

MPALA



RESEARCH CENTRE

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TRUSTEES: MPALA RESEARCH TRUST; KENYA WILDLIFE SERVICE; NATIONAL MUSEUMS OF KENYA; PRINCETON UNIVERSITY; SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION; UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

MPALA FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM: MEEKER FAMILY FUND CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Mpala Fellowship from the Meeker Family Fund in collaboration with the Center for Sustainable Dryland Ecosystems and Societies seek to identify and support students from CSDDES and other African universities who combine extraordinary talent and accomplishment with a demonstrated academic commitment to careers and leadership in conservation in Africa. Fellowships will normally be granted for two years, with funding for year two subject to successful completion of year one.

Eligibility

Applicants must be Kenyan nationals who have completed the first **two years of a four year baccalaureate degree program** and have selected an area of academic concentration which will likely lead to a conservation career or those who already hold a bachelor's degree and will be entering a **master's program** in an area of conservation science. Preference will be given to students from arid and semi-arid lands interested in natural resource management. During the Fellowship years, students will be expected to attend courses or conduct independent **field work at the Mpala Research Centre** within the Mpala Conservancy. During their time on Mpala, students will be eligible to participate in the intellectual and community activities that take place regularly with senior investigators, research assistants, and undergraduate and graduate students at the Research Centre. Recipients will be selected on the basis of academic excellence, leadership potential, non-academic activities and contributions, maturity and strength of character and personal references.

Fellowship Award

The Mpala Fellowships will cover tuition, university fees, a small stipend, and living expenses while resident at the Mpala Research Centre.

Application Procedures

Submit CV, university records, one completed copy of 'Application Form 2013', and 2 letters of recommendation (one from a civil leader from your community and one from your university professor), and a cover letter, in essay style, addressing the following questions:

- What are the greatest challenges you have faced in life and how did you overcome them?
- How can you benefit personally from this fellowship?
- What are your career goals and how will the fellowship help you achieve them?
- Why should you be awarded this fellowship?

Applications are due 15 April 2014 (6 months in advance of the academic year for which assistance is sought). A short-list of students will be interviewed in May and those receiving fellowships will be notified as by 1 June 2014, 4 months prior to the academic year.

All materials should be sent in soft copy to: Meeker Applicants, Mpala Research Centre, piaf@mpala.org