

Protect. Educate. Inspire.

"Ding" Darling Wildlife Society - Friends of the Refuge

PRESS RELEASE

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Caption: Conservation scholarships help replenish our world with young wildlife ambassadors.

March 31 DDWS scholarships application deadline

Application deadline is March 31, 2023, for several scholarships amounting to more than \$20,000 from the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS). Ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000 each, the scholarships are available to high school seniors, college students, and graduate students in or from Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Hendry, and Glades counties pursuing degrees in environmental-related studies.

DDWS will award the scholarships at a special ceremony at the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel Island in June 2023, if hurricane recovery efforts allow.

Now in its 17th year, the DDWS scholarship program presented its first awards in 2006, donated by Tarpon Bay Explorers, the refuge's official recreation concession. To date, the program has awarded more than \$233,000.

Interested students can find more information and printable application forms at dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/student-scholarships.

To learn more about the scholarship program and establishing a permanently endowed scholarship, contact Birgie Miller at 239-292-0566 or <u>director@dingdarlingsociety.org</u>.

ABOUT DDWS

As a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, DDWS works to support J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge's mission of conservation, wildlife and habitat protection, research, and public education through charitable donations and Refuge Nature Shop profits.

To support DDWS and the refuge with a tax-deductible gift, visit <u>dingdarlingsociety.org</u> or contact Birgie Miller at 239-292-0566 or <u>director@dingdarlingsociety.org</u>.

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