

MiBCI

Michigan Bird Conservation Initiative

<http://www.MiBCI.org>

Greetings from the Michigan Bird Conservation Initiative!

MiBCI is a partnership of agencies, organizations, colleges, and individuals interested in conserving Michigan's birds. Each year since 2006, MiBCI has organized a statewide conference to bring together researchers and natural resource managers to share their knowledge and experience. We're asking for your assistance to help with our 2010 conference.

At the 2010 MiBCI Ornithological Congress, we'll be hosting a symposia on bird monitoring, and sessions on forest health, the economics of outdoor recreation, and fostering diversity in conservation. We're also organizing a wildlife art fair. Each year, we also invite submission of presentations by researchers and resource managers for a series of concurrent presentations on the state of the science of bird conservation in Michigan.

We actively seek to keep our costs down to minimize registration fees, increase attendance, and maximize the potential for successful conservation collaborations while still providing a comfortable and productive venue. It's for this reason that we're contacting you today. We would like to invite you to become a sponsor of the 2010 MiBCI Ornithological Congress. The congress would not be possible without the generous donations of our sponsors, and donations of any amount are gratefully appreciated. Our costs are modest, but we have unique opportunities this year to attract regionally important speakers if we are able to offset their travel costs. We are also making a specific effort to engage the next generation of researchers and resource managers by offering scholarships to enable increased participation by college students and talented high school students.

The Kalamazoo Nature Center, one of the member organizations of the MiBCI partnership, is processing donations to support the congress. Donations to the nature center to sponsor the congress are tax deductible. The attached list of sponsorship options describes the opportunities available to help advance MiBCI's cooperative model for bird conservation. You're invited to visit the MiBCI web site at <http://www.MiBCI.org> for more information about MiBCI.

We would like to thank you for taking the time to consider supporting bird conservation by contributing to the 2010 MiBCI Ornithological Congress. If you have any questions about MiBCI or the Ornithological Congress, feel free to contact MiBCI chair Keith Harrison at pcinc@prodigy.net or 517-694-9394.



2010 MiBCI Ornithological Congress Committee

Karen Cleveland, Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources
Dick Wolinski, Michigan Dept. of Transportation
Tom Funke, Michigan Audubon Society
Dave Cuthrell, Michigan Natural Features Inventory
Lori Sargent, Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources
Keith Harrison, Michigan Audubon Society
Katie Koch, US Fish & Wildlife Service
Torrey Wenger, Kalamazoo Nature Center
Joelle Gehring, Michigan Natural Features Inventory
Katie Kahl, Heart of the Lakes

4th Annual MiBCI Ornithological Congress Sponsorship Options

Session Sponsor - \$1000+

Session sponsors have the option of funding one of our planned symposia or workshops highlighting emerging issues and providing managers with the knowledge and resources to address them. These sessions include topics ranging from bird monitoring to the economics of outdoor recreation, and fostering diversity in conservation.

Session sponsors will be recognized with signage at their sponsored session and the congress registration area, their company or organization logo displayed on all promotional materials and event posters, their company or organization logo displayed on the congress' web page with a link to the sponsor's web site, and recognition during the MiBCI chair's welcome speech at the congress. Each session sponsor will receive one complimentary registration for the full congress.

Underwriter - \$500-\$999

Underwriters will be recognized with signage at the congress registration area, their company or organization logo displayed on all promotional material, and their company or organization logo displayed on the congress' web page with a link to the underwriter's web site. Each underwriter will receive one complimentary one-day registration for the congress.

Supporter - \$250-\$499

Supporters will be recognized with signage at the congress registration area and their company or organization logo displayed on the congress' web page with a link to the supporter's web site.

Partner - \$150-\$249

Each year, MiBCI offers scholarships to encourage students to participate in the congress. Partners' contributions will fund these scholarships. Each scholarship covers the cost of registration for the full event (\$75) and a stipend to assist in covering travel, meal, and lodging costs for the student. Attendance for a student can cost over \$200 in addition to registration costs; these costs are often prohibitive for students, and scholarships provide valuable resources to assist them in attending.

Partners will be recognized with their company or organization logo displayed on the congress' web page with a link to the partner's web site and will be identified to the student receiving their scholarship.

Donor - \$1-\$149 or auction items

The silent auction at the congress is always a popular event. The most popular items tend to have a value of \$100 or less and have ranged from duck decoys and books to cabin rentals and promotional bird bands. For this year's congress, a small number of items will be made available for bidding online prior to the congress to allow bird conservation enthusiasts statewide to support MiBCI's efforts.

Donors will be recognized with their name on the congress' web page and a link to their web site. Auction donors will have their company or organization logo displayed prominently near their donated item and in the auction catalog.

In addition to the recognition listed above, donors and sponsors at all levels will be listed on an insert provided to every attendee in their registration materials.



4th Annual MiBCI Ornithological Congress

- Yes! I'm interested in supporting bird conservation in Michigan and would like to be a sponsor for the 4th Annual MiBCI Ornithological Congress.
- No. I'm not interested in sponsoring the congress.

Contact information:

Name: _____

Company/Organization: _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

Email: _____

Sponsorship level:

- Session sponsor (dollar amount: \$ _____)
- Underwriter (dollar amount: \$ _____)
- Supporter (dollar amount: \$ _____)
- Partner (dollar amount: \$ _____)
- Donor (dollar amount or item description: _____)

Payment:

- Check or payment enclosed. (Make checks payable to **Kalamazoo Nature Center**)
- Please contact me to discuss the details of my sponsorship or donation

Please complete this form and return it to:

Kalamazoo Nature Center
Attn: MiBCI Ornithological Congress
7000 N Westnedge Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49009-6309