2017 International Trails Symposium
Hulet Hornbeck Emerging Leaders Scholarship Program

We are looking for SUPPORTERS for this fantastic program!

"Thank you! I wanted to express my gratitude for accepting me into the Emerging Leaders Program. I also wanted to express my gratitude for making the program very memorable. I think it is a very special experience to be surrounded by such a great group of people, and beyond that, have the opportunity to expand my horizons and be exposed to all that we were exposed to during the Symposium. Although the program was intense, it allowed us to push ourselves in a unique way."

Brian Andersen, 2015 Emerging Leader

PHOTO: 2015 Emerging Leaders and some of the mentors during their field day at the 2015 International Trails Symposium in Portland, Oregon

2017 PROGRAM

The 2017 Hulet Hornbeck Emerging Leaders Scholarship Program will bring 16 Emerging Leaders (young adults, age 21-25) to participate in the 2017 International Trails Symposium (ITS) in Dayton, Ohio May 7-10, 2017. The program will immerse the scholarship recipients in learning best practices and trends in the field to help pave the path to careers in natural resource management. The program will include:

- Pairing with a mentor already established in the field.
- Network with Symposium participants.
- Deliver a professional presentation on their Symposium experience to an audience of up to 50 conference attendees.
- Work together on a Professional TrailBuilders Association (PTBA) trail service project.
- Spend an entire day in the field in a variety of mobile workshops focusing on trail design, construction, maintenance, and opportunities to learn about visitor use and engagement.

Involvement in the Symposium exposes young professionals to multi-generational dialogue about conservation and recreation. During past Emerging Leaders programs, established resource professionals benefitted just as much from the exchange as the field looks to foster new leadership.

2017 DETAILS

American Trails is securing commitments to all scholarship program funds. Criteria for scholarship recipients includes:

- 16 scholarship recipients, ages 21-25, will be selected.
- Diversity and inclusivity are important to us so that we can meet everyone’s deepest needs, values, and long-term interests. We welcome individuals of all backgrounds to apply regardless of past trails experience. We are more interested in potential.
- Scholarship recipients will contribute a nominal amount ($100) to participate in the program. The average value including conference and special workshop fees, field day expenses (for scholarship recipients and mentor), travel, meals, lodging, and coordination is estimated at $2,500 per recipient. The decision to
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have participants contribute is based upon scholarship feedback from the past Symposiums on willingness to pay and to encourage personal investment in the program.

SUPPORTER/SPONSOR BENEFITS

- Logo/name link recognition on the American Trails 2017 International Trails Symposium webpage.
- Recognition onsite at the 2017 International Trails Symposium.
- Promotion for the Emerging Leaders scholarship program, including logo links on:
  - Scholarship and mentor applications
  - Promotional alerts sent out via email from American Trails
  - Monthly American Trails e-Newsletters
  - Issues of the American Trails Magazine in print and digital format (pre and post Symposium)
- Potential for exceptional, high-quality future employees!

INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING/SPONSORING THE 2017 EMERGING LEADERS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM?

Email candace@americantrails.org for more information or any questions you have.

TESTIMONIALS

Follow-up surveys sent to the Emerging Leaders from our past scholarship programs were unanimous in rating their day in the field as “AWESOME!” One Emerging Leader in particular commented “Thanks everyone for all you have done for this program! I look forward to seeing it grow and succeed in the coming years.”

Mentors for past programs have said THEY learned so much from their mentee. One mentor commented, “There are times when I become bogged down in my day to day, but my experience with my mentee reminded me of the passion I used to have. So my mentee inspired me to keep my passion for trails and the outdoors alive which can only improve my professional development.” Another mentor said “It was the best day of my year so far – and it will be hard to beat!” This came from a mentor whose full time job is recreation!

Jeff Spellman, a key member on the Emerging Leaders Committee for ITS 2013 and 2015, shared “As we professionals enter the waning years of our careers, we need to stop and listen to young people. We have much to offer in mentoring them, but we need to do it through their eyes.”

BACKGROUND ON HULET HORNBECK EMERGING LEADERS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Hulet Hornbeck Emerging Leaders Scholarship Program was launched in 2013 as part of the American Trails International Trails Symposium. The program named in memory of lifelong trail activist Hulet Hornbeck recently brought 16 talented young adults to the 2015 International Trails Symposium on scholarship. Hulet was a key player in organizing the first National Trails Symposium in 1971, and was a founding board member of the National Trails Council, predecessor to American Trails. He actively served on the Board of Directors for American Trails for over 16 years. The Emerging Leader Scholarship Program was named in honor of Hulet to inspire young adults to choose a career path so they, too, can leave a lasting legacy on the world – as Hulet did... Scholarship recipients for the 2015 Symposium were selected from a field of over 100 applicants and represent the future of trails and conservation. Read the article written post-Symposium on the scholarship program from a few of the Emerging Leaders in the Fall 2015 issue of the American Trails Magazine (pages 16-17).