

Name of the organization: Watershed Association

Website: <https://watershedassociation.org/>

Organization point of contact: aliya@watershedassociation.org

Which of the 4 pillars does this nonprofit fit under? Central Texas Wildlife & Conservation

Overview of the issue the nonprofit is facing in service to their mission and/or

constituents: For almost 30 years, the Watershed Association has been at the forefront of protecting the precious water resources that sustain the Texas Hill Country communities. At the heart of their work stands Jacob's Well, one of the most significant artesian springs in Texas and a natural treasure they helped preserve through the establishment of the Jacob's Well Natural Area. In the face of unprecedented growth and persistent drought, the Association has worked for almost 30 years to protect the spring and the aquifer that feeds it, defending critical groundwater rights and expanding conservation lands to safeguard this iconic landmark for future generations. Their work extends throughout the region - from monitoring water quality in the beloved Cypress Creek and Blanco River, to inspiring environmental stewardship through creative initiatives like their Art4Water program and their upcoming incubator for young environmental leaders. They understand that the community's future depends on the choices made today about how to protect and manage these springs, creeks, and aquifers. That's why the Watershed Association has brought together diverse stakeholders - from local governments to educational institutions - to create groundbreaking agreements for watershed protection. Through science-based advocacy, education, and collaborative conservation, they're ensuring that Jacob's Well and the vital water resources of the Hill Country will continue to flow for generations to come.

How would Mozart's donation help the nonprofit achieve their (and its constituent's) goals?

With almost 30 years of work in the Texas Hill Country, this year, we recognize the critical need for a multi-generational approach to environmental stewardship. Ultimately, we recognize that our most renewable and valuable resource is the inspiration and energy of the next generation and that in an era of unprecedented environmental challenges, nurturing the next generation of environmental leaders is not just important—it's essential.

To address and uplift the next generation, the Watershed Association partnered with the One Village Project to bring their Institute for Emerging Visionaries Incubator to Texas. This 5-day residential Visionary Incubator, designed for ages 20-30, is an opportunity for young environmental visionaries to grow their visions, their skills, and their network, and their capacity in environmental spaces. This program, taking place on March 13th-18th, aims to cultivate resilient, resourced, and dedicated leaders who can face future conservation challenges.

While many programs out there offer tactical and practical responses to the challenges ahead, what I think sets this program apart is that it really touches on capacity building. How do we maintain stamina, endurance, healthy teams, spiritual fortitude, healthy lives, balance, embodied leadership, and innovation with a topic with as many complications and nuances as the one we are tackling?

This program is open to visionary applicants interested in any field related to environmental protection, stewardship, conservation, agriculture, and our human connection to nature and the planet.

Please visit the website to learn more about the program, watch a video about the program we are adapting for Texas, and find the application:

<https://visionaryincubator.watershedassociation.org/>

This funding would provide sponsorships for 4 delegate's participation in the program. This sponsorship would include full program tuition, delegate support, customized curriculum development, expert facilitation, logistics, and essential administrative costs. To learn more about the sponsorships: <https://sponsorship.watershedassociation.org/>