



FOSZ CONSERVATION SCHOLAR PROGRAM 2020

For an electronic copy of this application visit: www.SunsetZoo.com/Conservation

Questions? Email: fosz@cityofmhk.com • Phone: 785.587.2737

Friends of Sunset Zoo (FOSZ) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit entity whose members support Sunset Zoo through membership services, donations, advocacy and fund-raising. FOSZ works alongside Sunset Zoo to support its mission to “inspire conservation of the natural world.” In reflection of that mission, the FOSZ Board of Directors has established the Robert Klemm, Ph.D, Conservation Scholar Award to inspire the next generation of conservation-minded professionals. The FOSZ Board of Directors voted in 2019 to rename the award after Robert Klemm, Ph.D., Sunset Zoo’s first Director of Conservation and Research.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Students must meet all of the following criteria:

- Actively pursuing an associate’s, bachelor’s or graduate-level degree in wildlife conservation or a related field at an accredited two-year or four-year institution of higher education
- Completed at least 48 credit hours or more of undergraduate coursework by end of the 2023 Spring academic semester
- Have a cumulative college grade-point average of at least a 3.0 or the equivalent
- Be pursuing full-time study during the 2023-2024 academic year
- Be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or U.S. permanent resident
- Successfully submit a complete application

First preference will be given to applicants that meet one or all of the following criteria:

- Students attending an accredited two-year or four-year institution of higher education in Kansas
- Research related to black-footed ferrets, Puerto Rican crested toads or other amphibians, pollinators, sloth bears, and conservation program species of the Zoo Conservation Outreach Group (<https://www.zcog.org/>).

Scholars will be selected on the basis of the following criteria:

- Demonstrated commitment to the conservation of the natural world through substantial contributions to and involvement in campus activities, research, and/or community and public service
- Course of study and proposed career likely to lead to position where nominee can make significant contributions to local, regional, national and/or global conservation efforts
- Proposal of a feasible, yet impactful, field conservation project that meets the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA) definition of “Field Conservation” as outlined in the “Award Benefits & Conditions” paragraph below
- Demonstrated leadership and a desire to make a continuing difference to conservation and wildlife

DEADLINE

All required documents must reach Friends of Sunset Zoo – Attn: Scholar Program, 2333 Oak Street, Manhattan, KS 66502, by postal mail or email (fosz@cityofmhk.com) no later than **Wednesday, April 5, 2023, 5:00 PM Central**.

The FOSZ Board of Directors is the sole body responsible for determining the award of scholarships. Applicants will be notified of the Board’s decision in writing by the President of the Friends of Sunset Zoo Board.

The anticipated schedule of events is as follows:

February 2023	Application released
April 5, 2023	Applications due 5:00 p.m. CDT
April 21, 2023	Scholar Award recipient chosen and notified

AWARD BENEFITS & CONDITIONS

Up to three (3), \$2,000 Robert Klemm, Ph.D., Scholar Awards will be given out for expenses related to a field conservation project to be completed by the end of the 2023 –2024 academic year.

Projects must meet the definition of “Field Conservation” provided by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums Field Conservation Committee: “action that helps secure the long-term survival of species in natural ecosystems and habitats.”

Robert Klemm, Ph.D., Scholar Awards may be used for direct costs related to the Scholar’s field work, including research that helps protect species in the wild, or protection of species or ecosystems *in situ*; awareness-building through informational/educational materials conducted on behalf of a non-governmental organization (NGO) that publicizes conservation; or outcome-oriented education programs that target an audience that directly impacts the species or habitat of concern. The complete definition of “field conservation” can be found on the AZA website at: https://www.aza.org/assets/2332/fcc_fieldconservationdefinition_approved2013.pdf.

Payments may supplement, but not duplicate, benefits from other foundations, institutions, or organizations.

Upon notification of award, all awardees are expected to submit a short, engaging video describing their project that can be posted to social media, like Instagram and TikTok. Videos should be submitted to Sunset Zoo by May 31, 2023.

To receive payments, a Robert Klemm, Ph.D., Scholar Awardee must submit the following:

- An acceptance of the award;
- An agreement to submit a Impact Report within one month of completing the study



FOSZ CONSERVATION SCHOLAR APPLICATION

In addition to the completed Scholar Application, applicants must submit a resume or curriculum vitae describing any professional or volunteer experiences, awards, research or other relevant activities that demonstrate the applicant's commitment to conserving the natural world. Applicants must also submit letter of recommendation on department letterhead from a current teacher testifying to the applicant's academic fitness.

TITLE OF YOUR PROPOSED PROJECT: _____

A. BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Full Legal Name

LAST _____ FIRST _____ M.I. _____

Permanent Residence

STREET NUMBER _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

(Permanent residence is established by at least two of the following: home address for school registration; place of registration to vote; family's primary residence.)

If you wish correspondence to be sent to a different address:

STREET NUMBER _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

BEST TELEPHONE _____ BEST EMAIL ADDRESS _____

ARE YOU: U.S. CITIZEN U.S. NATIONAL U.S. PERMANENT RESIDENT

(Permanent Residents must include a letter stating your intent to become a U.S. citizen and a copy of your Permanent Registration Card.)

B. YOUR ASPIRATIONS

1. In one to two sentences, describe your professional aspirations (Limit 575 characters with spaces):

2. What causes or issues do you hope to address relative to field conservation, (see definition in the "Award Benefits & Conditions" section on page two) and how will this project help you achieve that goal? (Limit 1,000 characters with spaces or less).

9. In one to two sentences, describe the impact of your field conservation work relative to Sunset Zoo and the field of Conservation (Limit 350 characters with spaces):

10. Sunset Zoo's mission is to "inspire conservation of the natural world." How does your project help achieve this mission? (Limit 1,000 characters with spaces or less)

E. AGREEMENTS (Signature)

If awarded the grant as FOSZ Conservation Scholar, do you, upon acceptance, agree to abide by all provisions as listed in "Award Benefits & Conditions" section on page two, including the Conservation Scholar Impact Report? Additionally, do you swear that all of your statements in this application are, to the best of your knowledge, accurate representations? If so, please sign your name and date below.

Name

Date

Resume or Curriculum Vitae attached

Letter of Recommendation Attached