



Photos: Courtesy of Curtis Dodds.



## About the Program

The Audubon on Campus Program cultivates next gen conservationist by providing college students with leadership skills training, mentorship opportunities, and pathways to sustainable careers. We do this through a collaborative effort that connects students with a network of local, state, and national conservation leaders within Audubon.

## **“We value Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging.”**

Launched in 2018, the Audubon on Campus Program now engages thousands of young people of widely varying backgrounds and interests on more than 150 college campuses. Audubon is focused on working with and mentoring this new generation of energized, diverse conservationists by helping to support and amplify their desire to take action on behalf of the planet. We want to equip students who come from populations who have been excluded from conservation activities in the past, with tools for taking up space in places where decisions are being made.

## **Choose your focus**

### **“We value creativity and accountably.”**

Each academic year, Audubon on Campus Program participants are accountable for choosing, planning, and implementing one conservation action on campus or in their community. Projects can range from a hyper-local need such as working to retrofit a building on campus responsible for a high number of bird collisions to something of a national priority like campaigning to defend a Clean Energy Initiative. Individual students and groups working with Audubon on Campus are encouraged to take stock of their capacity and the interests of their campus. Listed on the right are just a few examples of conservation actions students have taken.

## **What Students Receive**

### **“Audubon, Local Everywhere.”**

With nearly 500 local chapters many open to providing informal partnerships and mentorship to campus chapters, program participants receive opportunities to explore their interests through recreation and volunteerism. Audubon on Campus Team will act as liaisons to help foster your relationships with these valuable network partners by working to connect you with the local chapter closest to your school. By interacting with local chapters, you'll be able to learn about bird conservation efforts in your community and expand your Audubon network.

### **“Thirty-three centers, 17 state/regional offices.”**

National Audubon offers fellowships, internships, free trainings and funding to support travel which are elevated to Audubon on Campus participants. Campus Chapters are also eligible to apply for grant funding, where available, to accomplish their conservation actions each year. There multiple opportunities to explore career pathways in conservation through National Audubon.

### **“Audubon on Campus Programmatic and Support.”**

Program participants receive free swag items (buttons, tee-shirts, etc.) to support their events and recruitment. Students are also invited to participate in webinars, community building events, and receive 1:1 support to help navigate the Audubon Network (check-ins, office hours, Slack Community). Leadership skill building opportunities are provided via training initiatives like our Social Media Collab, Student Steering Committee members, and How Can I Get Your Job speaker series.

## **CONSERVATION**



**Advocating for native plants on campus and the community with gardens and proclamations. Native plants provide the best habitat for birds, pollinators, and your community Bird-friendly landscaping provides food, save water, and help fight climate change.**



**Supporting bird-friendly-buildings on campus or in local municipality to help reduce bird strikes and other urban threats to migratory birds through monitoring, retrofitting, and raising awareness. Every year, billions of birds migrate north in the spring and south in the fall, the majority of them flying at night, navigating with the night sky.**



**Becoming community scientists by bringing Climate Watch and the month long Audubon Christmas Bird Count onto campus or through partnership with a local Audubon Chapter. Erecting Chimney Swift Towers, Engaging in Shorebird monitoring and banding, land restoration and protection on campus, and so much more...**

# Become an Audubon on Campus Ambassador, Campus Chapter, or Campus Chapter Affiliate

## Campus Chapters

A campus chapter, at its core, is a student-run club working towards the Audubon Mission of protecting birds and the places they need. Clubs must first complete the necessary steps as outlined by your school to be officially recognized as a student organization. This usually includes electing a leadership team, finding an advisor, drafting a constitution, and submitting all required paperwork that your institution requires. After receiving your designation, your club is invited to apply to the Audubon on Campus Program to receive the designation of Campus Chapter.

Our official application is digital and we are happy to walk you through the different sections. Once you submit your application, our team will review it, the accompanying materials, and reach out with any questions. If approved, you will be invited to an onboarding sessions which will focus on how to access resources and services. Connect with the Audubon on Campus Team at [campuschapter@audubon.org](mailto:campuschapter@audubon.org) to chat further about any of the steps outlined above.

## Campus Chapter Affiliate Groups

The Audubon on Campus Chapter Affiliation pathway to our program is offered to already existing student clubs/organizations on campus. Student organizations who have already built their legacy on campus and have started to implement their programming efforts prior to learning about Audubon on Campus are invited to also adopt the Audubon Mission. Clubs seeking to affiliate with Audubon on Campus can complete the official campus chapter application and in most cases these campus clubs/organizations are allowed to keep their original name and constitutions.

## Audubon on Campus Program Ambassadors

Whether you are a student with limited capacity or are struggling to meet the guidelines required by your school to forming a campus chapter, we recognize the work you continue to do despite these challenges. The Ambassador pathway was created for students, faculty or staff who are unable to establish a campus chapter or can't meet their school's club/organization guidelines establish an officially recognized student organization.

## Connect with Us!

The Audubon on Campus Team is here to make your experience with Audubon meaningful, productive and welcoming. We are available to assist you while you are finding your flock and seeking support from potential faculty advisors. The Audubon on Campus Program Team is the primary office charged with maintaining a welcoming, well-resourced, and outcomes-oriented structure for Audubon's college student engagement activities; with supporting field-based staff and volunteers who engage with students; and with creating and stewarding relationships between National Audubon Society and college students. We ensure that every student leader in the program receives information on the variety of resources available to them and are connected both locally, nationally, and also to the network of other student leaders across the country.

[campuschapter@audubon.org](mailto:campuschapter@audubon.org)

**This is your time and Audubon on Campus is your program. We welcome your passion for nature, ideas, energy, and look forward to connect you to local chapters and national opportunities. Gather your flock and complete an application today.**

## GETTING STARTED

“Establishing a campus chapter starts by determining the steps to becoming an officially recognized student organization as outlined by your school. As you explore your interest in Audubon and the program, we encourage you to connect with other students interested in getting involved with you as you learn together about your school's club building policy. Connecting with peers allows you to support each other in the effort create a club and move its mission forward.”

“A go-to is reaching out to students that are in the sciences or environmental studies classes, but **we have learned from our existing campus chapters that some of their memberships consists of non-science majored students.** Another important role for you to identify is a faculty advisor. This role is essential for your campus chapter as faculty advisor can served as mentor and provide feedback on your programming efforts.”

“Some examples where an ambassadorship is appropriate are: a) when a student does not currently have time to dedicate to establishing a campus chapter i.e a graduate student busy with their research, a student whose year consists of tough classes, or a student who is preparing to graduate the following year and can't built enough student interest on time. b) if your school has a rigid new club/organization policy. For example, if your school requires a trial period before your club/organizations can be recognized. These scenarios can make it challenging for students to engage with program initiatives, but the Audubon on Campus team is available to walk individual students through challenges and support their efforts.”



Audubon DC Grassroots Fly-In  
Photo: Luke Franke