

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES SCHOLARSHIP

The 2017 Matthew Charles Decker Memorial Scholarship for Field Studies

This award is intended to provide a scholarship to qualified UCSB Environmental Studies or Hydrologic Sciences majors to significantly diminish the costs of participation in an environmental field study in the area of wildlife management or environmental conservation. Eligible field study programs must be offered through an accredited academic organization such as, but not limited to, *The Wildlands Studies Program*, *The School for Field Studies*, *Sierra Institute*, or *The Wild Rockies Field Institute*. The recipient is expected apply the credit earned towards their major and/or graduation requirements.

Scholarship: One award of \$1,000 to be used toward the cost of a student's participation in an environmental field study in the area of wildlife management or environmental conservation.

Who's Eligible: Applicant must be a declared Environmental Studies or Hydrologic Sciences major with at least sophomore status at time of application and a minimum overall GPA of 3.0. Award can be used any quarter as long as units earned from the completed program are applied towards one's major/graduation requirements.

Instructions: Applicants meeting the criteria noted above should submit an essay not to exceed three pages stating why they wish to study in the wilds, how doing so relates to their studies and career aspirations, and how this scholarship would assist in accomplishing their goals. On a separate cover sheet, include your full name, perm number, current class level, overall GPA, local address and phone number. Please also include the name of the field study program and project(s) you hope to attend, including the dates the program will be offered. Applications will not be processed if the above information is not provided.

Deadline: Application and essay should be submitted **by Friday, February 24, 2017** as an attached PDF by email to eoshea@es.ucsb.edu. Awards will be announced in March.

Questions: Contact Eric Zimmerman, ES Program Academic Advisor, at (805) 893-3185 or zimmerman@es.ucsb.edu.

The Matthew Charles Decker Scholarship was established in the loving memory of Matthew Charles Decker, a UCSB Environmental Studies undergraduate major, who suffered a fatal skiing accident in March of 1995 during his junior year. Matthew was an honors scholar whose love of, and commitment to, the environment was an inspiration to all who knew him. He completed a wildlife study program in the fall of 1994, during which he interacted with wolves and bears and gained an appreciation for the astonishing beauty of nature. This educational experience left him in awe of our Earth and instilled in him a resounding devotion to work on behalf of the environment.