

PRESS RELEASE

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Images available upon request.

March 31 deadline for environmental education scholarships

Tarpon Bay Explorers Scholarship for Environmental Studies for the fourth consecutive year will award \$1,000 to each of two local high school seniors or college students in April of this year, reports Doris Hardy, chair of the “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society (DDWS) Education Committee.

Applicants must live in Lee County, Charlotte, or Collier County and intend to pursue an education in science, biology, environmental studies, or wildlife conservation. Funds may be used for tuition, books, supplies, equipment, and technical materials at a qualifying institution of higher learning. Applications are due by March 31, 2009.

DDWS -- a non-profit, friends-of-the-refuge organization that supports the Education Center, “Ding” Darling Days, and other educational programs at the refuge – will administer the Tarpon Bay Explorers scholarships.

For information on applying for scholarships, please contact Hardy at hardydd@comcast.net or 239-472-1100 ext. 233, or Toni Westland at Toni_Westland@fws.gov or 239-472-1100 ext. 236.

Applicants can also download and print scholarship applications and information from www.dingdarlingsociety.org. Click on the applicable link on the bottom right-hand side under “Inside the Society.”

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