

## **DISNEY'S ANIMAL KINGDOM DIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT SCHOLARSHIP**

### **DESCRIPTION**

The purpose of the Diversity Advancement Scholarship is to provide support for training in an education or interpretation specialty at the AZA Professional Development Courses. The Association of Zoos and Aquariums recognizes the value of human diversity in all endeavors. Diversity is the inclusion of different physical, social and cultural identities among people in a defined employment or market setting, including along the dimensions of race, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender, ability, preferred language, learning styles and work styles. As the composition of the country's population changes, it is of particular importance to cultivate support for racial and ethnic diversity within AZA institutions and in programs that are responsive to the diverse communities those institutions serve.



As part of the AZA's larger commitment to diversity, this scholarship is sponsored by Disney's Animal Kingdom to provide support for professional training for members of an underrepresented group within the zoo and aquarium movement. The scholarship may be applied to any of the following courses:

- Conservation Education: Effective Program Design
- Creating Successful Exhibits
- Managing for Success: Career Development
- Managing for Success: Organizational Development

### **REQUIREMENTS**

Members of an underrepresented group who are employed in an AZA-accredited zoo or aquarium may apply. International members of AZA facilities are also welcome to apply. Applicant must be an AZA individual member. Those who received an AZA scholarship within the past three years will not be considered for this award. This scholarship is merit based.

### **DEADLINE**

AZA must receive all completed application materials and letters of recommendation before **Midnight** (Eastern Standard Time) on **Friday, July 14, 2017**. Scholarship recipients will be notified in early September.

### **SUBMISSION PROCESS**

Email completed applications to [scholarships@aza.org](mailto:scholarships@aza.org)

### **QUESTIONS**

Contact AZA Professional Development at [scholarships@aza.org](mailto:scholarships@aza.org) or 301.244.3340

## RULES

Applicants may only submit one scholarship application per year. Applications are evaluated and recipients are chosen by the AZA Professional Development Committee. An individual cannot be awarded the same scholarship more than once. An individual is not eligible to receive any AZA scholarship more frequently than every three years.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Last Name:

First Name:

AZA Membership Number:

Professional Title:

Department:

Zoo/Aquarium/Institution:

Business Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Work Phone:

ext:

Fax:

E-mail:

Home Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Home Phone:

## COURSE SELECTION

Please check only **ONE** course. If you do not receive the scholarship and plan to take the course anyway, please note this application does not represent a reserved space in an AZA course. **To secure a space in a course you must register through <https://www.aza.org/courses>**, and pay the tuition in full. If you receive the scholarship, your full tuition payment will be refunded.

- Creating Successful Exhibits *November 13 - 18, 2017*  
<https://www.aza.org/CSE>
- Conservation Education: Effective Program Design *February 12 - 17, 2018*  
<https://www.aza.org/CED>
- Managing for Success: Career Development *February 12 - 17, 2018*  
<https://www.aza.org/managing-for-success-career-development>
- Managing for Success: Organizational Development *February 12 - 17, 2018*  
<https://www.aza.org/managing-for-success-organizational-development>

**EDUCATION**

(Begin with most current)

School:

Location:

Dates Attended (MM/YYYY): -

Degree:

Major:

School:

Location:

Dates Attended (MM/YYYY): -

Degree:

Major:

School:

Location:

Dates Attended (MM/YYYY): -

Degree:

Major:

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Current Title:

Dates at Institution (MM/YYYY): -

Name of your immediate supervisor:

Supervisor's Title:

Briefly describe the main duties of your present position:

### **PERSONAL STATEMENT**

Describe the growth you have experienced in your professional life, including a commitment to pursuing training opportunities, and how participating in this AZA Professional Development Program will help you continue to grow professionally. (Max. 300 words)

Explain how you, as a member of an underrepresented community in the zoo and aquarium movement, can help to increase diversity within AZA institutions **and** increase programs that are responsive to the diverse communities those institutions serve. (Max. 250 words)

Give an example of a recent experience or accomplishment that demonstrates your leadership ability and/or problem solving skills and/or desire to take initiative. (Max. 250 words)

### **PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT**

To demonstrate your professional involvement, please list the following:

- Collaborations you engage in within the institution, with other AZA institutions or partners, or with other local organizations
- Conferences, workshops, and seminars attended and/or presented at, including dates
- Professional affiliations (memberships or offices held)
- Committees on which you have served, including dates of service
- Professional honors you have received
- Dates and titles of articles or papers published

**REFERENCES**

Two letters of recommendation should be sent directly to the AZA Professional Development Program Coordinator. Please submit all letters via email to [scholarships@aza.org](mailto:scholarships@aza.org). The Professional Development Department and Awards Committee will keep these letters confidential. One author must be your immediate supervisor. It is suggested that one author be from outside your institution. Some other possible authors include, but are not limited to:

- Your director or CEO
- An AZA member or regional conservation partner

*Current members of the Professional Development Committee may only be used as references if they are your immediate supervisor. Professional Development Committee members may not be used as secondary references.*

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I have requested that the two persons listed below (one of whom is my supervisor) submit confidential letters of support for this application directly to [scholarships@aza.org](mailto:scholarships@aza.org) before **Midnight on Friday, July 14, 2017** (Eastern Standard Time).

Name:  
 Institution:  
 Title:  
 Address:  
 City: State: Zip Code:  
 Work Phone: Ext:  
 Email:

Name:  
 Institution:  
 Title:  
 Address:  
 City: State: Zip Code:  
 Work Phone: Ext:  
 Email:

**SIGNATURE**

I hereby verify that all of the above information is truthful and accurate.

Name:  
 Date Completed (MM/DD/YY):