

Minority Outdoor Alliance

Biennial Bird Dog and Literary Development Grant

It is the mission of the Minority Outdoor Alliance, Inc to ***Make the Outdoors for everyone by forming a multicultural community of outdoorsmen and women whose active usage and commitment to hunting and angling provide strength in numbers to answer the call to conserve public lands and public waters.*** We are committed to diversifying hunters and anglers in the outdoors by creating opportunities for engagement with different races, genders and communities including the disabled.

This scholarship offers an undergraduate minority students in their Junior or Senior year at an accredited college or university the opportunity to develop him/herself as a bird dog trainer, conservationist, outdoor writer, and steward of the outdoors through a collaborative partnership with Minority Outdoor Alliance and Cha'Ann Kennels along with a select number of kennel partners. Cha'Ann Kennels has generously offered a Pointer puppy annually to a high achieving, hard working student in an effort to continue building and facilitating the next generation of upland bird hunters, bird dog trainers, field trialers, and outdoor writers. In addition, we have partnered with Melrose Kennels (Georgia) and Trinity Bretons (Iowa) to offer an alternative selection for the recipient of the grant. We will provide all necessary gear and apparel from our partner organizations to the young, aspiring bird dog trainer/ upland bird hunter to help establish a firm foundation and introduction into the culture of upland bird hunting. We also will provide ***\$1000 a year for 2 years to total \$2000*** to the student for additional costs and support. We require the recipient to send monthly video updates showing the progress of the dog training/handler development along with completing four creative writing and/or research projects as an exploratory study that is relevant and significant to the student's cultural history in the outdoors for the fulfillment of the grant.

Program Duration: 2 years

Application Requirements:

- Student must have and maintain a cumulative 3.0 Grade Point Average from an accredited institution. Please include an unofficial transcript with your application.
- Student must be in good academic standing and maintain good academic standing with their academic institution during the duration of the program.
- Student must major in a degree program that is relevant to and beneficial to the study of Forestry and/or Land or Water Conservation.
- Student must submit a 1000 word written essay explaining why they would be a good fit for the program and what they intend to achieve with the opportunity.

Grant Requirements:

- Student will be required to spend 2 weeks of their summer during the term of the grant program to learn from and assist their selected kennel partner. MOA will certainly assist in finding a reputable trainer.
- Student will need to submit a written piece on a monthly basis for submission into their literary portfolio.
- At the end of the second school year, the student will be required to write a final 2500 word article with photos on an experience unique to them while operating under the program in order to submit to one of our partner organizations or outdoor publications.
- Student must report to the selected kennel partner as well as MOA on progress made with their puppy on a monthly basis.
- Student will be asked to be on as a featured guest of The Gun Dog Notebook Podcast to detail their experience periodically throughout the duration of the program.
- Student's residence should allow for dogs and be sustainable for a happy, healthy, and clean animal and environment.

Application Deadline: November 5, 2021

For applicant inquiries or submissions, please email Durrell Smith at durrellsmith@minorityoutdooralliance.org .

