



## 2018 Student Research Awards

Source: The Auk, 135(4) : 1192-1194

Published By: American Ornithological Society

URL: <https://doi.org/10.1642/AUK-18-127.1>

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## AWARDS

### 2018 Student Research Awards

Published September 26, 2018

The American Ornithological Society (AOS) proudly recognizes the students who received research awards for 2018. These awards are not ranked but honor research that advances our understanding of birds and their conservation. The 2018 awardees are listed below (in alphabetical order by award's last name and recipient's last name).

#### DONALD L. BLEITZ AWARD

**Austin Spence**, University of Connecticut

Using molecular scatology to reveal novel biotic interactions induced by climate change

#### HERBERT AND BETTY CARNES AWARD

**Heather Skeen**, University of Chicago

Characterizing the gut microbiome of Kirtland's Warblers on the wintering and breeding grounds

#### JOSEPH GRINNELL AWARD

**Jessica Hernandez**, Virginia Tech

Sexually transmitted microbes as a cost to extra-pair fertilizations in female Tree Swallows

#### WERNER AND HILDEGARD HESSE AWARD

**Stephanie Aguillon**, Cornell University

Using hybridization to understand the genomic underpinnings of phenotypic differences

**Juan Benito**, University of Bath

The origin of the modern bird body plan: Cretaceous Ornithurae from the Old World

**Gemma Clucas**, University of New Hampshire

Multi-colony analysis of the diet of adult Atlantic Puffins with novel DNA metabarcoding techniques

**Brittany Coppinger**, University of Tennessee

Flock density and its influences on social and vocal complexity

**Nikole Freeman**, University of Guelph

Carry-over effects of early-life food availability on stress physiology and survival: A supplementation experiment in a winter breeding passerine

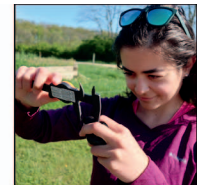
**Chauncey Gadek**, University of New Mexico



Austin Spence



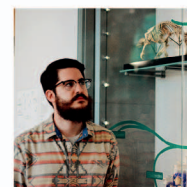
Heather Skeen



Jessica Hernandez



Stephanie Aguillon



Juan Benito



Gemma Clucas



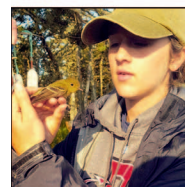
Brittany Coppinger



Nikole Freeman



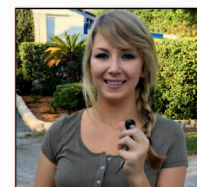
Chauncey Gadek



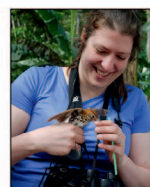
Rebecca Garlinger



Kathryn Grabenstein



Haley Hanson



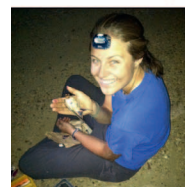
Suzanne Hartley



Johanna Harvey



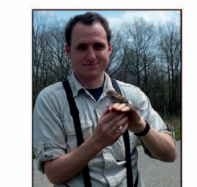
Shanta Hejmadi



Amanda Hund



John Jones



Todd Jones



Replicated adaptation to altitude in marsh-dwelling songbirds: A natural experiment

**Rebecca Garlinger**, Villanova University

Sociality and dominance: Behavioral mechanisms in a moving songbird hybrid zone

**Kathryn Grabenstein**, University of Colorado - Boulder

Disturbance-mediated hybridization: An experimental assessment of species' barriers

**Haley Hanson**, University of South Florida

Epigenetic potential in native and introduced populations of House Sparrows (*Passer domesticus*)

**Michael Hanson**, Yale University

The evolutionary origins and development of the avian cranial kinetic system

**Suzanne Hartley**, North Carolina State University

Eggshell characteristics as predictors of heavy metal concentration in House Sparrow eggs

**Johanna Harvey**, University of Connecticut

Evolution of host defenses against introduced parasites of Darwin's finches

**Shanta Hejmadi**, University of Minnesota

Evolutionary history and extinction risk in raptors (Falconiformes and Accipitriformes): A new framework for integrating phylogeny and community assembly in risk assessment and conservation

**Amanda Hund**, University of Colorado

The role of early environment in the expression of a lifelong melanin-based sexual trait

**John Jones**, Tulane University

Proximate mechanisms of female multimodal signal expression in a tropical songbird

**Todd Jones**, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Do pre- to post-fledging carryover effects drive patterns of differential post-fledging survival in altricial songbirds?

**Sarah Khalil**, Tulane University

Flexible and variable carotenoid-based ornamentation in the Red-backed Fairywren: Proximate mechanisms and adaptive consequences

**Shelby Lawson**, University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign

Investigating the neural and perceptual basis of functional reference calls in Yellow Warblers

**Anna Lello-Smith**, Cornell University

Understanding drivers of avian community assembly in regenerating cattle pastures

**Marisa Martinez**, Florida Atlantic University

Predicting wading bird foraging habitat in dynamic intertidal systems

**Molly McDermott**, University of Colorado-Boulder

How does non-breeding environment affect sexual signaling? A comparative analysis in two subspecies of Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*)

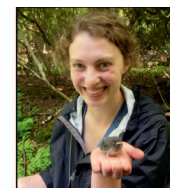
**Lucas Pavan**, Stanford University



Sarah Khalil



Shelby Lawson



Anna Lello-Smith



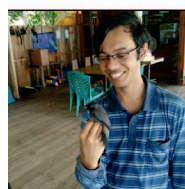
Marisa Martinez



Molly McDermott



Lucas Pavan



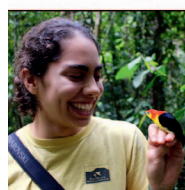
Subir Shakya



Naima Starkloff



Andrew Stillman



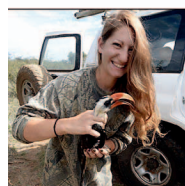
Sheela Turbek



Vitek Jirinec



Fernanda Duque



Stefanie Siller



Marion Donald



Jordan Herman



Benjamin Lagasse



Kara Leimberger



Brian Trevelline

Avian community response to patterns of defaunaion in Central Africa and its effect on understory seed predation

**Subir Shakya**, Louisiana State University

An investigation of the genetics of coloration in Black-headed Bulbul (*Pycnonotus atriceps*) of Southeast Asia

**Naima Starkloff**, University at Albany, SUNY

Geographic variation in host immunogenetics and malarial parasite infection in breeding populations of *Catharus* thrushes

**Andrew Stillman**, University of Connecticut

An empirical test of two hypotheses explaining patch-based population dynamics in the Black-backed Woodpecker (*Picoides arcticus*)

**Sheela Turbek**, University of Colorado–Boulder

Explaining mismatches between genetic and phenotypic divergence in a rapid radiation of finch-like birds

#### MEWALDT-KING AWARD

**Vitek Jirinec**, Louisiana State University

Does microclimate change explain declines of terrestrial insectivores in central Amazonia?

#### MARGARET MORSE NICE AWARD

**Fernanda Duque**, Georgia State University

Diversification of vocal communication in Andean hummingbirds

#### JOSELYN VAN TYNE MEMORIAL RESEARCH AWARD

**Stefanie Siller**, Columbia University

Epigenetic mediation of early environmental influences on the stress response

#### ALEXANDER WETMORE MEMORIAL RESEARCH AWARD

**Marion Donald**, Rice University

Avian and floral microbiomes as an early warning signal of avian pollinator loss in fragmented forests

**Jordan Herman**, University of Utah

Do ecologically distinct parasites have interacting effects on host fitness?

**Benjamin Lagasse**, University of Colorado–Denver

Assessing an Arctic-breeding shorebird's capacity for adapting to environmental change along three major flyways of the world

**Kara Leimberger**, Oregon State University

Effects of keystone species loss on a tropical plant–hummingbird network

**Brian Trevelline**, University of Pittsburgh

Dietary shifts over the annual cycle of a Neotropical migratory songbird