



Asombro Institute

FOR SCIENCE EDUCATION

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February 27, 2017

Tom Stewart, President  
Native Plant Society of New Mexico  
PO Box 35388  
Albuquerque, NM 87176-5388

Dear Mr. Stewart:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff, and students served by the Asombro Institute for Science Education, I would like to thank you and the other members of the Native Plant Society of New Mexico for the generous \$600 grant.

This grant will allow four classes of 3<sup>rd</sup> graders in southern New Mexico to participate in hands-on science, language arts, and math activities for Asombro's Desert Stories Project. We are so proud of this project since we have seen evidence that it helps students learn about the fascinating yucca / yucca moth mutualism while simultaneously learning grade-appropriate math, reading, and writing skills.

One of the students participating in the project last month was delighted to tell Asombro staff members on our second visit to the class that she "discovered" a yucca in her front yard and was going to be sure to watch the flowers and fruits carefully this spring to see if she could spot a yucca moth larva or adult. We were thrilled that after just one hands-on science lesson, this student's eyes were opened to beautiful native plants and that she was inspired to learn more.

Thank you for giving this gift of science and wonder to students. I look forward to telling you about the students you supported in a full report at the end of the year.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Bestelmeyer, Ph.D.  
Executive Director