding Scholarships

93 Clinton Street #744

Delaware City, DE 19706

ABA Scholarship recipients are required to write a one page report or reflective essay within one month after the event concludes to help us thank the sponsors and donors that support the scholarship program.

2022

American Birding Association's Young Birder Scholarship Application



Your Information

Name: _____

Gender: Male ____ Female ____ Other _____

ABA Membership #: _____

Age as of March 1, 2022: _____

Street Address: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____

City: _____

List your five greatest achievements to date. These need not be bird related. (Use the back if needed)

State/Province: ____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

1. _____

Home Phone: () _____ - _____

Cell Phone: () _____ - _____

2. _____

Email Address: _____

Parent/Legal Guardian Information

Name: _____

3. _____

Email Address: _____

Mailing Address (if different from yours):

4. _____

Street: _____

City: _____

State/Province: ____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

5. _____

Cell Phone: () _____ - _____

Camp/Event Information

Name of event for which you are applying for a scholarship.

Name of Event: _____

Location of Event: _____

Hosting Organization: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Contact Name: _____

Contact Phone: () _____ - _____

Date(s) of Event: _____ / _____ to _____ / _____

Camp Tuition/Event Fee: _____

Your Budget: Costs

Travel	\$
Attendance Fee	\$
Room & Board (if separate)	\$
Other Costs (please detail on back of this page)	\$
Total Cost	\$

Your Budget: Funding Sources

Parents/Relatives	\$
Local Bird Club	\$
Your Own Activities	\$
Other Sources (please detail on back of this page)	\$
Total Income	\$

Amount Requested from ABA:

\$ _____ . _____ (up to \$500.00)

Please check the box that most closely describes your family's annual household income.

- Under \$30,000 \$30,001-\$50,000
 \$50,001-\$70,000 \$70,001-\$90,000
 Over \$90,000

Are there any special financial or other circumstances that you would like us to consider when reviewing your application? If yes, please explain in an accompanying letter. (All information you provide is confidential.)

Your Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____

Date: _____ / _____ / _____

Return all application materials by **March 1, 2022** to:

Scholarships@aba.org
Subject: 2022 Scholarship Application

American Birding Association
Youth Birding Scholarships
93 Clinton Street #744
Delaware City, DE 19706



American Birding®
ASSOCIATION

2022

**American Birding Association's
Young Birder Scholarship Application**



Letter of Recommendation Form

Name of Applicant: _____

Your Name: _____ Title: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Postal/Zip Code: _____

Phone: () _____ - _____ Email Address: _____

How long have you known the applicant? _____ In what capacity? _____

Please attach your letter of recommendation to this form and return it to the ABA
by **March 1, 2022**.

Email (preferred)
Scholarships@aba.org

Mailing Address
American Birding Association
Attention: Youth Birding Scholarships
93 Clinton Street #744
Delaware City, DE 19706