

The Cornell Lab Young Birders Event

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology is excited to host The Cornell Lab Young Birders Event. Two events will be held this year—July 7-10 and July 28-31, 2022 in Ithaca, New York. These Young Birders Events aim to bring together teenagers with a passion for birds and an interest in pursuing a career that connects with birds. 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. All high school-aged birders are invited to apply (students entering grades 9-12 in the fall). Please fill out our application form and send it to us by March 30th 2022. We are able to accommodate sixteen young birders each year, and we will notify applicants about their status 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 30th 2022

Tuition: \$700 Includes lodging, food, and transportation to birding sites during the weekend.

Travel expenses to and from Ithaca are not covered in the tuition.

If you need financial aid to attend the event, please contact us. We will gladly help coordinate with your local bird club and others to help find a scholarship or other funding opportunities. We can also provide binoculars to those who need them.

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

Chris Wood is the Managing Director of the Center for Avian Population Studies and the Director of eBird. 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 experiences and learn from 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.

The Cornell Lab is a welcoming community that values and respects teenagers from all backgrounds and identities. Through this event, we strive to foster a birding community where everyone feels they belong.

The Cornell Lab Young Birders Event Application Form

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

Applications must be received by March 30, 2022. 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 seven-digit code (if you have one):
<http://ebird.org/ebird/profile/< seven-digit code here>>

Preferred dates (circle or highlight).

7 – 10 July 2022 28 – 31 July 2022 Either

Preference for _____ but both would work

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. Rank from 1-5 the topics that most interest you
__Sound recording __Computer science __Ornithological research
__Neotropical birds __Nocturnal flight calls. Other (please describe):

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