The Tufts Institute for Human-Animal Interaction (TIHAI) is currently accepting proposals for the inaugural Human-Animal Interaction (HAI) Student Scholars Program. The mission of TIHAI is to promote the health, strengths, and well-being of humans and animals through transdisciplinary partnerships that foster innovative research, education, and service programs in human-animal interaction. The HAI Student Scholars program will accept requests for funding events, projects, and programs related to HAI in the realms of research, education, and service.

Projects may be geared towards activities that benefit people, animals, or both, although activities that benefit both will be given priority, and proposals that involve harm or stress to animals will not be considered. Topics may be related to any area of HAI, such as science and engineering education, pet ownership, animal-assisted therapy, and others. Funding will be considered for individual students or a group of students, though all applications require a Tufts University faculty mentor. Applications for graduate or undergraduate student are welcomed. Five scholars will be funded in the 2015 application cycle.

Before completing the application for the HAI Student Scholars, please read carefully through the items below to assist in preparing a competitive application.

Deadline: Please submit all application materials via email to hai@tufts.edu by 5:00 pm on April 1, 2015. Applicants will be notified about funding decisions by May 1, 2015.

Project Description:
Applicants should provide a detailed project description of no more than 1,000 words. Standard 8 ½ x 11" page size with 1" margins and at least 11-point font should be used throughout the application. The application should include:

1. Brief project history (if applicable) and background information
2. Detailed description of your proposed event/project/program including:
   - Goals and objectives
   - Project activities and expected outcomes
   - Relevance to an important topic in the field of human-animal interaction
   - Potential impact of project on humans and/or animals
   - If applicable, documentation of planned procedures for obtaining appropriate animal use approvals (i.e., Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee or Clinical Studies Review Committee) and human subjects research approvals (i.e., Institutional Review Board) for projects involving research.
3. Project timeline, including start and end dates of your proposed project, project milestones, and deadlines for each milestone. Projects with realistic timelines will be given funding priority. This includes adequate preparation time, consideration of semester breaks and holidays, and time to prepare for the final symposium.
Project Budget:
Applicants may apply for up to $500 in funding. The budget is not considered part of the 1,000 word application. Please include a project budget document (1 page max) that addresses the following:

- State how much funding you are requesting
- Identify and justify items that will be covered by the requested funding
- List other funding sources (if any) and the amounts requested that may also contribute to this project

Timeline:
Funding decisions for the HAI Student Scholars program will be announced by May 1, 2015. Projects must be completed prior to December 1, 2015, and a final report will be due by December 31. A university-wide symposium will be held in January to highlight the work of the HAI Student Scholars.

Letter of Support:
Please include a one-page letter of support from the project’s Tufts faculty member. Letters should include:

- Major goals and outcomes of the proposed project
- Faculty member’s role in the proposed project
- Faculty member’s contact information

Contact Information:
If you have questions about the application process, contact the Tufts Institute for Human-Animal Interaction at hai@tufts.edu.

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http://hai.tufts.edu
hai@tufts.edu