**John Ball Zoo-Grand Valley State University**

**Student Research Fellowship Proposal 2023**

John Ball Zoo has partnered with the GVSU Biology Department to offer a summer research fellowship to GVSU students interested in working on projects that support the conservation of species and their natural environments. Successful applicants will be awarded $3000 to support their dedication to a summer research project and/or for travel that may be necessary for project completion.  There is no minimum GPA required for this fellowship, and both undergraduate and graduate students may apply. Interested students should work with a faculty mentor to develop a research project for application or contact the Biology Department biodept@gvsu.edu for help in connecting with a faculty mentor.  **Applications are due March 1.**

**Student Applicant**:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Faculty Mentor:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. **Project Description/Overview:**

*Please describe the project, which species, natural environments and/or issues are being addressed through this project, and why JBZ would be a good partner for involvement in the project.  As part of your narrative, please explain the expected impact of this project on the conservation of target species or ecosystems.  Include any background information that may be helpful. In addition, indicate if this summer research is part of a larger project and briefly describe that relationship.*

*Does this project involve a species or ecosystem in the Great Lakes Watershed?*

[ ]  Yes

[ ]  No

*If appropriate to the project, please indicate species that are the focus of this project and their conservation status.*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Species** | **MIDNR status** | **USFWS Status** | **IUCN status** |
|   |   |   |   |

1. **Project and Student Learning Goals:**  *What goals or objectives does the student have for their summer research?  For each objective, please list indicators of success and how they will be measured.*
2. **Funding Objective:** *This fellowship is meant to provide direct financial support to students engaging in summer research projects and/or to support necessary travel expenses for students engaging in these projects.  Please designate approximately how much of the $3000 award will be spent in either category.*

*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_   Student Stipend \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_   Travel Support*

*Does the applicant have funding support from other sources? \* Note: Additional funding for stipends and project supplies may be available through the CSCE, FTLC, Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships or the Graduate School.*

[ ]  Yes, this includes: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

[ ]  No

1. **ORCI Approval:**  Please check if any of the following approvals are required for this project. \**Note: Projects involving John Ball Zoo animals must successfully complete a John Ball Zoo research application.*

[ ]  GVSU Human Research Review

[ ]  GVSU Institutional Animal Care and Use

[ ]  JBZ Research Approval (JBZ Animals Only)

1. **John Ball Zoo’s Conservation Strategic Plan:** *Does this project support one of the John Ball Zoo’s signature conservation programs, which include addressing threats or management challenges for the following? Check any that apply. (This is not a requirement for funding.)*

*[ ]  Michigan’s Rare Turtles (Blanding’s, Box, Wood, or Spotted Turtles)*

*[ ]  Michigan’s Rare Butterflies*

*[ ]  Grand River Ecosystems- especially Lake Sturgeon or Freshwater Mussels*

*[ ]  Habitat Hero- Improving Habitat for Native Butterflies and Songbirds in West Michigan*

*[ ]  Species represented in the John Ball Zoo’s exhibits or messaging.*

1. **JBZ Team Engagement**: *Is there an opportunity for JBZ team members (staff and/or volunteers) to be directly involved in the project? (This is not a requirement for funding.)*

[ ]  Yes

[ ]  No

1. **Community Partners:**  Are there additional organizations or community partners collaborating on this project? (*This is not a requirement for funding.)*

[ ]  Yes, they include \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

[ ]  No

1. **Community Engagement:** *Is there an opportunity for public engagement in the project? (This is not a requirement for funding.)*

[ ]  Yes

[ ]  No

**Signatures:**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Faculty Mentor(s)

**Please submit this application by email to the Biology Department** **biodept@gvsu.edu** **and cc the Biology Department Chair at** **vignaj@gvsu.edu** **.  Applications are due March 1.**