

Celebrating the Justin Benjamin Foundation's Support of the USC Wrigley Institute Summer Internship Program

Impact Report 2024–25

Introduction

The USC Wrigley Institute for Environment and Sustainability is proud to recognize the Justin Benjamin Foundation for its generous support of our Summer Internship Program. Their commitment enables students to pursue hands-on internships in conservation, sustainability, and environmental science. With the Foundation's support, USC students are able to translate classroom learning into real-world impact.

Student Spotlight: Caylin Mobley

As a recipient of the Los Angeles Zoo Conservation Internship grant, Caylin Mobley shared her gratitude for the opportunity to expand her education and career in environmental studies. A junior majoring in Environmental Studies with a minor in Marine Biology, Caylin engaged in meaningful conservation work while gaining practical experience in species identification, data collection, and analysis.

"This experience has been more than invaluable, and the chance to step outside the classroom and apply what I have learned thus far was something I will carry with me for the rest of my life."

Caylin Mobley at the Los Angeles Zoo



Student Spotlight: Natalie McClure

From New Mexico to Catalina Island, Natalie McClure brought her passion for conservation to the Catalina Island Conservancy. A rising senior in Environmental Studies with a minor in French, Natalie focused on native plant horticulture and ecological research. Her summer internship also held a personal connection, tying back to her grandmother's legacy as a conservationist.

“Through this native plant experience with the Catalina Island Conservancy, I’ve been able to enact something meaningful to me. I was able to do the work that research institutions fight for, and to feel a generational connection to my grandmother.”

Natalie McClure at Catalina Island Conservancy





Program Impact

The Justin Benjamin Foundation's support ensures that USC students have access to unique opportunities for research, mentorship, and career development through the Wrigley Institute's Summer Internship Program. The Foundation's generosity provides room, board, and programmatic resources, allowing undergraduates to focus fully on their conservation and research work.

Highlights of the program's impact include:

- Hands-on research and conservation experience
- Mentorship from USC faculty and partner institutions
- Career readiness in conservation, restoration, and environmental science

Thank You

On behalf of USC Dornsife and the Wrigley Institute, we extend our deepest gratitude to the Justin Benjamin Foundation. Your support empowers students like Caylin and Natalie to pursue their passions, contribute to meaningful conservation efforts, and prepare for careers dedicated to environmental sustainability.