



# WOMEN DIVERS HALL OF FAME™ 2022 SCHOLARSHIPS AND TRAINING GRANTS

Applications open September 1, 2021.

The deadline for receipt of applications is October 31, 2021, at 5:00 pm U.S. Eastern Time.  
(Exception: Undergraduate Marine Research Internship closes Jan 15, 2022 at 5:00 pm U.S. Eastern Time.)

Applicants will be notified by Feb 1, 2022, and awards will be made in March, 2022.

The Women Divers Hall of Fame™ (WDHOF) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to honoring and raising awareness of the contributions of outstanding women divers. WDHOF provides educational, mentorship, financial, and career opportunities to the diving community throughout the world. Each year, WDHOF awards scholarships and training grants that provide financial and educational support to individuals of all ages.

## HOW TO APPLY

- The WDHOF application system is Google-based. Applicants will need to set up a Google account to apply. You **MUST** apply online; emailed applications will not be accepted.
- **You may only apply for one scholarship or training grant.**
- **All applications require two letters of recommendation** from individuals who can comment on your ability to complete the proposed project or training. These letters need to be uploaded to the application by you (and not your recommender). Please request the letters of recommendation early, so that you can complete your application.

## DEADLINES, NOTIFICATION, AND OTHER IMPORTANT INFO

- No applications will be accepted after the published deadline of October 31, 2021, at 5:00 pm U.S. Eastern Time (or January 15, 2022, at 5:00 pm U.S. Eastern Time for the Undergraduate Marine Research Internship). **No exceptions.**
- Applicants will be notified by February 1, 2022, and awards will be made in March 2022.
- **PLEASE DO NOT APPLY IF YOU NEED FUNDS PRIOR TO MARCH 2022.**
- The scholarship/grant must be used within 18 months of the date of the award-- August 31, 2023.
- At the completion of the project or training, a report detailing how the funds were used must be submitted.
- Awardees will get a one-year complimentary membership as a WDHOF [Associate](#).

## SUMMARY OF SCHOLARSHIPS/GRANTS

Forty-eight scholarships and training grants are offered this year. For some of the categories, more than one scholarship/grant is being offered. A summary of the scholarship/grant categories and award amounts is listed below. Full descriptions and sponsorship follow the summary. Application instructions can be found [here](#).

### Scholarships for **women only** (14 awards):

- **Marine Conservation Scholarship – Graduate** (5 awards – \$2,000 each)
- **Marine Conservation Scholarship – Undergraduate** (2 awards – 1 @ \$1,500; 1 @ \$1,000)
- **Coral and Seagrass Rehabilitation Fellowships** (4 awards – \$2,500 each)
- **Sea Turtle Conservation Grant** (1 award – \$2,000)
- **Underwater Archaeology Scholarship – Graduate** (1 award – \$2,000)
- **Underwater Archaeology Scholarship – Undergraduate** (1 award – \$750)
- **Journalism, Graphic Arts, Photography, or Videography Scholarship** (1 award – \$1,500)

### Scholarships for **women or men** (4 awards):

- **Applied Marine Conservation Scholarship – Graduate** (1 award – \$2,000)
- **Undergraduate Marine Research Internship** (1 award – \$1,000)
- **Sea to Space Extreme Environment Physiology Grant** (2 awards – \$5,000 each)

### Training grants for **women only** (22 awards):

- **Basic dive training (learn to dive)** (9 awards – \$1,000 each)
- **Advanced dive training** (11 awards – \$1,000 each)
- **Hardhat dive training** (1 award – \$1,000)
- **Instructor advanced education** (1 award – \$2,000)

### Training grants for **women or men** (up to 8 awards):

- **Advanced dive training** (1 award – \$1,000)
- **Basic dive training - learn to dive** (1 award – \$1,000)
- **Disabled diver (beginner or advanced) or instructor to assist disabled to dive** (1 award – \$1,000)
- **Diver medical education** (up to 2 awards – £1,000 value each)
- **Diving emergency medical responder grants** (up to 3 awards – \$500 value each)

**We thank the WDHOF 2022 Scholarship & Training Grant Sponsors:** WDHOF Member Cecile Benjamin in memory of her husband Max • John and Jeanne Morrison in memory of their daughter Rachel Morrison • WDHOF Member Meg Donat • Sea of Change Foundation (WDHOF Member Anne Hasson) in loving memory of Wayne Hasson • Family and friends in memory of WDHOF Member Sherry Reed • Oceanic Research Group/WDHOF Member Christine Bird • Family and friends in memory of WDHOF Member Susan L. Williams, Ph.D. • The J. Berman Memorial Foundation • The Connelly Family, in memory of their mother and WDHOF Member Cecelia Connelly • WDHOF Members Michele Hall, Andrea Stockert, and Karen Straus in memory of WDHOF Member Bonnie Cardone • Jon Clark, in memory of his wife Dr. Laurel Clark • WDHOF Members Sue Morra, Ph.D. and Kathleen Dudzinski, Ph.D. • Frank Boulanger, in memory of his wife and WDHOF Member Ella Jean Morgan • Ocean Wishes (WDHOF Member Margo Peyton) • The Dudas family (WDHOF Member Evelyn Dudas) and friends in memory of Zale and Saxon • WDHOF Member Patti Gross • WDHOF Member Shirley Pomponi • Bonnie Toth Advertising & Design • Women's Scuba Association / WDHOF co-founder and Member Jennifer King • Blue Green Expeditions / WDHOF Member Faith Ortins • WDHOF Member Jeanne Bear Sleeper • The Diver Medic / WDHOF Member Chantelle Newman • Family and friends in memory of WDHOF Member Amelia Behrens-Furniss • WDHOF co-founder and Member Kathy Weydig and friends of Hugh Fletcher • Donations to the Women Divers Hall of Fame Scholarship Fund

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## SCHOLARSHIPS

*Nineteen scholarships/fellowships/internships* are offered this year in marine conservation (basic or applied research), marine biology, underwater archaeology, seagrass and coral rehabilitation, sea turtle conservation, extreme environment physiology, and journalism/graphic arts/photography/videography. They are intended to support independent research, field work, and conservation/rehabilitation activities, as specified in the descriptions. *Scholarships/Fellowships/Internships are paid directly to the recipient.*

### Marine Conservation Scholarships (7 for women; 1 for a woman or man)

Marine conservation has been our most popular and most competitive scholarship opportunity for several years. In response to the high number of competitive applications, WDHOF and our sponsors continue to offer several graduate and undergraduate scholarships in marine conservation. Up to five scholarships (\$2,000 each) will be awarded to **qualified women of any age** who are **enrolled in an accredited graduate academic or research program in the field of marine conservation.**

One scholarship will be awarded to a woman or man to support a graduate project in **applied marine conservation biology.** **Women or men** with **current enrollment in a marine science or marine policy degree-granting graduate program** are eligible to apply.

Two scholarships (\$1,500 & \$1,000) will be awarded to a **qualified woman of any age** who is **enrolled in an accredited undergraduate academic or research program in the field of marine conservation.**

These scholarships are intended to support independent research and/or fieldwork at an accredited university; they will not support tuition, living expenses or student loan payments. The applicant should clearly state how the intended use of the scholarship will advance marine conservation. A research proposal detailing the conservation objectives, methods, and anticipated results is required.

**There are six graduate scholarships (\$2,000 each) and two undergraduate scholarships (\$1,500 & \$1,000) in marine conservation offered for 2021-2022:**

- **Max Benjamin Memorial Graduate Conservation Scholarship**, sponsored by WDHOF Member [Cecilie Benjamin](#) in memory of her husband Max (1 award - \$2,000) **(women only)**
- **Rachel Morrison Memorial Graduate Conservation Scholarship**, sponsored by John and Jeanne Morrison in memory of their daughter [Rachel Morrison](#) (1 award - \$2,000) **(women only)**
- **Marine Conservation Graduate Scholarship**, sponsored by WDHOF Member [Meg Donat](#) (1 award - \$2000) **(women only)**
- **NEW FOR 2021-2022: Captain Wayne Hasson Memorial Applied Marine Conservation Graduate Research Scholarship** (1 award - \$2,000) to support a graduate project in **applied marine conservation biology.** **Women or men with current enrollment in a marine science or marine policy degree-granting graduate program are eligible to apply.** *Sponsored by* the [Sea of Change Foundation](#) (WDHOF Member [Anne Hasson](#)), in loving memory of [Wayne Hasson](#), a family man, Marine, scuba diver extraordinaire and instructor, boat captain, pilot, world traveler, and a true pioneer in the scuba diving industry.

- **Marine Conservation Graduate Scholarship**, sponsored by donations to the Women Divers Hall of Fame Scholarship Fund (2 awards - \$2,000 each) **(women only)**
- **Sherry Reed Memorial Undergraduate Marine Conservation Scholarship**, sponsored by family and friends in memory of WDHOF Member [Sherry Reed](#) (1 award - \$1,500) **(women only)**
- **Oceanic Research Group Undergraduate Marine Conservation Scholarship**, sponsored by [Oceanic Research Group](#)/WDHOF Member [Christine Bird](#). (1 award - \$1,000) **(women only)**

### Susan L. Williams Memorial Fellowships in Coral and Seagrass Rehabilitation (women only)

Four fellowships, \$2500 each, will be awarded to **qualified women applicants of any age.** The fellowships are **intended to support marine fieldwork and data collection in conjunction with marine habitat rehabilitation projects.** The applicant should clearly state how the intended use of the fellowship will advance the conservation, protection, and/or rehabilitation of coral reefs or sea grass habitats. The fellowships are not intended to support tuition, living expenses or student loan payments. **There is no requirement that the recipients be associated with a university.**

- *Sponsored by* family and friends in memory of WDHOF Member [Susan L. Williams, Ph.D.](#)

### J. Berman Memorial Grant for Sea Turtle Conservation (women only)

One \$2,000 grant will be awarded to a **qualified woman of any age to advance the conservation of sea turtles.** Applicants do not need to be students or enrolled in a degree-granting program. The funds are intended to support a sea turtle conservation **activity--and not conservation research.** The funds will support field work, supplies, or equipment that directly support the conservation activity. Funds cannot be used to support tuition, living expenses or student loan payments. A conservation plan should be clearly defined to detail the actual conservation activity and the anticipated outputs and outcomes. The budget should be specific. The applicant should clearly state to whom and how the results of the conservation activity will be communicated to resource managers or regulatory agencies.

- *Sponsored by the* J. Berman Memorial Foundation



### Cecelia Connelly Memorial Scholarships in Underwater Archaeology (women only)

Two scholarships—one graduate and one undergraduate—will be awarded to two deserving women of any age who are enrolled in an accredited graduate or undergraduate level course of study leading to a career in the field of underwater archaeology.

- **Cecelia Connelly Memorial Graduate Scholarship in Underwater Archaeology:** One \$2,000 scholarship will be awarded to a **graduate student with a GPA of 3.0 or better**, and the applicant must be **in good standing with her academic institution**. First-year graduate students may submit verification of a minimum overall GPA of 2.5 from their final year as an undergraduate. The funds are intended to assist with research or field study costs, and not with living expenses or student loan payments.
- **Cecelia Connelly Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship in Underwater Archaeology:** One \$750 scholarship will be awarded to a **deserving woman undergraduate student with at least a 2.5 overall GPA** who is interested in pursuing a career in underwater archaeology. The scholarship is intended to support an activity that will provide an academic learning experience through such avenues as research, internships or volunteer opportunities to advance her understanding of underwater archaeology.

*Sponsored by* the [Connelly Family](#), in memory of their mother and WDHOF Member [Cecelia Connelly](#)

### Bonnie Cardone Memorial Scholarship in Journalism, Graphic Arts, Photography, or Videography (women only)

One \$1,500 scholarship will be awarded to a **woman diver** who is **enrolled in a degree-granting undergraduate or graduate program in the U.S. or Canada in the field of journalism, graphic arts, photography, or videography** and who **plans to use her education/training to better serve the ocean environment or ocean community**. The scholarship may be used to support tuition, participation in a journalism, graphic arts, or photography workshop, or an internship program at an accredited university. It may not be used for student loan payments, housing, or prior incurred expenses. The application should detail specific plans for how the scholarship will be used, and how the outcome of the scholarship will be applied to better serve the ocean environment or ocean community.

- *Sponsored by* WDHOF Members [Michele Hall](#), [Andrea Stockert](#), and [Karen Straus](#) in memory of WDHOF Member [Bonnie Cardone](#)

### Laurel Clark Sea To Space Physiology Research Grant (women or men)

Two (2) \$5000 grants will be awarded to support **graduate research in extreme environment physiology (diving, altitude, and/or space)**. **Women or men** with **current or pending enrollment in a degree-granting graduate program** are eligible to apply. A research proposal detailing the objectives, hypotheses to be tested, methods, anticipated results, and alternative approaches is required. The grant is for 18 months, during which time the recipient will be expected to have completed the proposed research. It is expected that results of the research will be submitted for presentation at an academic conference and/or submitted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal within 6 months of project completion. A detailed budget, with justification, is required with the application. Only direct costs related to the research will be covered (e.g., equipment, supplies, travel, partial tuition); the grant opportunity does not cover indirect costs and cannot be used solely for tuition. A financial report detailing how funds were used will be due no later than 18 months after the award is issued.

- *Sponsored by* [Jon Clark](#), in memory of his wife [Dr. Laurel Clark](#), medical doctor, U.S. Navy Captain, accomplished diver, and NASA astronaut

### Undergraduate Marine Research Internship (women or men)

A \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a **still-matriculated undergraduate student (woman or man)** who will be **participating in a confirmed internship program with a focus in marine biology**. The internship and logistical details should be identified by the applicant and provided with their application packet. If the applicant has not yet received the internship award, s/he should provide details for one or more applications that the applicant has submitted but not yet received confirmation of the award (but note that receipt of the UMRI award is preferential to an applicant with an internship confirmed). Students must provide documentation to verify that they have completed at least 60 credits or hold third-year (junior) status prior to starting the internship; applicants **must still be enrolled in an academic program during participation in the internship for which they are applying**. This scholarship can be used to offset expenses (e.g., travel, lodging, research expenses) related to the internship. The internship is typically ~3 months (or completed during a summer session), though longer duration exceptions will be considered. DEADLINE for application is JAN 15, 2022.

- *Sponsored by* WDHOF Members [Sue Morra, Ph.D.](#) and [Kathleen Dudzinski, Ph.D.](#)





## TRAINING GRANTS

Twenty-nine training grants are offered this year. Training grants provide funding for diving and diving-related underwater training. WDHOF and our sponsors offer several dive training grants for both beginners to learn to dive and for certified divers to advance their skills. For training conducted in the U.S., funds are paid directly to the training facility upon WDHOF's receipt of an invoice; *the grant is NOT paid directly to the grantee.* For training that is not conducted in the U.S., the grantee must submit an invoice, and funds will be transferred to the grantee's bank account.

### Basic Dive Training Grants: Learn To Dive

Up to ten basic dive training grants are being offered to **women or men** who wish to begin their dive training. The grants are for \$1,000: \$500 for dive training and up to \$500 for dive gear. Dive training must culminate in a certification from a nationally recognized diver-training agency.

- **Ella Jean Morgan Memorial Dive Training Grant for Young Women:** 1 award @ \$1,000 for a **young woman**, age 15-21, who wishes to **begin** her dive training
  - *Sponsored by* Frank Boulanger, in memory of his wife and WDHOF Member [Ella Jean Morgan](#).
- **Ocean Wishes Basic Dive Training Grant for Women of Any Age:** 1 award @ \$1,000 for a **woman of any age** and background who wishes to **begin** her dive training through a PADI scuba certification course
  - *Training sponsored by* [Ocean Wishes](#) (WDHOF Member [Margo Peyton](#))
  - *Equipment sponsored by* Donations to the Women Divers Hall of Fame Scholarship Fund
- **NEW FOR 2021: Zale and Saxon Memorial Basic Dive Training Grant:** 1 award @ \$1,000 for a **young woman or man (under 21 years of age)** who is interested in learning to dive and who lacks the financial means to afford dive training.
  - *Sponsored by* the Dudas family (WDHOF Member [Evelyn Dudas](#)) and friends in memory of Zale and Saxon
- **WDHOF Member-Sponsored Basic Dive Training Grants:** 2 awards @ \$1,000 each for **women** of any age and background who wish to **begin** their dive training
  - *Sponsored by* WDHOF Member [Patti Gross](#)
  - *Sponsored by* WDHOF Member [Shirley Pomponi](#) and [Bonnie Toth](#) Advertising & Design
- **Women Divers Hall of Fame Basic Dive Training Grants:** 4 awards @ \$1,000 each for **women** of any age and background who wish to **begin** their dive training
  - *Sponsored by* donations to the Women Divers Hall of Fame Scholarship Fund
- **Women's Scuba Association Dive Training Grant** to a **young woman or man** who wants to **begin** or **further** her/his dive education/training. Candidates must be **enrolled in an ROTC or JROTC program, military academy or be a Sea Cadet or Sea Scout**
  - *Sponsored by* Women's Scuba Association/ WDHOF co-founder and Member [Jennifer King](#)

### Advanced Dive Training Grants: For Certified Divers

Up to 11 advanced dive training grants are being offered to **women or men** divers of any age and background who wish to further their dive education through approved **scuba diving programs beyond the basic certification level.** The grants are for \$1,000: \$500 for dive training and up to \$500 for dive gear. Dive training must culminate in a certification from a nationally recognized diver-training agency.

- **NEW FOR 2021: Zale and Saxon Memorial Advanced Dive Training Grant:** 1 award @ \$1,000 for a **young woman or man (under 21 years of age)** who is interested in rescue training, medic training, and advanced open water diving and who lacks the financial means to afford dive training
  - *Sponsored by* the Dudas family (WDHOF Member [Evelyn Dudas](#)) and friends in memory of Zale and Saxon
- **4 grants for advanced recreational dive training (women only)**
  - *Sponsored by* [Bonnie Toth](#) Advertising & Design) (1 award @ \$1,000)
  - *Sponsored by* donations to the Women Divers Hall of Fame Scholarship Fund (3 awards @ \$1,000 each)
- **3 grants to advance diving skills needed for the applicant's profession (women only)**
  - *Sponsored by* donations to the Women Divers Hall of Fame Scholarship Fund (3 awards @ \$1,000 each)
- **1 grant to support advanced training in technical or cave diving (women only)**
  - *Sponsored by* donations to the Women Divers Hall of Fame Scholarship Fund (1 award @ \$1,000)
- **1 grant to support advanced dive training for any purpose (women only)**
  - *Sponsored by* [Blue Green Expeditions/](#) WDHOF Member [Faith Ortins](#)
- **Women's Scuba Association Dive Training Grant** to a **young woman or man** who wants to **begin** or **further** her/his dive education/training. Candidates must be **enrolled in an ROTC or JROTC program, military academy or be a Sea Cadet or Sea Scout.**
  - *Sponsored by* Women's Scuba Association/ WDHOF co-founder and Member [Jennifer King](#)

## SPECIALTY DIVE TRAINING GRANTS



### Instructor Advanced Education Training Grant (women only)

One \$2,000 grant is open to **women who are certified scuba diving instructors and have trained and certified a minimum of 25 open water divers**. The purpose of the grant is to encourage instructors to expand their own underwater-related skills by taking additional training leading to certification to teach dive specialty courses, or become certified as an instructor in a diving education, skill-associated field such as CPR, O2, AED, First Aid, or earn a certificate in an industry-associated field such as chamber operation or equipment repair. The grant is not limited to these examples. Other courses that are post-instructor certification that improve or expand the instructor's dive training safety or skills will be considered. The grant may be used for single or multiple course fees and equipment needed for specialized diving or to teach the learned skill/specialty. The award may not be used for travel expenses. A report detailing how the grant was used to increase and apply new skills is required.

- *Sponsored by* WDHOF Member [Jeanne Bear Sleeper](#)

### Diver Medical Education Grants (women or men)

Five training grants will be awarded to **qualified women or men**. **No funds will be awarded; training is provided directly by the Diver Medic.**

Two grants (valued at £1,000 each) will be awarded for Diver Medical Training to qualified **women or men in the UK and Europe areas**. Applicants must be **over the age of 18**, have **at least the recreational diver certification or equivalent**, and should hold **a current EFR/BLS/First Aid certification**. The grants cover full Diver Medical theory and Practical training (approximately 70 hours); please refer to the Diver Medic website (<https://www.thedivermedic.com/newpage>) for more details. The student will be responsible for arranging and paying for his/her own transport, accommodation and other expenses to the training locations. On successful completion, the student will receive a certificate and certification card.

3 grants (valued at \$500 each) for EFR Approved Diving Emergency Medical Responder Courses will be awarded to **women or men in the USA or Canada**. For more details of the online courses, please check the Diver Medic website (<https://www.thedivermedic.com/newpage>). On successful completion, the student will receive a certificate and certification card.

- *Sponsored by* the [Diver Medic](#) / WDHOF Member [Chantelle Newman](#)

### Amelia Behrens-Furniss Memorial Hardhat Dive Training Grant (women only)

1 grant of \$1,000 (\$500 for training; \$500 for dive equipment) to a **woman of any age** and background who wishes to **begin or further her training in hardhat diving** through an **approved hardhat dive training program**. The applicant should be **enrolled in or attending a commercial dive school**.

- *Sponsored by* family and friends in memory of WDHOF Member [Amelia Behrens-Furniss](#)

### Hugh Fletcher Memorial Dive Training Grant for Disabled Diver Instruction (women or men)

1 grant of \$1000 (\$500 for training; \$500 for adaptive dive equipment) to a **disabled person (woman or man)** who wants to begin or further her/his dive education, **or to a Divemaster, Assistant Instructor, or Instructor (woman or man)** to gain the required education/training to assist or teach the disabled to dive.

- *Training sponsored by* WDHOF co-founder and Member [Kathy Weydig](#) and friends of Hugh Fletcher
- *Equipment sponsored by* donations to the Women Divers Hall of Fame Scholarship Fund

*Please direct any questions about WDHOF Scholarships and Grants to [wdhofgrants@gmail.com](mailto:wdhofgrants@gmail.com)*

The Women Divers Hall of Fame (WDHOF®) is an international non-profit professional honor society whose member contributions span a wide variety of fields including: The Arts, Science, Medicine, Sports, Exploration, Underwater Archaeology, Media, Service, Dive Training and Education, Safety, Business, Marine Environment and Conservation, Free Diving, Commercial Diving, and Military Diving.

#### MISSION

*Women Divers Hall of Fame two part mission includes:*

- *Recognize women divers who have made outstanding contributions to the exploration, understanding, safety and enjoyment of our underwater world and*
- *Support the underwater world and its associated careers by promoting opportunities for women and men in diving through scholarships, training grants and mentorship opportunities and a worldwide network of industry contacts.*

#### SCHOLARSHIPS AND TRAINING GRANTS

Scholarships and training grants are awarded yearly. Scholarships range from Underwater Archaeology, Journalism, Graphic Arts, or Photography; Marine Conservation; Undergraduate Marine Research Internship in Marine Biology. Training grants to Assist the Disabled to Dive; Basic and Advanced Dive Training; Certified Hyperbaric Technician; Marine Science, Dive Medicine, and Public Safety Diver.

To learn more about Women Divers Hall of Fame visit [www.wdhof.org](http://www.wdhof.org)