



## NEW YORK STATE ORNITHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

*for the birds and birders of the Empire State since 1948*

### Lillian C. Stoner Award

*Call for Nominations – Deadline July 20, 2025*

In 1975 Lillian Stoner, a founding member of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs (now NYSOA), donated money to the organization to establish a fund to enable students to attend the organization's Annual Meetings. She did not intend to recognize past achievement with this award, but rather to foster a promising young person's interest in birds and ornithology by offering the education and experience of the fall conference.

NYSOA considers nominees who will, at the time of the conference, be in high school grades 10, 11, or 12 (sophomore, junior, or senior), or in one of their first two years in college (freshman or sophomore). Candidates may be anywhere along the birding skill spectrum from beginner (feeder watcher) to advanced (self-directed researcher). Our objective is to select winners who demonstrate a strong interest in wild birds and whose attendance at the Annual Meeting will positively influence their desire to pursue birding and/or ornithology as a lifelong interest.

Nominations may be made by NYSOA member clubs/organizations, NYSOA Individual/Family members, and the New York State Young Birders Club. To make a nomination, first confirm with your candidate that he or she can commit to attending *at least* the entire day Saturday including field trip(s), afternoon paper session (or alternate afternoon conference activity), the banquet, and the evening keynote speaker presentation. If the student confirms, please complete page 1 of the attached form, have your nominee complete page 2, and send both to the address shown below.

Nominees are required to write a *brief* paragraph or two describing their birding interest and activities (how and why they got into birds and birding, how and why they enjoy birds and birding, how they help others, etc.), and explaining what they hope to gain from the Annual Meeting experience. The nominee's paragraph should *not* focus on past accomplishments; we ask you as the nominator to outline those on the first page of the form.

Every student nominee for this award (whether a winner or not) will receive a one year membership in NYSOA. Each Lillian C. Stoner Award winner will receive a certificate and a monetary award to help defray the cost of attending the Annual Meeting. Winners will be honored publicly at the Annual Meeting banquet and announced in NYSOA's publications and website.

*Send nominations to:*

Patricia Aitken  
135 Grand Central Ave.  
Amityville, NY 11701  
[awards1@nybirds.org](mailto:awards1@nybirds.org)



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ORNITHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.**

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**Lillian C. Stoner Award**

this page to be completed by **Nominator**

**Submission Deadline: July 20, 2025**

**Please complete ALL items.**

**NOMINEE INFORMATION**

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

In September of this year, student grade will be: ☐10 ☐11 ☐12 ☐College Freshman ☐College Sophomore

Street Address, City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOMINATOR INFORMATION**

☐NYSOA Member Club ☐NYSOA Member ☐NYSYBC Club/

Organization name (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Representative or NYSOA Individual/Family Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address, City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominator:** *Below or on a separate page, please explain why you feel this student should be honored with the Lillian C. Stoner Award. Include relevant past accomplishments and any other information you feel will help us understand why your nominee should be selected.*

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Nominator signature

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Date

*Please have the nominee complete the next page and return it to you. Then send all pages to:*  
Patricia Aitken, 135 Grand Central Ave, Amityville, NY 11701 or email to [awards1@nybirds.org](mailto:awards1@nybirds.org)



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**Lillian C. Stoner Award**

this page to be completed by **Nominee**

***Submission Deadline: July 20, 2025***

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

In September of this year, my grade will be:      10      11      12      College Freshman      College Sophomore

Name of school/college/university: \_\_\_\_\_

***Nominee:*** Write a brief paragraph or two below explaining why you would like to attend the NYSOA Annual Meeting / Conference. Tell us what you think you would gain from attending this event. Also let us know how and why you got into wild birds and birding, why wild birds matter to you, what activities you pursue related to wild birds, how you help other people learn about and appreciate birds, and/or any other information that will help us understand why you should be selected to win a Lillian C. Stoner Award.

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If I win a Lillian C. Stoner Award, I will participate all day Saturday, including field trip(s), afternoon session(s), and at the evening banquet and keynote speaker's presentation. I understand that the award will not cover all expenses.

**I will be staying overnight    1    2 night(s) at the hotel where the event is held:    Friday    Saturday**

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Nominee (student) signature

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Date