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BAY AREA FOUNDATION CELEBRATES, SUPPORTS SCIENTIFIC EXPLORATION

Maxwell/Hanrahan Foundation commits \$500,000 to field biologists' work

SAN FRANCISCO—Today the Maxwell/Hanrahan Foundation announced its 2025 Awards in Field Biology, recognizing individual scientists and supporting their field research that explores our natural world and requires collaboration to meet challenges and opportunities.

Each scientist will receive \$100,000 in unrestricted funds, supporting their individual work, elevating their diverse perspectives and enabling them to commit time to observation and experimentation that helps us better understand ourselves and the world around us.

- **Anusha Shankar** focuses her research on how animals manage and balance their energy with changes in their environment, such as urbanization and warming temperatures resulting from climate change.
- **Fidisoa Rasambainarivo** strives to understand the ecological drivers of infectious diseases within populations and ecosystems. He focuses on how habitat degradation, as well as human and animal interactions, are changing the patterns of pathogen transmission across geographical and ecological boundaries in Madagascar.
- **James Stroud** works with lizards to better understand how species adapt and evolve, studies natural selection in the field, and explores how ecological and evolutionary processes at the microscale may shape biodiversity at the macroscale.
- **Natalia Llopis Monferrer** studies Rhizaria, delicate organisms that can't be grown in labs, to help us better understand silica-cycling in marine ecosystems.
- **Rachel Malison** is a freshwater ecologist who combines fieldwork with laboratory experiments, monitoring, and community outreach to better understand aquatic ecosystems' functions — and how to protect them.

Launched in 2020, the awards provide scientists with funding, attention and support at critical junctures in their careers so they can focus on mastery and creativity, elevate often underrepresented perspectives to problem-solving, and promote progress in the biological sciences through individual research focused on our natural world.

Nominators confidentially identified scientists for the awards, and a committee selected winners based on impact in the field, originality and the timing when an award could provide support at a critical career point.

Maxwell/Hanrahan Foundation seeks ways to support individuals who explore and ask through fieldwork in natural sciences, create and captivate as they promote mastery in craft, teach and try as they support students in public education, and conserve and connect as they encourage care for our food systems and natural world. Learn more about the Foundation's partners and work at www.Maxwell-Hanrahan.org.

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