**2023 Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife Society**

**Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Conference Travel Award**

**Background**

Aligning with our parent society’s commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), Minnesota TWS is committed to the identification and removal of barriers to recruitment as well as effective mentoring, retention of a diverse workforce, and to communicating with a diverse array of stakeholders. In support of these efforts, MNTWS is offering travel grants to support annual conference attendees from historically marginalized groups or who otherwise face DEI-related barriers to conference participation. Grant awards will provide $250 of support to help individual attendees defray costs related to registration, travel (mileage and hotel), and meals.

The number of awards provided each year will depend on the number of applications received and the funds available. For 2023, $500-750 is available to support this effort; thus, we will provide 2-3 travel awards. These funds were obtained through a national TWS DEI grant that was awarded to our chapter to support our DEI-based efforts.

**Eligibility**

Individuals from focal groups including but not limited to racial, ethnic, sexual and gender identity, and sexual orientation groups, individuals with disabilities, and individuals who are neurodivergent are eligible to apply.

Individuals must self-identify their diversity status as part of their application. *To ensure trust and privacy, applications will only be reviewed by six members of the MNTWS DEI committee and will not be shared with others.*

**Application Materials**

This completed short application is all that is required to apply for this travel award.

**Application Deadline**

Submit application to mark\_hove@umn.edu by **5:00 pm** on **January 1, 2023**.

The MNTWS DEI Committee will review applications and respond to applicants by January 9, 2023.

**2023 MNTWS DEI Conference Travel Award Application**

**Personal Information**

Name:

Pronouns:

Email:

Phone:

Mailing address (street, city, state, zip):

Preferred method of contact: Choose an item.

Are you a student, recently graduated, or a professional? Choose an item.

(If student, please provide your school, type of degree pursuing, year in school, and major. If professional, please provide your job title and employer.)

Are you a current or former paid member of our state chapter (MNTWS)? Choose an item.

Are you planning to present or volunteer at this conference? Choose an item.

**Focal Group Information**

* Race/Ethnicity: Choose an item.
* Gender: Choose an item.
* I have a disability: Choose an item.
	+ *(Definition of a Disability defined by* [*MN Statute 363A.03 Subdivision 12*](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/363A.03#:~:text=12.,a%20person%20a%20disabled%20person.)*)*
* I am neurodivergent: Choose an item.

Please provide additional information on how you self-identify in terms of historically marginalized groups. If you identify with more than one group, provide all information you think is relevant to this application. *(300 words max)*

**Personal Statement**

1. Please briefly describe how attending the MNTWS annual meeting will benefit your professional development. *(150 words max)*
2. How would you like to be involved in MNTWS in the future? Please briefly describe your areas of interest or special skills you may contribute.
3. Describe non-personal sources of funding that will help cover your costs of attending the annual MNTWS meeting. In other words, have you secured funding support from your employer or college/university to attend? If so, approximately how much funding have you secured?

**Signature and Date**

*I certify that my answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. If I am awarded a travel award, I understand that false or misleading information in my application may result in forfeiture of the award.*

Signature:

Date: