Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation’s Wildlife Leadership Awards 2017

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# *Torstenson Family Endowment Wildlife Leadership Award &*

***Gerald L. (Jerry) Turpin Wildlife Leadership Award***

The mission of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) is to ensure the future of elk, other wildlife, their habitat, and our hunting heritage. Included in the hunting heritage part of this mission is supporting the education and development of professionals grounded in the North American Model of Wildlife Management .

The RMEF’s Wildlife Leadership Awards (WLA) scholarship program was established in 1991 to "recognize, encourage and promote leadership among future wildlife management professionals." The awards are presented to undergraduate wildlife students, and carry a $3,000 scholarship and a one-year membership to RMEF.

The awards include the Torstenson Family Endowment WLA, established in memory of Bob Torstenson *(1950-2002)* and the Gerald L. (Jerry) Turpin WLA, established in memory of Gerald L (Jerry) Turpin *(1977-2001)*. Recipients of both awards are selected from the same pool of applicants.

 **Qualifications**

By the completion of the spring semester/quarter, applicant must:

1) Be an undergraduate in a wildlife related natural resource program in a four-year college/university in the United States or Canada. It is acceptable to be transferring from a two-year college to a four-year institution.

2) Have at least a junior standing (completed a minimum of 56 semester hours or 108 quarter hours).

3) Have at least one semester or two quarters remaining in your degree program.

4) Be scheduled to be enrolled as a full-time student for the following fall semester/quarter.

4) Have not previously received a RMEF Wildlife Leadership Award. Previous recipients are ineligible.

 **Application Deadline**

Your application must be emailed or postmarked no later than March 1, 2017.

 **Application Procedures**

1. Complete the fillable Scholarship Application Form. Only type-written applications will be accepted.
2. Have your Department Head/Chairperson complete and sign their designated section on Page 4.
3. Include two letters of recommendation from department faculty, employer, or volunteer supervisor. Encourage them to stress your leadership qualities. Letters of recommendation may be submitted separately from your application.
4. The preferred submittal method is via e-mail at awards@rmef.org.
* If you need to mail your materials, send to Attn: Wildlife Leadership Awards, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, 5705 Grant Creek Road, Missoula, MT 59808.
* All signatures must be signed, not typed.
* Please do not fax application materials.
* If you do not receive acknowledgement of your application receipt within four weeks, contact awards@rmef.org.
1. For additional information:
* To learn more about RMEF, visit [www.rmef.org](http://www.rmef.org).
* For questions or to confirm receipt, email awards@rmef.org or call (800)225-5355, ext. 264.

 **Selection Process**

Each application will be screened by the RMEF Scholarship Committee. Final decisions on the Torstenson Family Endowment WLA will be made by the Committee, and final decisions on the Gerald L. Turpin WLA will be made by the Turpin Family. Award recipients will be announced by July, and scholarships will be awarded at the beginning of the fall semester/quarter.

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK FOUNDATION’S WILDLIFE LEADERSHIP AWARDS 2017**

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# *Torstenson Family Endowment Wildlife Leadership Award &*

***Gerald L. (Jerry) Turpin Wildlife Leadership Award***

 **UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

 (This application is fillable. Handwritten applications will not be accepted.)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| NAME | Click here to enter text. | DATE | Click here to enter text. |
| ADDRESS WHILE IN SCHOOL | Click here to enter text. |
|  | Click here to enter text. |  | Click here to enter text. |  |  |
|  | CITY |  | STATE/PROVINCE |  | ZIP |
| TELEPHONE | Click here to enter text. |  | EMAIL | Click here to enter text. |
| PERMANENT HOME ADDRESS | Click here to enter text. |
|  | Click here to enter text. |  | Click here to enter text. |  |  |
|  | CITY |  | STATE/PROVINCE |  | ZIP |
| NAME OF UNIVERISTY ATTENDING | Click here to enter text. |  | STATE/PROV. |  |
| DATES ATTENDED | Click here to enter text. | EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE |  |
| AREA OF STUDY OR MAJOR | Click here to enter text. |
| OTHER UNIVERSITIES ATTENDED | Click here to enter text. |  | DATES ATTENDED |  |
|  | Click here to enter text. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

**Please answer the following seven essay questions. The text boxes will expand as you type.**

**HOBBIES & LEISURE ACTIVITIES** (No points): In 100 words or less, detail your hobbies and leisure activities.

Click here to enter text.

**LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES** (25 points): In 250 words or less, describe your LEADERSHIP activities and accomplishments as they relate to wildlife or natural resources. List organizations, dates, offices held, committee chairs, or other examples of leadership in wildlife and conservation organizations, professional associations, as well as community and university groups and activities.

Click here to enter text.

**EMPLOYMENT & VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE** (10 points): In 100 words or less, list any work and volunteer experience you have had to date, include length of service. Please DO include experience that is not necessarily related to wildlife or natural resources.

Click here to enter text.

**ROLE OF HUNTING IN CONSERVATION:** (35 points): In 300 words or less, describe the historical, present, and future role of hunting in conservation.

Click here to enter text.

**CRITICAL CONSERVATION ISSUES** (25 points): In 250 words or less, identify what you believe to be the most important conservation issues facing North America during the next ten years, and how they will impact future wildlife management activities.

Click here to enter text.

**CAREER GOALS** (5 points): In 100 words or less, write a statement indicating your career goals and how you plan to utilize your degree.

Click here to enter text.

**FINANCIAL NEED** (No points): In 100 words or less, describe your financial need, specifically how you are currently paying for your undergraduate degree (i.e. other scholarships, family assistance, jobs).

Click here to enter text.

**RELEASE AND CERTIFICATION**: I hereby give permission to use the information provided on this application for recognition purposes if selected. I also give permission to release information concerning my academic progress to donors of the scholarship I may receive. I understand that I must be registered as a full-time wildlife student next fall semester/quarter to be eligible to receive a RMEF scholarship. To the best of my knowledge, the information provided in the application is true and correct.

Student's Signature: Date:

 *Please make sure that your signature is signed, not typed.*

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**University Verification**

***When you have completed all parts of the application form, please give it to your Department Head or Chairperson to complete the following information. This area of the application can be handwritten. You or your Department Head or Chairperson can submit your application to RMEF.***

***Please be sure to submit two letters of recommendation from departmental faculty, employer, or volunteer supervisor. Encourage a focus on your leadership qualities. The letters may arrive separately from your application.***

The applicant, , will be a full-time student of **junior** or **senior** standing by the

end of the spring semester/quarter (56 semester hours or 108 quarter hours) in the wildlife curriculum in the

department of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . His/her GPA on a 4.0 scale to date is \_\_\_\_\_.

Name: Title:

University: Address:

City: State/Province: Zip:

Signature Date:

 *Please make sure that your signature is signed, not typed.*

**Please e-mail this application to:**

**awards@rmef.org**

**While e-mail submittal is preferred, application materials may be mailed to:**

Attn: Wildlife Leadership Awards

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

5705 Grant Creek Road

Missoula, MT 59808

RMEF will e-mail you to acknowledge receipt of your materials. If you do not receive notification within four weeks, contact us at awards@rmef.org. Please feel welcome to e-mail questions during your application process.