

2019 Donations, Grants, and Teacher Award Announced

by Wendy Graves, Gila Chapter, four years after

The NPSNM Board of Directors met at Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge on January 26, 2019, to approve donations to the herbaria of New Mexico and El Paso, review and award grant proposals, and determine the Teacher Award for 2019.

Herbaria: \$600 donations will be given to the following herbaria: University of New Mexico, New Mexico State University, University of Texas at El Paso, San Juan College, and Western New Mexico University.

The **Jack & Martha Carter Conservation Fund** continues to support the grant awards. The Society expresses much gratitude and appreciation to the Carters, who generously established this fund, and to all who have contributed to this worthwhile cause. Please continue to support this fund so that it grows and can support the grants in the future.

Grants: The following grants were awarded:

- Native Plant Science Scavenger Hunt for Children; Stephanie Bestelmeyer, Asombro Institute for Science Education, Las Cruces
- Sandia High Native Plant Nursery & Out planting Project; Melanie Gisler, Institute for Applied Ecology
- Tamarisk Eradication on the Gila River; Donna Stevens, Executive Director, Upper Gila Watershed Alliance
- Book "Invasive Plants of the Southwest Deserts"; Donald H. Heinze, Los Lunas, NM
- Carex Measurement, Species Description & Key Review Project; Jim McGrath, Botanist, JM Botanical Enterprises
- Building Nursery Capacity with the NM Nature in Prisons Project; Melanie Gisler and Ella Samuel, Institute for Applied Ecology and Bureau of Land Management
- Native Plant Signage in Organ Mts-Desert Peaks National Monument & Upgrade of welcome center garden; Patrick Nolan, Friends of Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks
- Capacity Building for NM Native Seed Farmers; Maggie Parish, Institute for Applied Ecology
- Herbarium & Fieldwork for the Flora of the Gila Cliff Dwellings; Kelly Kindscher
- Pecos Sunflower Storytelling, Exhibit & Film Project; Christina M. Selby,
- Rio Fernando Park Pollinator Gardens & Native Plant Restoration; Juniper Manley, Associate Director, Taos Land Trust
- Educational Sign for Leonora Curtin Wetland Preserve; Mollie Parsons, Education Director, Santa Fe Botanical Garden
- NM Rare Plant Website Enhancement; Justin Edwards, Iterative Consulting, LLC

Teacher Award: Nathan Moore, Santa Fe School for the Arts & Sciences, will receive the \$500 award. He takes his students to the Santa Fe River to do community service work by planting native trees, removing invasive trees, picking up trash and monitoring ecosystem health. His students love learning about plants and spending time outdoors.