

The Cornell Lab Young Birders Event

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology is excited to host The Cornell Lab Young Birders Event, which will be held June 25-28, 2020 in Ithaca, New York. The Young Birders Event aims to bring together teenagers with a passion for birds and interested in pursuing a career in the field. You'll meet people who have successful careers that involve birds in a variety of ways from ornithological researchers to tour leaders, to audio specialists and computer scientists. High school-aged young birders (students entering grades 9-12 in the fall) are invited to fill out our application form and return it for review by March 15th 2020. Sixteen young birders will be selected and notified in early April. Slight preference is given to students entering 12th grade and students who have previously applied.

The Young Birder's Event will feature:

- two days of field trips
- presentations by Cornell Lab of Ornithology staff including professors, researchers, and students who will share various ways to incorporate birds into a career
- eBird and sound recording workshop
- tour of Cornell Lab including the Macaulay Library and Museum of Vertebrates
- dinner with Cornell Lab staff

Application Deadline: March 15th 2020

Tuition: \$600 *Travel expenses to and from Ithaca are not covered in the tuition.*

Meet Chris Wood and Jessie Barry, the primary leaders for the event:

Chris Wood is the Assistant Director of Information Science, helping lead eBird, Birds of North America, and other projects. He's a Colorado native who's been birding since he figured out he couldn't find dinosaur fossils in his sandbox. Chris has traveled the world in search of birds and is thrilled to be able to share stories and birding skills with young birders.

Jessie Barry is Program Manager for the Macaulay Library and helps lead Merlin, a bird ID app. Jessie grew up in Rochester, NY where she began birding at age ten. She and Chris are grateful for the opportunities they had as young birders and are working to create opportunities for the next generation of leaders in ornithology.



We make it visible.

The Young Birders Event is sponsored by **Carl Zeiss Sport Optics**, Princeton University Press and Wild Birds Unlimited.

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Application Form

Please email your responses to the questions below to Jennifer Smith,
youngbirders@cornell.edu.

Applications must be received by March 15, 2020. This is a very competitive application process. We strongly suggest you allow yourself enough time to carefully craft and review your responses. We look forward to receiving your application! Applicants will be notified in early April.

Name:

Email Address:

Street Address:

Date of birth:

Gender:

Present grade in school:

Current GPA:

Your eBird profile page: <http://ebird.org/ebird/profile/><add your seven digit code here>/

Please respond to questions 1-5 by writing less than 250 words per question.

1. Why are you interested in attending this event?
2. Tell us about your interest in birds. (Include how you became interested in birds.)
3. How often do you go birding? What do you do when you go? (For example, do you enter your sightings in eBird, sketch the birds you see, conduct a Breeding Bird Survey route, census a Breeding Bird Atlas block, participate in or lead field trips?)
4. What role do you expect birds to play in your life in the future?
5. Do you promise to generally behave yourself and not do anything during the event that would get Chris and Jessie in trouble?
6. Rank from 1-5 the topics that most interest you
___ Sound recording
___ Ornithological research
___ Neotropical birds
___ Nocturnal flight calls
___ Computer science

Other: _____

If you are in need of financial aid to attend the event, upon receiving notification that you have been accepted please contact us. We will gladly help coordinate with your local bird club to offer you a scholarship.