
Membership Welcome Packet

SEPTEMBER 2022



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Welcome

Welcome to the American Ornithological Society (AOS)! When the American Ornithologists' Union (founded 1883) and the Cooper Ornithological Society (founded 1893) merged in 2016, the AOS became the world's largest professional organization for ornithologists. Our goals are to encourage, promote, and support the study of birds as well as our members by building a more diverse, inclusive, and equitable ornithological community. We remain steadfast in our bird conservation efforts, aspiring to make our world a more bird-friendly place.

As a member of the AOS, you play a critical role in helping the Society promote connections and collaborations among ornithologists across the Americas and the world, fostering a more diverse population of ornithologists. The AOS both financially supports ornithological research and disseminates peer-reviewed ornithological science in our journals, *Ornithology* and *Ornithological Applications* (formerly *The Auk* and *The Condor*, respectively), and through the Birds of the World online database. In addition to supporting science, our community advocates for bird-friendly legislation, and embedding ornithological research within a broader societal context to better understand the human dimensions of our science. The AOS also continually invests in its members, with a focus on professional development across a range of disciplines.

We appreciate your support as an AOS member and we want to support *you*, as well. Please take advantage of the many AOS membership benefits available to you. We encourage you to become a reviewer for our journals, apply for professional development grants, or nominate yourself for an award. Get more involved and help direct the future of the Society by joining or leading a committee and connecting with all the professionals who *are* the AOS through AOS virtual and in person events through our many communication channels. This is *your* Society. We strengthen our Society's core values and practices through our work together, creating a welcoming, diverse, and safe professional Society home for all AOS members.

Sincerely,

The American Ornithological Society

AOS Mission

To advance the scientific understanding of birds and disseminate ornithological knowledge, enrich ornithology as a profession and mentor young professionals, and promote a rigorous scientific basis for the conservation of birds.

AOS Vision

AOS's vision is to provide a stimulating professional home for ornithologists that supports members at every career stage, from students through retirement; to ensure AOS activities and outreach efforts are accessible to the broadest diversity of ornithologists, students, and members of the public; to produce scientific publications of the highest quality and make them available to the widest audiences possible; to host intellectually engaging and professionally vital meetings; to pursue a global perspective; and, inform public policy on all issues important to ornithology and ornithological collections.

AOS Strategic Goals

- Support ornithological science and research
- Increase access to ornithological science
- Promote avian conservation science
- Grow and diversify the AOS community
- Provide career development opportunities

Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics

Executive Summary

The American Ornithological Society (AOS) Code of Conduct and Ethics is intended to advance the mission of the Society through the open and honest communication of research and exchange of ideas; to promote equality of opportunity and treatment for all members; to assure appropriate accessibility of accurate and reliable information to colleagues, policy makers, and the public; and to encourage the effective professional development of researchers in the continuum of disciplines of ornithological sciences.

The AOS is dedicated to providing a safe, hospitable, and productive environment for everyone participating in AOS activities regardless of gender, race, ethnic origin, religion, age, marital status, sexual orientation, disabilities, or any other protected status. The AOS acknowledges that effective communication requires that we treat each other with respect and courtesy in face-to-face, written and electronic interactions and that we respect the intellectual property of our colleagues.

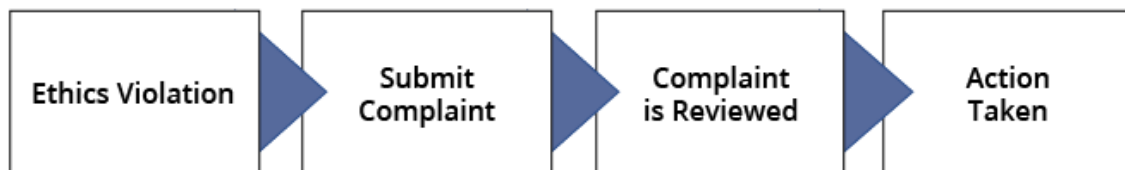
Participants in AOS activities should be able to engage in open discussions free of discrimination, harassment and retaliation. Harassment will not be tolerated in any form. Harassment includes offensive gestures or verbal comments related to ethnicity, religion, disability, physical appearance, gender, or sexual orientation in public spaces, deliberate intimidation, stalking, following, harassing photography or recording, sustained disruption of talks or other events, inappropriate physical contact, and unwelcome attention. Participants asked to stop any harassing behavior are expected to comply immediately.

[Link to full AOS Code of Conduct and Ethics Policy](#)

[Download the full AOS Code of Conduct and Ethics Policy](#)

Reporting an Incident

Reports of potential violations can be made to the AOS Professional Ethics Committee via email: PEC@americanornithology.org, or [this Google form](#). The person reporting, who may be a complainant or witness, is not required or expected to discuss the concern with the alleged offender. All complaints will be treated seriously, and will be reviewed promptly by the AOS Professional Ethics Committee or their designee, following the review process illustrated in the diagram below. Confidentiality will be honored to the extent permitted as long as the rights of others are not compromised.



Disciplinary Action

Individuals found to have engaged in behavior prohibited by this Policy as well as those making allegations of a breach of Code in bad faith will be subject to disciplinary action. The Executive Committee may take any action they deem appropriate, ranging from a verbal warning or ejection/prohibition from the specific activity in question (e.g. annual meeting, workshop, publication, etc.), to the reporting of their behavior to their employer. Repeat offenders may be subject to further disciplinary action, such as being banned from participating in future AOS activities, meetings, publications, or other programs. AOS Bylaws permit Council to terminate the membership of any Member.

Retaliation Is Prohibited

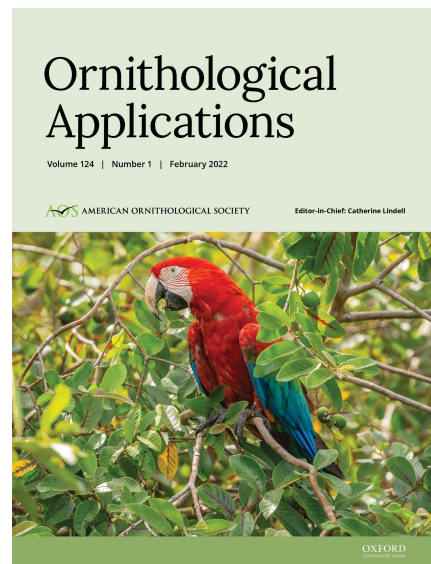
AOS will not tolerate any form of retaliation against individuals who file a complaint or assist in an investigation. Retaliation is a serious violation of this policy and, like any breach of the Code itself, will be subject to disciplinary action.

Questions & Appeal

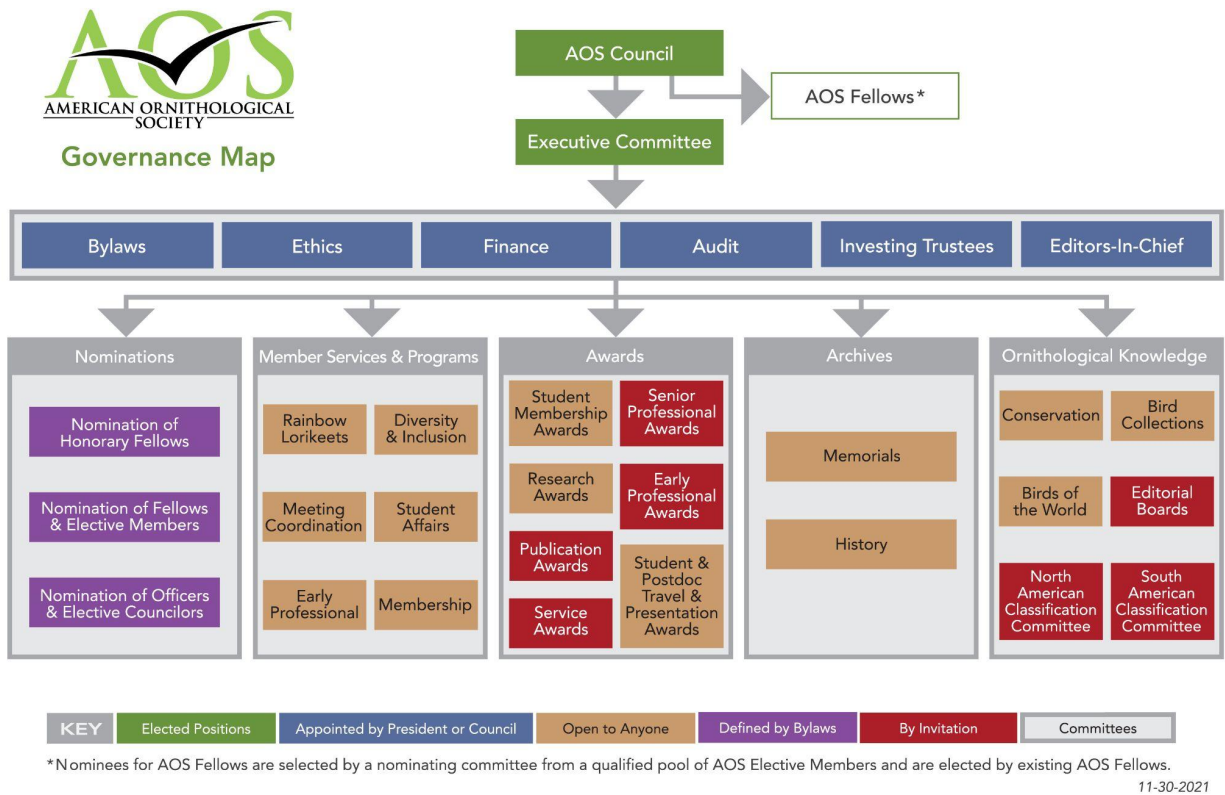
Any questions regarding this policy should be directed to the AOS Professional Ethics Committee at PEC@americanornithology.org. In the event that an individual involved in any reported incident is dissatisfied with the disciplinary action, he or she may appeal to the Executive Committee.

Benefits of Your AOS Membership

- Unlimited online access to [Ornithology](#) (formerly *The Auk*) and [Ornithological Applications](#) (formerly *The Condor*).
- No author page charges to publish in AOS journals as a corresponding author, plus a 25% discount on optional open access fees.
- Free access to [Birds of the World](#), the most comprehensive and authoritative online resource available on the biology of the world's birds.
- 25% discount on Oxford University Press books.
- 30% discount with Princeton University Press.
- Eligibility for prestigious [awards and research grants](#) and access to a range of professional development opportunities; see information below for further details.
- Discounted registration for our [annual meeting](#).



AOS Governance and Structure



How to Get Involved in the AOS

This section accompanies the AOS governance map and describes how new AOS members can become more involved with the Society and the various AOS committees. Here, we provide a brief description of each committee, a description of how new members can contribute or how the committee is populated. Unless otherwise specified, to contact a committee chair or point person to express your interest in getting involved please email info@americanornithology.org.

Note that chairs of the various committees are appointed by the President, as defined in the AOS bylaws.

AOS Committees

Elected Leadership and Committees of Council

Chair: The President of the Society presides at Council meetings

Description: Currently, voting members of Council are made up of the four officers (President & President-Elect (each 2-year terms); Treasurer and Secretary, elected annually, twelve Elective Councilors (3-year terms); and the three most recent Past Presidents (3 successive 2-year terms, or 6 years).

How to get involved: Officers and Elective Councilors, including past presidents, are all elected by the general membership. The Executive Director, as the Chief Executive Officer, serves on Council as a non-voting member. The President may appoint other individual members to serve as non-voting participants. Non-voting members of Council currently include the Chair of the Investing Trustees Committee, the Editors-in-Chief of the two journals, a Student Representative, and Honorary Past Presidents interested in continuing to serve on Council.

Executive Committee

Chair: Standing AOS President, with support of the Executive Director/CEO

Description: Executive Committee of Council consists of the four Elected Officers of the Society and the Executive Director/CEO. The Executive Committee provides ongoing business oversight of the activities and operations of the Society as may arise between meetings of the Council to advance AOS's long range goals. The four officers of the Society are responsible for evaluating the performance of the Executive Director/CEO on an annual basis.

How to get involved: Officers are elected by the general membership to their positions, as defined by the AOS Bylaws. The Executive Director/CEO is hired by the AOS Council.

Audit Committee

Chair: Doug Phillips

Description: Directs, reviews, and presents the annual audit and tax returns to the Council. Works with the Executive Director to review the financial statements of the Society after the annual audit to approve the audit report, ensure that financial peculiarities of the Society have been appropriately treated, and alert Council to any issues raised by the auditors.

How to get involved: Appointed by the President and by invitation. This committee is composed of Council members and special advisors and is not open to the general Society membership.

Bylaws Committee

Chair: Sara Morris

Description: Oversees the process of changing and amending the AOS Bylaws, which govern the operations and programs of the Society.

How to get involved: Appointed by the President and by invitation.

Investing Trustees Committee

Chair: Jennifer Owen

Description: Reviews market conditions and determines and regularly reviews the Society's endowment asset allocations. Works with the Treasurer and Executive Director to review policies for investment instruments and evaluates performance of the investments and the professional investment managers. Annually presents to Council an overview of

performance and activities over the past five years and the recommended amount of transfer from investments to the operating account for the next fiscal year.

How to get involved: Appointed by Council annually. This committee is composed of Council members and special advisors and is not open to the general Society membership.

Finance Committee

Chair: Matt Carling

Members: John Fitzpatrick, Jim Herkert, Rebecca Kimball, Jennifer Owen, Doug Phillips, Judith Scarl

Description: Works with the Executive Director to establish and implement a strategic financial plan for the Society. From time to time, the Finance Committee may be called upon by the Executive Director to review the financial statements and budget or to address financial management issues or emerging needs and opportunities that affect the Society's fiscal health and security.

How to get involved: Appointed by the President and by invitation. This committee is composed of Council members, former treasurers, and special advisors and is not open to the general Society membership.

Professional Ethics Committee

Chair: Jeanne Fair

Description: Works to promote a high level of ethical conduct by ornithologists through the development of educational activities for AOS members and other ornithologists. The committee oversees the investigation of complaints concerning misconduct of AOS members and affiliates including attendees of AOS-sponsored meetings, and activities associated with AOS publications and communications and to supervise mediation or recommend disciplinary actions/sanctions when a violation of the Code of Conduct is found to have occurred.

How to get involved: Appointed by the President and by invitation.

Program Committees

Membership Services & Programs

Membership Committee

Chair: Sara Kaiser and Erin Morrison

Description: Develops strategies for retaining, increasing, and diversifying membership of the Society. Works with AOS committees to evaluate effective ways to best serve and engage our members and provide meaningful opportunities for members to contribute to their profession.

How to get involved: Membership Committee is composed of chairs of other committees with knowledge of different membership groups, and is open to any AOS member who is interested in volunteering. Email the chair to learn more about potential opportunities.

Early Professionals Committee

Chair: Nandadevi Cortes-Rodriguez and Nick Mason

Description: Discusses the needs of early-professional ornithologists (postdoctoral researchers, pre-tenure faculty members, and non-academic scientists who have received degrees within the past five years) and designs and promotes professional development resources, training, and opportunities for these individuals.

How to get involved: Early Professional Committee is open to any AOS early professional member (graduate students, non-academic and academic professionals who are ≤ 5 years out of their terminal degree). Interested volunteers are encouraged to email the chair to learn about opportunities.

Student Affairs Committee

Chair: Jacob Drucker, Brittany Panos, Prashant Ghimire, and Nikki Mason

Description: Evaluates and recommends efforts that address the needs of student members and increase student participation in AOS activities, committees, annual meetings, and Society communications. Fosters Society-sponsored activities to promote interaction between students and professional ornithologists.

How to get involved: Student Affairs Committee is open to any AOS student member (undergraduate or graduate). Interested volunteers are encouraged to email any of the chairs to learn about opportunities.

Diversity and Inclusion Committee

Chair: Viviana Ruiz-Gutierrez

Description: Increases the relevance and impact of the AOS in ornithology by ensuring that Society activities and outreach efforts are accessible to the broadest diversity of ornithologists, students, and members of the public. The Committee works to empower AOS members by creating an environment where all members feel welcomed and encouraged to fully engage and participate in all activities and governance. (See also: [AOS Diversity Statement](#).)

How to get involved: Diversity and Inclusion Committee is currently developing an application process for new Committee member. Please contact the Chair to learn more about when applications will be open and how to apply.

Rainbow Lorikeet

Chair: Sarah Winnicki

Description: An affiliate caucus of [Out to Innovate](#)[™] (formerly NOGLSTP, the National Organization of Gay and Lesbian Scientists and Technical Professionals) and AOS committee that strives to represent and serve the Queer ornithological community. The

group works to increase visibility of LGBTIQ+ ornithologists, identify and address issues that face Queer scientists and researchers, and to serve as allies to other underrepresented groups.

How to get involved: Rainbow Lorikeets is open to any AOS member. Interested volunteers are encouraged to email the chair to learn about opportunities.

Meeting Coordination Committee

Chair: Sushma Reddy and Adrienne Tossas

Description: Provides strategic oversight and coordination of AOS annual meetings, all of its activities, and development of the scientific program. The Meeting Coordination Committee (MCC) works in collaboration with the Local Arrangements committee for in-person meetings.

How to get involved: The MCC is typically composed of chairs of or committee members from other AOS committees with activities held at the annual meeting. Additionally, each conference requires the assistance of many volunteers to help with translations, run the technology during individual sessions, and other activities. The MCC puts out a call for volunteers interested in supporting conference events. Members who have suggestions for programming, nominations for plenary speakers, or are interested in assisting in planning and support are encouraged to email the chair.

Nominations

Nomination of Fellows and Elective Members Committee

Chair: Lauryn Benedict

Description: Surveys the AOS membership and coordinates nominations of [qualified members](#) for the special membership class of [Elective Member](#), and nominations of qualified Elective Members for the class of [Fellow](#), according to the criteria established in [AOS Bylaws](#).

How to get involved: Any current AOS Member can suggest the names of deserving nominees for Elective Member or Fellow. The Committee will review suggestions and nominate [qualified](#) nominees. A group of three or more Fellows may nominate Elective Members and Fellows directly, without Committee action. A group of three or more Elective Members can nominate Elective Members directly, without Committee action. All nominations are made through the Society's [Member Portal](#).

To serve on the Committee: Appointed by the President and by invitation. Per [AOS Bylaws](#), Committee members must be AOS Fellows. Individuals interested in serving on this committee should contact the committee chair.

Nomination of Honorary Fellows Committee

Chair: Andre Dhondt

Description: Nominates candidates for Honorary Fellows, non-members of AOS who are chosen for exceptional ornithological eminence according to the criteria established in AOS Bylaws.

How to get involved: A group of three or more Fellows may submit a nomination for Honorary Fellow to be reviewed by the Committee.

To serve on the Committee: Appointed by the President in accordance with the [AOS Bylaws](#).

Nomination of Officers and Elective Councilors Committee

Chair: President-Elect

Description: Ensures that a sufficient number of persons are nominated to stand for election for the [AOS Council](#) positions of President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and Elective Councilor, in accordance with the [AOS Bylaws](#).

How to get involved: Appointed by the President in accordance with the [AOS Bylaws](#).

Awards

Student Membership Awards Committee

Chairs: João Marcos G. Capurucho, Erin Grabarczyk, Daniel Mennill

Description: Oversees the process for granting one-year student membership awards in the AOS to undergraduate and graduate students interested in pursuing a career in ornithology.

How to get involved: Open to any AOS member; volunteers are encouraged to email the chair to learn about opportunities.

Research Awards Committee

Chair: Scott Rush and Brian Peer

Description: Solicits and reviews applications for **Student and Postdoctoral Research Awards** funded by the Society. These awards support student and postdoctoral research in various areas of avian biology.

How to get involved: Open to any AOS member; volunteers are encouraged to email the chair to learn about opportunities.

Publication Awards Committee

Chair: *currently vacant*

Description: Selects candidates for the Society's annual **Publication Awards**, recognizing outstanding peer-reviewed papers in ornithology by AOS members at different career stages published in AOS journals and elsewhere.

How to get involved: By invitation.

Service Awards Committee

Chair: Mike Webster

Description: Selects candidates for the Society's annual **Service Awards**. These awards recognize AOS members at different career stages for their outstanding service to the Society.

How to get involved: By invitation.

Senior Professional Awards Committee

Chair: Marty Leonard

Description: Selects candidates for the Society's annual **Senior Professional Awards**, recognizing the outstanding contributions to ornithology of established professionals.

How to get involved: By invitation.

Early Professional Awards Committee

Chair: Christopher Witt

Description: Solicits and reviews nominations and applications for the Society's annual **Early Professional Awards**, the James G. Cooper Early Professional Award and the Ned K. Johnson Early Investigator Award.

How to get involved: By invitation.

Student and Postdoc Travel and Presentation Awards Committee

Chairs: Morgan Tingley and Jennifer Walsh

Description: Solicits and reviews applications for [Travel Awards](#) to help defray costs of travel to attend in-person annual meetings and for [Student Presentation Awards](#) that recognize the best scientific papers and posters given by student members at the meeting.

How to get involved: By invitation.

Archives

History Committee

Chair: Bob Montgomerie

Description: Collects materials of historical importance and submits them to the Smithsonian Institution archivist assigned to managing AOS records. Provides materials to the Memorials Committee upon request and responds to requests for access to Society archives.

How to get involved: Open to any AOS member; volunteers are encouraged to email the chair to learn about opportunities.

Memorials Committee

Chair: Ted Anderson

Description: Solicits authors for and oversees the preparation of memorials honoring deceased AOS members and nonmembers who are prominent figures in ornithology and avian conservation to be published in the AOS journals *Ornithology* and *Ornithological Applications*.

How to get involved: Open to any AOS member; volunteers are encouraged to email the chair to learn about opportunities.

Ornithological Knowledge

Editorial Boards, AOS Journals

Chairs: The Editors-in-Chief of the journals

Description: Interested in joining the editorial board of *Ornithological Applications* or *Ornithology*? Associate Editors manage the peer review process by assigning papers (maximum of one new manuscript per month) to reviewers, synthesizing reviews received, and making recommendations to the Senior Editors or Editor-in-Chief. They also serve as ambassadors for the AOS journals and encourage manuscript submissions from authors. Editorial board terms are 3 years. Qualifications: a doctoral degree or equivalent research experience, evidence of an active and relevant publication record for current career stage, and experience with peer review. Previous service on a journal editorial board is not required.

How to get involved: Please send a CV and brief statement of interest describing your areas of expertise to the Editors-in-Chief of the journals: [Catherine Lindell](#), *Ornithological Applications* or [Scott Sillett](#), *Ornithology*. We particularly seek Associate Editors who are fluent in Portuguese and/or Spanish. We will keep your documents on file for at least a year if a position is not immediately available. The editorial office also distributes calls for Associate Editors through AOS media channels.

Reviewers, AOS Journals

Chairs: The Editors-in-Chief and Senior Editors of the journals

Description: Serve as a reviewer for manuscripts submitted to *Ornithology* and *Ornithological Applications*. Our peer review process is double-blind. Authors and reviewers remain anonymous to each other, although reviewers can sign reviews if they wish.

How to get involved: Serving as a reviewer is open to all researchers. Please email the Managing Editor, [Mark Penrose](#), to learn about opportunities. Graduate Students, including those between degree programs, with no previous experience are invited to participate in the [AOS Student Reviewer Program](#).

Conservation Committee

Chairs: Pete Marra and Anna Chalfoun

Description: Identifies and implements appropriate means for AOS to promote sound ornithological science for making conservation and management decisions for birds.

How to get involved: The committee is open to any AOS member; volunteers are encouraged to email the chair to learn about opportunities.

North American Classification and Nomenclature Committee (NACC)

Chairs: R. Terry Chesser and Carla Cicero

Description: Evaluates and codifies the latest scientific developments in the systematics, nomenclature, and distribution of North and Middle American birds. Publishes the *Check-list of North American Birds* and its annual supplements.

How to get involved: Appointed by the President and by invitation.

Bird Collections Committee

Chairs: John Bates and Carla Cicero

Description: Monitors the status and promotes improvements of avian scientific collections and specimen-based data. Facilitates collections-based research, including providing access to collections data and information on permits, protocols, preparation techniques, and supplies. Sponsors workshops on these topics.

How to get involved: Bird Collections is open to any AOS member; volunteers are encouraged to email the chair to learn about opportunities.

South American Classification and Nomenclature Committee (SACC)

Chair: J.V. Remsen, Jr.

Description: Evaluates and codifies the latest scientific developments in the systematics, nomenclature, and distribution of South American birds. Publishes the *Check-list of South American Birds* and its periodic supplements.

How to get involved: Appointed by the President and by invitation.

Birds of the World Advisory Committee

Chair: L. Scott Johnson

Description: Reviews content provided through the Birds of the World (BOW) website and provides oversight on functioning of the BOW-AOS partnership. Recommends improvements to increase scientific value usability of the web content.

How to get involved: The committee and BOW encourages all members interested to participate in updating the BOW species' accounts or contributing other content. Volunteers are encouraged to email the chair to learn about opportunities.

AOS Communications

The American Ornithological Society (AOS) offers many ways to connect and stay up-to-date on important Society news and updates in ornithology.

AOS News & Alerts

In the [AOS Member Portal](#), members can choose to receive regular email updates from AOS by opting in to AOS communications. The AOS News offers a timely news digest of the latest updates, science, events, and more from the Society. Our AOS

Alerts draw attention to policy or initiatives that involve birds, and share information about critical actions AOS members can take.

Social Media

You can stay up-to-date on all the latest news from AOS by following our channels on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#).

AOS Blogs

The main AOS blog, Wing Beat, offers the latest news from the AOS, including new research published in our journals, Society updates, awards and funding announcements, and opportunities to get involved in AOS efforts. [Subscribe to Wing Beat](#) to receive new posts delivered directly to your email inbox. If you're interested in following the Society's progress with English Bird Names, you can subscribe to receive updates from our [English Bird Names blog](#).

AOS Websites

Learn more about the AOS by visiting and bookmarking these websites:

www.americanornithology.org

meeting.americanornithology.org

Contacting AOS Staff or Society Leadership

We welcome hearing from you!

Contact an AOS staff member by visiting our [AOS staff page](#).

Contact the AOS Executive Director via email at jscarl@americanornithology.org

Contact any AOS officer at ExecCommittee@americanornithology.org

Accessing AOS Journals

The American Ornithological Society (AOS) publishes two scientific journals, [Ornithology](#) (formerly *The Auk*), and [Ornithological Applications](#) (formerly *The Condor*). Access our journals through our publishing partner, [Oxford University Press](#), by logging in through the [AOS Member Portal](#).

Awards and Grants

The American Ornithological Society (AOS) bestows a range of awards and grants that recognize excellence in ornithology, honor outstanding service to the Society, and provide direct funding for students, postdocs, and early career professionals. All eligibility and application information about AOS Awards and Grants is available on our website. Eligibility for awards is an often under-utilized benefit of being a member of the AOS. You may be competitive for several of these awards; please consider nominating your colleagues or yourself!

Student Membership Awards

The AOS awards one year of gratis student membership to students from anywhere in the world interested in pursuing a career in ornithology. [Student Membership Award](#) winners receive the full benefits of AOS membership. These awards are administered by the Student Membership Awards Committee. Applicants cannot have been an AOS member previously. Applications are typically due by 31 December annually, and announcements are made in early January.

Successful applicants will be notified that they are receiving a Student Membership Award in time to register early for the annual meeting and to apply for Student Travel Awards, the Student Presentation Award competition, and Student Research Awards.

Student & Postdoc Travel & Research Awards

The AOS offers a range of awards for student and postdoctoral researchers, including [Travel Awards](#) that offset the costs of traveling to attend the annual meeting, [Presentation](#)

[Awards](#) that recognize the best oral and poster presentations by students and postdocs at the annual meeting (see next section), and [Research Awards](#) that provide funding to support student research. Postdocs may also be interested in the AOS's [Kessel Fellowships for Ornithological Research](#).

Student & Postdoc Travel Awards

The AOS provides travel awards for students (undergraduate, masters, and doctoral students, and those in between degree-serving programs) as well as postdocs to help defray expenses to attend our annual meeting. These awards, made possible by endowed funds established through the generosity of Marcia Brady Tucker (in 1978) and Brina Kessel (in 2017), are administered by the Student & Postdoc Travel and Presentation Awards Committee. Occasionally, travel funds will also be made available through special competitions for other purposes, such as travel to the International Ornithological Congress (IOC).

Travel Awards In Support of Diversity & Inclusion

As part of our ongoing efforts to foster a diverse and inclusive community, AOS is proud to offer additional travel awards supporting individuals from underrepresented groups and/or those who have made significant contributions towards fostering a diverse and inclusive community. Membership in AOS is not required to be eligible for these awards. Students and postdocs (as described above) that wish to be considered for these awards should select the appropriate option in the travel award application process. These awards are administered by the Diversity and Inclusion Committee in collaboration with the Student and Postdoc Travel and Presentation Awards Committee.

Student & Postdoc Research Awards

AOS gives annual Student Research Awards of up to \$2,500 to support research in various areas of avian biology by undergraduates, graduate students, and postdocs. AOS

encourages students and postdocs from any region to apply. These awards are administered by the Research Awards Committee.

Student Presentation Awards

Each year, AOS confers several prestigious [Student Presentation Awards](#) to students (undergraduate, masters, and doctoral) who present an outstanding poster or oral paper at the Society's annual meeting. Each award consists of a \$500 honorarium. These awards are administered by the Student & Postdoc Travel and Presentation Awards Committee.

Individuals wishing to be considered for a Student Presentation Award must apply directly for inclusion in the competition. Applications for the Student Presentation Award are available via the AOS Member Portal and should be completed immediately after abstracts have been submitted. Note that abstract due dates and presentation award application due dates are often the same.

Early Professional Awards

The AOS is deeply committed to supporting the career development of early-career ornithologists working worldwide. AOS offers two Early Professional Awards, the [Ned K. Johnson Early Investigator Award](#) and the [James G. Cooper Early Professional Award](#), for outstanding research achievements by early-career professionals in ornithology. In 2019, the Society introduced a new research fellowship program for early-career professionals, the [Kessel Fellowships for Ornithological Research](#).

The Johnson and Cooper awards are administered by the Early Professional Awards Committee, and the Kessel Research Fellowship program is overseen by the Research Awards Committee. Both committees strive to develop a balanced slate of nominees that represents the Society and the diversity of its members. Candidates for the Cooper and Johnson awards may apply for these awards themselves or may be nominated by another member(s) of AOS, and the Early Professional Awards Committee may also make its own nominations to the slate of candidates.

We encourage early-career ornithologists to also consider competing for the [Wesley Lanyon Award](#), which recognizes the best review paper on any topic in ornithology, published in either AOS journal, authored by an early-career researcher, and the [Florence](#)

[Merriam Bailey Award](#), administered by committee, which recognizes an outstanding article published within the preceding two calendar years by an early career member in an AOS journal.

Senior Professional Awards

The AOS bestows four prestigious [senior professional awards](#) in recognition of outstanding contributions to ornithological science and conservation. Nominations are reviewed by the Senior Awards Committee and a final recommendation for each award is made to the AOS Council for approval.

The Committee strives to develop a balanced annual slate of nominees that represents the diversity of individuals not only within the Society's membership but throughout the field of ornithology. Members are encouraged to nominate their colleagues, and self-nominations are accepted. Please nominate an individual for only one award. AOS officers currently serving on the Executive Committee of Council are not eligible to be nominated for these awards.

AOS Service Awards

The AOS offers [two service awards](#) to recognize members who have rendered exceptional service to ornithology and to the Society, the [Peter R. Stettenheim Service Award](#) for well-established ornithologists, and the [Marion Jenkinson Service Award](#) to early- to mid-career ornithologists. The selection of annual awardees is made by the Service Awards Committee. The AOS Awards committees strive to develop a balanced annual slate of nominees that represents the Society and the diversity of its members.

Publication Awards

The AOS bestows five [prestigious publication awards](#) on its members in recognition of outstanding ornithological publications. These awards are administered by the AOS Publication Awards Committee, with the exception of the [Wesley Lanyon Award](#), which is

administered by the Editors-in-Chief of AOS journals. AOS strives to develop a balanced annual slate of nominees that represents the Society and the diversity of its members.

AOS Events

A major benefit of joining AOS is your access to member events, including our annual meeting, professional development and training opportunities, networking events, social mixers, member forums and roundtables, and more! Bookmark our [website events calendar](#) to stay up-to-date on the latest opportunities to attend AOS-sponsored events.

Our 2023 annual meeting will be held **7–12 August 2023** in London, Ontario. Visit our [meeting website](#) for details on the meeting's scientific and social programs, opportunities to volunteer, and meeting registration and travel details.

Closing Statement

We want to welcome you to the American Ornithological Society! We know there are many ways to participate in the science of ornithology, whether it's fostering diversity and inclusion within the ornithological community, promoting avian conservation, or increasing access to and supporting ornithological research. We hope this packet is a useful resource for finding *your* place in *your* Society. We're excited to have you join us!