

**CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY**  
**ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER**  
**Charlie O'Neill Grant**

*The Orange County CNPS chapter established the Charlie O'Neill Grant in 1993 to honor the late Charlie O'Neill, OC-CNPS President from 1990-1992 and a highly inspirational member of the chapter. This grant is awarded to graduate students for field research related to southern California native plants.*

The Charlie O'Neill Grant is awarded annually to a graduate or junior/senior-level undergraduate student planning to conduct field research related to biology, ecology, floristics, taxonomy, ethnobotany, of native plants. Awards range from \$500 to \$1000 based on the number of suitable applicants and the relative quality and merit of their proposals. Grant awards are presented as a lump sum award at project begin and may cover items such as supplies, equipment, and travel costs not covered by other sources of funding and include a one-year membership with CNPS. By accepting funding, grant recipients agree to provide a one paragraph synopsis of their work to be posted on the OC-CNPS website upon begin of the project and a copy of the final project results, in the form of a report, thesis, dissertation or newsletter article. Any publication should include acknowledgement of Orange County CNPS. If the project is of strong local interest, the grant recipient may be invited to present their work at the Orange County local chapter meeting.

**Application Format**

Applicants should submit a cover letter and proposal to [grants@occnps.org](mailto:grants@occnps.org) for review. The proposal should be 3-5 pages in length include the following sections: Abstract (or Project Summary), Introduction, Goals and Objectives, Methods, and Budget (total requested and otherwise funded cost estimate).

**Review Process and Selection Criteria**

Applications must be submitted by Friday, **December 16<sup>th</sup> 2016** in order to be considered for funding. Proposals will be reviewed by committee and applicants will be notified as to whether they have been selected for funding by January 30th.

Selection will be based on each proposal's completeness, technical quality, consistency with CNPS goals, intended use of funds, local relevance, and likelihood of completion. All proposals considered for funding must directly support or be consistent with the mission of CNPS, which is to "conserve California native plants and their natural habitats, and increase understanding, appreciation, and horticultural use of native plants." Preference will be given to proposals including study of species occurring within Orange County and its environs. If the review committee concludes that no proposal meets selection criteria, then the grant award may be suspended until the following year.