



### **Youth Incentive Award**

The Coleopterists Society, an international organization of professionals and hobbyists interested in the study of beetles, has established a program to recognize young people studying beetles. The Society has pledged to provide up to \$300 each year for the Youth Incentive Award Program. Each of the two awards (Junior and Senior) is a monetary grant of \$150, award recipients also will receive up to \$200 (Junior Award) and \$400 (Senior Award) of equipment credit from the [BioQuip Products](#) catalog. In addition to monetary and BioQuip grants, award recipients will receive a one year subscription to the society journal, *The Coleopterists Bulletin*. **This is for children of grades 7-12 only.**

The objectives of the Youth Incentive Award are to:

- \* provide encouragement and assistance to young beetle enthusiasts (grades 7-12).
- \* promote the study of beetles, the most diverse group of insects, as a rewarding lifelong avocation or career.
- \* provide opportunities for young people to develop important life skills such as leadership, cooperation, communication, planning and conducting a scientific study, grant writing and managing funds.
- \* provide some financial support to enrich activities or projects.

A Youth Incentive Award Committee from the Coleopterists Society will evaluate the applications and will select up to two winners annually; one each in **junior (grades 7-9)** and **senior (grades 10-12)** categories. The selection committee invites proposals for topics such as field collecting trips to conduct beetle species inventories or diversity studies, attending workshops or visiting entomology or natural history museums for special training and projects on beetles, studying aspects of beetle biology, etc. The proposed activities or projects will be evaluated on their degree of creativity, educational benefit to the applicant, scientific merit, feasibility and budgetary planning. This Award is for proposals by individuals only. Each applicant is strongly encouraged to find an adult advisor (teacher, youth group leader, parent, etc.) to provide guidance in proposal development, but the proposal **MUST** be written by the applicant. The Coleopterists Society would also be happy to assist in establishing contacts between youth and professional Coleopterists.

Additional details and application forms for **The Coleopterists Society Youth Incentive Award Program** can be obtained from: Dr. David G. Furth; Entomology, NHB, MRC 165; P.O. Box 37012; Smithsonian Institution; Washington, D. C. 20013-7012 (phone: 202-633-0990, FAX: 202-786-2894, email: [furthd@si.edu](mailto:furthd@si.edu)). Also check The Coleopterists Society WebPage: [http://www.coleopsoc.org/default.asp?Action=Show\\_SocietyInfo&ID=Youth](http://www.coleopsoc.org/default.asp?Action=Show_SocietyInfo&ID=Youth)

Applications for this year must be submitted by **1 September 2016**.