

INSTRUCTIONS, FUNDING LIMITS AND APPLICATION DATE

Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon Society Grants, Donations and Scholarship Policy

Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon Society is a non-profit corporation whose mission is "to provide our community with opportunities to appreciate, conserve and enhance our ecosystems, focusing on birds, wildlife and their habitats." To help accomplish this goal Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon awards grants and scholarships, and makes donations to other organizations, groups and individuals. The purpose of this document is to outline the policies and procedures Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon will follow in making both unsolicited donations and handling requests for donations to support various facilities, organizations or causes. The procedure below is designed to make this process fair and accountable to the membership and clearly defined. Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon will carry out a yearly review of this grant program and vote each year on whether or not to renew the program for the following year.

Three categories of requests for funds will be considered by Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon:

Scholarships to help support Palos Verdes/South Bay area birders, teachers, and others to attend conferences, classes, and workshops or to study ornithology.

Research grants for collecting data on birds, birding, habitat conservation, and education. Preference will be given to projects in Southern California, but national and international studies will also be considered.

Grants awarded for specific projects may also be awarded to organizations that have missions similar to those of Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon.

Application process

Applications for Scholarships, Research Grants, or Grants to Organizations must be submitted to the Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon Society by email to grants@pvsb-audubon.org.

Up to \$5,000 is available to support grants including both scientific research and community based projects. (Unless prior permission is sought the maximum grant cannot exceed \$1,000). Grant requests must be submitted by January 15, 2018 and applicants will be notified by March 17, 2018. Details of the grant application procedure are discussed below.

Each application must contain the following information:

How you heard about the Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon Grant Program.

A very brief statement (less than 200 words) of the proposed request.

A detailed description of the request. This must include each of the following items:

- 1) Why the project was chosen and its significance (1 page limit)
- 2) A description of what the applicant has already achieved toward this goal, if anything (1 page limit)
- 3) The specific request (2 page limit)

4) A budget statement indicating how the funds would be spent and a justification of these expenditures. (2 page limit). If Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon is being asked to provide partial funds for the grant project, a list of other organizations that have already provided funds as well as organizations that are currently being solicited should be included. A proposal for what the grantee will do in case all of the needed funds to complete the project are not obtained should also be included.

5) A resume of the individual applicant or applicant organization clearly indicating the specific individual that is to be held accountable for the proper expenditure of the funds (1 page limit). 6) An appendix for other relevant materials that may or may not be considered by the Board

Review of requests

The President will send an electronic copy to the Board. The Board (Board members have the option of sending out confidential copies of this request to obtain an expert opinion if necessary) will vote on the request. Requests will either be approved for the amount of funds requested, approved but at a different level of funding, deferred if additional information is required to reach a decision, or not approved. All votes will require a quorum of Board members and the final decision will be based on a majority vote

Conflicts of interest in reviewing requests

All stages of the grant review process will be conducted under the following conflict of interest rules. There are several bases for a conflict of interest: employment, financial benefit, personal relationships, professional relationships, or other interests. Any one condition will serve to disqualify a Board member or any other individual from being present during the review of an application or proposal. A conflict of interest may be real or apparent; however the appearance of a conflict is sufficient for any individual to be disqualified from participating in the review process. If a Board member or any other person wishes to make her/his feelings known about a particular project but there is a potential conflict then a letter addressed to the Board will be considered during the review meeting. All reviewing Board members must maintain the confidentiality of the proceedings and associated materials and not disclose to any other individual any matter or information related to the review proceedings.

Dispersal of funds

Upon approval, funding will be made according to the requirements of the particular project and availability of funds.

Grantee's reporting requirements

All funding recipients must complete a written progress report yearly and a final written report. A maximum of three pages will be accepted. Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon retains the right to ask for a return of the funds if no progress is made in carrying out the project within two years unless a specific arrangement is made with the board before this deadline. Some projects may be funded in installments.