

**ASSOCIATION OF FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS'
THE E. ALEXANDER BERGSTROM MEMORIAL RESEARCH AWARD**

Information and Application Procedures

E. Alexander Bergstrom (1919-1973) was Vice-President of the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association (now the AFO) and the Editor of *Bird-Banding* (now the *Journal of Field Ornithology*) for 21 years. These awards are named after him to honor his memory. The awards are intended to further research on birds, an endeavor to which he was so dedicated.

The purpose of the award is to promote field studies of birds by helping to support a specific research or analysis project. In judging among proposals of equal quality, special consideration will be given to those that focus on avian life history, that use data collected all or in part by non-professionals, or that employ banding or other marking techniques. Both Domestic (U.S. & Canada) and Latin American research is supported.

Eligibility: Domestic awards are aimed at people beginning their research or those with limited or no access to major funding. As such, they are restricted to non-professionals, undergraduates, and Masters degree candidates working in the United States or Canada. Ph.D. students studying at U.S. and Canadian institutions, regardless of their nationality or geographic region of investigation, are not eligible to receive a Bergstrom Research Award. Latin American awards are restricted to individuals based at Latin American institutions (Latin Americans studying or working at a U.S. or Canadian institution are eligible for Domestic awards only). Non-professionals, undergraduates, Masters and PhD candidates are all eligible for the Latin American competition.

Frequency and Value: Approximately five Domestic awards (maximum \$1000 each) and approximately three Latin American Awards (maximum \$1500 each) are awarded annually. Individuals can request to receive AFO mist nets in lieu of a cash award. Checks will be mailed to Domestic Award recipients. For Latin American Awards, funds will be transferred electronically to an account held by the recipient at a financial institution.

Deadline and Format: Applications for awards must be sent to the Awards Committee Chair, on or before **7 January**, as a single, electronic attachment to an e-mail in Microsoft Word format. The document submitted must contain a cover sheet, a one-page curriculum vita summarizing academic degrees and indicating current position, and a research proposal with specified components (see below). Applications can be submitted in English, Spanish, or Portuguese.

Applicants must also arrange to have one letter of reference, also an MS Word document (no PDFs, please), e-mailed directly from the reference provider on the applicant's behalf. Referees should put "Bergstrom Letter of Reference for [applicant last name]" in the subject line.

If possible, awardees, especially individuals receiving Domestic awards, are expected to present the results of their research at an annual meeting of the Association of Field Ornithologists. All awardees are also encouraged to consider publishing some of their findings in the *Journal of Field Ornithology*.

Applications and letters of reference should be sent to John Arvin, Chair of the Bergstrom Awards Committee, at: JARVIN@gcbo.org (Phone: 979-480-0999).

A template for the application cover sheet appears in the box below. Please cut and paste the material in this box onto the first page of your application document, and then provide the requested information.

**APPLICATION FOR BERGSTROM MEMORIAL RESEARCH AWARD
ASSOCIATION OF FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS**

Name:

Mailing address:

Telephone:

E-Mail:

Title of study:

Starting date and anticipated duration of study:

Name, e-mail address and phone number of person supplying reference letter:

The following pages should contain your 1-page curriculum vita/resume followed by a research proposal. The proposal should not exceed 3 single-spaced pages. All margins must be ≥ 2 cm wide, and the font size should be ≥ 11 pt). The research proposal should describe the purpose of the study and its significance, contain a brief description of the methods to be used, and include any critical, supporting citations.

The 3-page proposal should also include a budget outlining total costs for the project and the amount you are requesting in the form of a Bergstrom award (not to exceed \$1000 for Domestic or \$1,500 for Latin American applicants).

Applicants requesting mist nets instead of cash should also supply evidence that the appropriate permits are in hand (e.g., attach scanned images of federal and state permits to pages following the research proposal).

Please direct any questions you may have about the awards or application process to John Arvin at (979) 480-0999 or e-mail to jarvin@gcbo.org.