



## **Virginia & Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Kentucky Ornithological Society**

The Virginia & Wendell Kingsolver Scholarship Fund was established in 2013 by the Kentucky Ornithological Society. It honors the memory of Virginia “Ginny” Kingsolver and the legacy and contributions of Ginny and Wendell to KOS and to environmental and educational groups across Kentucky.

Ginny had a particular passion for instilling a love of nature in young people. She served as a board member for the Kentucky chapters of the Sierra Club and The Nature Conservancy and as president of the Wilderness Girl Scout Council. Both Ginny and Wendell served as president of KOS. Because the Kingsolvers feel so strongly about engaging children with nature, the KOS Board chose to create a scholarship to send one or more young birders from Kentucky to one of the American Birding Association Summer Camps.

Camp Colorado and Camp Avocet are organized by The American Birding Association and staffed by ABA employees and special guests from the birding community. Each includes a week in July or August filled with opportunities for campers to take their birding skills to the next level, meet others with similar interests, and explore careers in birding and ornithology. Scholarships are available to birders between the ages of 13 and 18 who live in Kentucky. KOS funds will cover lodging, meals, transportation to and from the airport, camp events and instructional sessions. Airfare from Kentucky to the camp can also be included in the scholarship upon request.

After being cancelled in past years due to COVID, ABA camps will operate in 2022. Camp Colorado will be July 23 to 30, 2022. Exact dates for Camp Avocet haven't been set yet. In the meantime, details about the camps, as well as reports and video of past camps, can be found on the ABA website ([aba.org](http://aba.org)) under Young Birder Events.

To apply for a Kingsolver Scholarship, a student should fill out the attached application, write a short essay (500 words or less) on why he or she wants to participate, and include a brief recommendation from a parent, teacher, or mentor. We will ask students who receive scholarships to report on their camp experience either in person to their local bird club, to KOS at a meeting, or in writing.

Applications can be submitted year round however grants will be subject to availability at the camps which in some years have been filled to capacity.

Completed applications should be mailed to Carol Besse, 1262 Willow Avenue, Louisville, KY 40204 or emailed to [csbesse@bellsouth.net](mailto:csbesse@bellsouth.net)



**Virginia & Wendell Kingsolver  
Scholarship Application  
Kentucky Ornithological Society**

Applicant's Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_

Home phone with area code

\_\_\_\_\_

Email address

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent or Legal Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_

Address if different from applicant's:

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of applicant's school

\_\_\_\_\_

Gender Male \_\_\_ Female \_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

How old were you when you started  
birding? \_\_\_\_\_

Who taught you about  
birds? \_\_\_\_\_

How often do you birdwatch?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How many bird species have you seen in  
Kentucky? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you belong to a birding club or  
society? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, which one? \_\_\_\_\_

Which Camp is your first choice?

\_\_ Camp Colorado

\_\_ Camp Avocet July

Signature of applicant

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_