NTBG Environmental Journalism Program Now Accepting Applications

For Immediate Release (February 4, 2020) — The Hawai‘i-based National Tropical Botanical Garden (NTBG) is now accepting applications for its Environmental Journalism Program designed for professional journalists (staff or freelance) working in broadcast, print, online, and new media. The immersive five-day program provides a background in tropical botany, ecology, and conservation, and is structured to enhance well-informed, accurate reporting on environmental issues with a focus on tropical and island systems.

The Environmental Journalism (EJ) Program is offered at NTBG headquarters, in three of its five botanical garden sites, and other locations on the island of Kaua‘i. Established in 1964 by Congressional Charter, NTBG encompasses ancient Hawaian cultural sites, extensive botanical living collections, a LEED-certified botanical research center, a botanical library and rare book collection, a seed bank and laboratory, a historical garden estate, a horticulture and conservation center, and other natural and man-made resources and facilities.

NTBG provides richly varied indoor and outdoor living classroom settings in which to study and experience new and traditional ideas while exploring critical concepts of biology, ethnobotany, biocultural conservation, habitat restoration, seed banking, agroforestry, and herbaria with a focus on the biodiversity of tropical and sub-tropical regions.

EJ Program presenters include NTBG staff and non-staff scientists, educators, and experts in botany, horticulture, taxonomy, field biology, geology, ornithology, ethnobotany, and other related fields.

Participating journalists can expect to gain a greater understanding of important elements and current developments that will assist them in reporting on science and the environment. The goal of NTBG’s EJ Program is to introduce critical information and concepts in order to foster a greater understanding of scientific and environmental issues. The EJ Program is not intended to expressly provide source material for prospective news stories, although NTBG staff and other speakers may be available for after-hours interviews depending on their schedules.

NTBG provides all participants free on-site shared housing, airport transfer, and ground transportation. EJ Program participants are responsible for the cost of their own airfare to Līhu‘e Airport on Kaua‘i, meals, and any additional expenses such as U.S. visas, etc. Regrettably, NTBG is unable to offer financial assistance.

Deadline to apply: Tuesday, February 25, 2020 (no later than 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time)
Notice of acceptance: Tuesday, March 10, 2020
Dates of program: Monday, May 4 – Friday, May 8, 2020
*Participants should be able to arrive on Kaua‘i by the evening of Sun. May 3rd and depart NTBG housing by Sat. May 9th

Required to Apply: Complete Environmental Journalism Program online application and provide two samples of recent work in print, audio, video, or online reporting (URL links preferred).

Online applications (only) will be accepted through Tuesday, February 25, 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

APPLY NOW AT: https://ntbg.wufoo.com/forms/environmental-journalism-program/
Website: https://ntbg.org/education/professional Email contact: education@ntbg.org