



January 20, 2016

Botany Advocacy Leadership Grant

The Botanical Society of America (BSA) and the American Society of Plant Taxonomists (ASPT) are pleased to invite applications for the annual Botany Advocacy Leadership Grant. This grant aims to provide financial support to carry out efforts that contribute to shaping public policy on issues relevant to plant sciences. Examples of such efforts include:

- Founding or expanding a native plant society or enhancing its activities
- Leading campaigns or holding events that spread awareness of plant-related public policy issues (e.g., conservation of native species, control of invasives, land use management)
- Organizing local plant conservation events such as removal of invasive species, planting a native garden, or restoration of native communities
- Traveling to meet with local, state, or regional representatives to lobby for legislation or other initiatives that benefit plant conservation, plant science research and education, or collections

The recipient of this grant will receive \$1000 and will be recognized at the annual Botany meetings during the awards ceremony. To apply, please send a one-page letter describing the proposed local efforts and their anticipated impact along with a basic budget (no more than one page) to show how the funds will be used. All active members of BSA and ASPT are eligible to apply. Applications will be evaluated based on the quality of the proposed project and its potential to effect policy change or raise public policy awareness. Applications are due March 15th, 2016 and should be sent as a single .pdf ("YourName_BALapp.pdf") to bsa-manager@botany.org with the subject line "2016 BAL application". The selected applicant will be notified by April 15th, 2016.

The awardee will be required to submit a 500-1,000 word summary of their activities with an image to the Plant Science Bulletin (PSB) by January 15th of the following year. This synopsis will appear in the April issue of the PSB and is intended to highlight the impact of the recipient's efforts in shaping public policy and awareness of plant-related issues. Inquiries about the award may be directed to Stacey Smith (stacey.d.smith@colorado.edu), Marian Chau (mmchau@hawaii.edu), Morgan Gostel (gostelm@gmail.com), or Ingrid Jordon-Thaden (ijordonthaden@berkeley.edu).