

Flight Path Project Request for Library Proposals

Overview Wild Hope: Flight Path

HHMI Tangled Bank Studios and STAR Net invite you to swoop into an engaging and educational suite of free materials with FLIGHT PATH, the first campaign in the Spark of Science@ My Library initiative that focuses on the science of birds and bird migration.

With more than one billion birds killed by window strikes each year in the United States alone, FLIGHT PATH taps into the popularity of bird watching and provides local communities with fun activities to get to know their local birds and promote bird health and safety.

Inspired by HHMI Tangled Bank Studios' award-winning series Wild Hope, which highlights conservation changemakers from around the globe and features two films that shine a light on efforts to protect birds from window strikes and prevent them from getting confused by city lights when they migrate, Flight Path Invites you to swoop into a robust suite of materials to create engaging and educational events that give your communities the opportunity to learn about local and regional birds, and to become local science explorers themselves.

Pre-Application Webinar

An optional pre-application webinar where we will discuss the application and answer any questions will be held on May 21st, 2025 at 2pm PT/3pm MT/4pm CT/5pm ET. You may join register for the webinar at this [link](#).

Selection Criteria

Our goal for this initiative is to be as inclusive and diverse as possible, with opportunities and participants from all backgrounds and in all parts of the country. Priority will be given to libraries that form strong partnerships with other local organizations—relationships that we hope will last beyond this campaign. Libraries and partners should work together to develop meaningful and creative ways to engage their communities in exploring local and migratory bird species and behaviors and creating bird safe environments in their towns. Ideal candidates are committed to growing their communities' connection to nature and using science as a fun, effective tool for hands-on engagement

200 Chosen Libraries Will Each Receive - BIRD SAFE MATERIALS

- \$500 honorarium to help cover the cost of events and program outreach
- Bird friendly tape
- Regional bird ID cards
- Bird watching kit (binoculars, magnifying glass) (final item TBD)
- "Lights Out" stickers that glow in dark (final item TBD)
- Bookmarks with bird-friendly tips/facts (final item TBD)
- Informal Activity Guides – Created by *STAR Net* including curated materials provided by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, including
- How-To Guide for hosting Bio Blitzes (Merlin)
- Promotional Materials (print and digital) to publicize your events

- Digital Copies of Wild Hope Birds episodes: Wild Hope: Building for Birds and Wild Hope: Puffling Patrol

*English and Spanish resources available.

All Interested Libraries Will Receive - FREE DIGITAL

- Informal Activity Guides – Created by *STAR Net* using curated materials provided by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, including
- How-To Guide for hosting Bio Blitzes (Merlin)
- Promotional Materials (print and digital) to publicize your events
- Digital Copies of Wild Hope episodes: Wild Hope: Building for Birds and Wild Hope: Puffling Patrol

Selected Libraries Will Be Expected To...

- Host a minimum of two public engagement events in Summer/Fall 2025.
- Make their facilities bird-safe! (To the best of your abilities and allowability)
- Collaborate with at least one local partner (Nature Center, Bird-watching group, Local Audubon Chapter, Local PBS Station, School, Summer Camp, National Park, etc.) on your events.
- Curate and display a collection of books on birds, migration, and local ecology.
- Participate in an online community to brainstorm ideas and share updates about your events and outcomes.
- Record and report information about event attendance, engagement demographics, and community activation.
- Participate in a post-program survey about their community engagement and resource uptake.

To apply, please follow [this link](#) to the brief application. All forms are due by July 10, 2025. We look forward to your applications and to working with you on a fun and impactful outreach initiative!

Instructions

- Your application will be submitted through the Survey Monkey platform ([link](#)).
- The following pages contain the questions that you will encounter on the application form. We recommend that you type these in a word document ahead of time and enter all at once into the application form.
- We have also included in a separate document the rubric with which your application will be reviewed, as well as an application FAQ. Please review these documents closely. Our intention is to provide you with all the tools necessary to write a compelling proposal.

Application for *Flight Path* Project

1. Project Director and Shipping Information

Note: The Project Director is the person who will be responsible for coordinating the activities and programs at the library or other partner sites. They will be the primary point of contact for the project at the applicant institution. All fields are required unless noted otherwise.

First Name	[text field]
Last Name	[text field]
E-mail	[text field]
Phone Number	[text field]
Extension (optional)	[text field]
Title	[text field]
Department (optional)	[text field]
Institution	[text field]
Address 1	[text field]
Address 2 (optional)	[text field]
City	[text field]
State/Territory	[pull down]
ZIP Code	[text field]
DUNS Number	[text field]

Population Served (Please choose appropriate answer from drop-down field)
[<4,999; 5,000-9,999; 10,000-24,999; 25,000-74,999; 75,000-149,999; 150,000-499,999 >500,000]

Community Type (Please choose appropriate answer from drop-down field)
[City; City/Suburb; Suburb; Suburb/Rural; Rural; Other]

2. Proposal Narrative

Please write a narrative describing your plans for presenting the exhibition. The proposal narrative consists of six sections (described immediately below). Please note that each section of the narrative may not exceed **400** words.

1. Describe why your library would like to participate in this project, including community interests in STEAM topics, demographics, collections, or other resources or programming focus areas related to biology and earth science (especially those related to citizen science and hyper-local biology). What are your prior experiences with offering public programs about STEAM topics? Or about topics related to birds in specific?

[text area]

2. Please describe who from the library (including staff and volunteers) will support this project. Provide detailed information about their experience and planned role on the project. CVs/resumes are not required.

[text area]

3. *Community Dialogues* are an optional component of participation in this program. While your library will not be required to host a *Dialogue* following STAR Net guidelines, we'd still like to know how you receive feedback from your patrons. Please describe how your library has incorporated patron and community feedback in the past, and how you may do so as part of this program. For example, have you collected surveys, conducted focus groups, had targeted conversations with populations who don't currently take full advantage of library services?

If you'd like to learn more about *Community Dialogues*, either to incorporate them into this project or to your libraries future plans, please visit <https://www.starnetlibraries.org/deia/community-dialogues/>

[text area]

4. A major focus of the *Flight Path* project is to reach underserved audiences with STEAM programming. Identify at least one principal underserved audience you will reach with programming for this exhibition and make a strong case for why you have chosen this audience and how you will reach them. Please reference Census or other data in making your case. A generally underserved geographic area can be considered an underserved audience. Please note that the intent of this requirement is for you to reach *new* audiences **or** to increase reach to those audiences. Successful applicants will demonstrate plans to increase participation of their underserved audience, not merely state that they use the venue currently.

5. Collaboration with STEAM organizations and individuals with STEAM expertise is very important to the success of this project, as are partnerships with community organizations that do not focus on STEAM. Please tell us what partnerships with STEAM (4H, astronomy clubs, museums, rockhounds) and community organizations (like cultural institutions, schools, churches, etc) and individuals in your community/region will help you to make your programs a success. Have you worked with these organizations/individuals before? If you'd like to partner with a new organization, what are your plans for building that partnership? Please reference BOTH types of organizations (STEAM organizations and community organizations) in your response. A letter of commitment is not required, but we do request that you confirm interest in participation with the venue, rather than sharing possible partners.

6. Describe the programs you plan to implement to meet or to exceed the project requirements. Project requirements are: 2 programs for public audiences of any age. We realize your program plans may change after award, so you are not obligated to these plans. Please describe potential plans for these programs. Remember, programs can focus on your local wildlife as well!

7. Describe your general publicity plans for promoting your events and community engagement. How will your partnerships organizations described above aid in promotion?

4. Certify Authorization

An application to receive program support for *Flight Path* is an application for an award from the sponsors of this project (the Education and Learning Research Group at the Space Science Institute). SSI

is required by law to ask applicants to identify for each application a certifying official, who is authorized to submit applications for funding on behalf of the organization.

To complete this section, you must enter all of the information that is requested.

Certifying Official First Name [text field]

Certifying Official Last Name [text field]

Certifying Official Title [text field]

Certifying Official Institution [text field]

By checking this box and submitting this application, the authorized representative for the applicant organization certifies that all statements contained herein are true and correct to the best of his or her knowledge and belief; and that the applicant organization (including, when pertinent, each additional library branch on whose behalf it is applying) is neither presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, nor voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency.

You can check the status of your institution with regard to debarment at the website of the [link:

***Excluded Parties List System*].**

Certification: ☐

When you are satisfied with your application, submit directly through this site. Once your application has been submitted, no further changes will be possible. You must submit your application in order for it to be considered. Any questions about the application, exhibition, or other items should be sent to Anne Holland (aholland@spacescience.org). **All applications must be submitted by July 10th, 2025.**