

AAC 2019 LYD Grant Awards
Southeast Region Awardees
Chair: Adrian Hurst

Kevin Heinrich, Naples FL

Attempting to climb a new route in British Columbia.

Chris Price, Martinsburg WV

Team is looking to establish new routes in the Wind River Range of Wyoming.

Alan Goldbetter, Winchester VA

Make first ascent of the East face of Starikatchan in India

Jimmy Baker, Asheville NC

The goal is to complete a one day link up of three summits in the Three Sisters area of Oregon.

Sabine Connors, Chattanooga TN

This grant is to spend several weeks in Ten Sleep projecting hard sport climbs and completing the climbers first 12d/13a.

Ken Cole, Greenville SC

This party plans to climb Alpmayo by the French Direct Route in preparation for a future Denali climb.

Jonathan Wachtel, FPO AE

This team plans to climb the Hornli Ridge on the Matterhorn without guides or fixed gear.

Jacob Sinclair, Clyde NC

The team plans to climb Mt. Rainier via the Emmons Winthrop route.

Central Region Awardees

Chair: James Schroeder

Brianne Recker, West Bloomfield, MI

Sport climbing in Rodellar, Spain

Cheryl Cottine, Lagrange, OH

Two weeks of unguided climbing in the French and Italian Alps, including Mont Blanc from the Tete Rousa Hut

Ben Veres, Chicago, IL

Fall attempt of the Northwest Ridge of Cho Oyu

Michael Sullivan, Madison, WI

Attempt of Mt. Kenya via the 20-pitch Southeast Face of Nelion and traverse of the Gate of Mists to Batian, the true summit

Peggy Flavin, Urbana, IL

Moderate to difficult multi-pitch trad routes in the Dolomites of northern Italy

Kyle Holloway, Upland, IN

Sailing and Climbing in the Pacific NW, with a primary objective of a sea-to-summit-to-sea climb/traverse of Mount Rodney-Superb Mountain-Mount Sir Francis Drake

Eric Fergen, St. Paul, MN

Two-day traverse of the Cirque of the Towers in the Wind River Range, WY

Molly Smith, Traverse City, MI

Sport climbing in El Potrero Chico, Mexico

Paul Ingram, Lubbock, TX

Mount Rainier summit attempt via the Emmons-Winthrop route

Grant Burson, Fayetteville, AR

One-day attempt of South Howser Tower via the Beckey-Chouinard route in Bugaboo Provincial Park, BC

Northwest Region Awardees

Chair - Felicia LeRoy

Stephen G. Arnold, Seattle, WA

Climb Bugaboo Spire via the Kain Route, the West Ridge of Pigeon Spire, Lion's Way Crescent Towers, and the Direct Southeast Ridge on Eastpost Spire.

Seth Bassetti, Bozeman, MT

Complete a two-day ascent on the Liberty Ridge of Mt. Rainier.

Mary Brazier, Missoula, MT

Climb Mount Sir Donaldson in British Columbia via the Northwest Ridge

Zachary Cook, Boise, ID

Climb and explore the granite domes of Valle Cochamao, establishing new routes on

Cerro Trinidad

Henry Coppelillo, Bozeman, MT

Attempt of the Cassin Ridge on the south face of Denali

Zorina Curry, Seattle, WA

Climb the Moose's Tooth via the Ham & Eggs route, and to climb Shaken Not Stirred

Jacob Hall, Bozeman, MT

Climb Mt. Rainier over 3 days via the Fuhrer Finger route and descending via Disappointment Cleaver

Lorna Illingworth, Bend, OR

Free climb Tsaranoro Be on the Tsaronoro Massif in Madagascar

Sarah Jakober, Darby, MT

Link up the summits of Oregon's 6th, 7th, and 12th highest peaks, Sacajawea Peak, the Hurwal Divide, and Chief Joseph Peak, in the Wallowa Mountains in eastern Oregon

Russell Penny, Kirkland, WA

Climb the West Buttress of Denali

Mark Raymond, Bozeman, MT

Complete an expedition to the Cordellera Blanca, Peru, to climb Pisco, Chopicalqui, and Alpamayo

Liana Robertshaw, Seattle, WA

Climb Khuiten Peak in Mongolia at the crossroads of Russia, China, and Mongolia with a team of women led by a female guide

Samuel Root, Garden Valley, ID

Link up classics in the Sawtooths by climbing Super Slab, Mountaineers Route on the Elephants Perch, Warbonnet Peak, Baron Spire, and North Raker

Rebecca Ross, Portland, OR

Climb Mt. Kazbek and Mt. Tetnuldi in Georgia's Caucasus Mountain Range

Cameron Stanton, Entiat, WA

Climb the 3 tallest peaks in Ecuador: Chimborazo (6,268m), Cotopaxi (5,897m), and Cayambe (5,790m)

Zach Turner Otis, Orchards, WA

Attempt the North Face of Ranrapalca in the Cordillera Blanca

Iryna Yavorska, Bend, OR

Multi-day fastpacking trip from the Slovakian to the Romanian border through the Ukrainian Carpathian Mountains

Bill Zimmerman, Kenmore, WA

Complete a mountain running ascent of 8000 meters in 24 hours in a series of laps with descents by paraglider on the Chaîne des Fiz massif

Taylor Feldman, Portland, OR

Lead an LGBTQ climbing team to the summit of Mt. Hood

Mackenzie Berg, Seattle, WA

Develop their alpine climbing skillset in the Sawtooths on moderate climbing routes

Kelly Williams, Shoreline, WA

Explore the canyons of the Escalante River between the Egypt Canyon Trailhead and lake Powell via advanced canyoneering techniques and packrafting

Yugala Wright, Seattle, WA

Climb Cerro Torre via the Ragni Route or SE Ridge

Ski Mountaineering Awardees

Chair: Mike Marolt

Wade Meade, Salt Lake City, UT

Ski mountaineering trip to the Cordillera Blanca, including attempts of the SE face of Artesonraju and Huascarán Sur

Sterling Boin, Denver, CO

Human-powered bike trip to ski all of Colorado's 14,000ft peaks

Tyler Boshard, Las Vegas, NV

Climb and ski Pico de Orizaba

Evan Gabrielsen, Colorado Springs, CO

Summit Mt. Rainier via Liberty Ridge, with a ski descent of Fuhrer Finger

Melissa Gill, Cottonwood Heights, UT

Ski mountaineering trip to the Cordillera Blanca, including attempts of the SE face of Artesonraju and Huascarán Sur

Emma Bode, Bozeman, MT

Ski mountaineering trip to the Peruvian Andes, including attempts to ski Pisco and Chopicalqui

Alex Bogner, Woodstock, NY

Climb and ski several Cascade volcanoes, including Mt. Adams via the Southwest Chutes and Mt. Baker via the Coleman-Deming Route

Brett Carroll, Salt Lake City, UT

Ski mountaineering trip to the Cordillera Blanca, including attempts of the SE face of Artesonraju and Huascarán Sur

Cristina Woodworth, Winthrop, WA

Explore ski mountaineering options on the Pika Glacier in Denali National Park, including the Crown Jewel Couloir, Middle Troll Couloir, and Your Highness Peak Couloir

Cait Bourgault, Norway, ME

Execute a three-day trip to summit Mt. Baker via the Coleman-Deming Route, with a ski descent

Tico Gangulee, Houston, TX

Ski mountaineering in the Shimshal zone of Pakistan, to include first ascent/descent attempts of Cheshkin II and first ski descent of Samina Peak for acclimatization

Matthew Randall, Colorado Springs, CO

Expedition style climb and ski from the summit of Gasherbrum II (26,362') in the Karakoram Range of Pakistan without the aid of Sherpa/High Altitude Porters or supplemental oxygen

Drew Layman, Crested Butte, CO

Climb and ski the northwest face of Putha Hiunchuli (Dhaulagiri VII) in Autumn of 2019

Rocky Mountain Region Awardees

Chair: Mitch Dorsk

Angela Lee, South Fork, CO

Climb multi-pitch trad in Ulsan, South Korea.

Ian Cavanaugh, Golden, CO

Complete a fully self-supported trip to climb towers in the Cirque of the Unclimbables.

Erin Parisi, Denver, CO

Climb Mt. Everest and finish the Seven Summits.

Beth Goralski, Gypsum, CO

First-ascent on the remote Mt. Waddington in British Columbia, Canada.

Ryan Gajewski, Longmont, CO

First-ascent up the West Face of the tallest peak in the Northwest Territories, Mt. Nirvana.

Sarah Strattan, Wolcott, CO

Expedition to summit Makalu without supplemental oxygen.

Casey Graham, Colorado Springs, CO

Complete a climb on El Capitan, Yosemite, CA.

Michelle Marco, Sandy, Utah

Expedition to the Biafo Glacier in Pakistan.

Patrick Light, Ouray, CO

Expedition to the Biafo Glacier in Pakistan.

Rhiannon Williams, Santa Clara, UT

Climb Fitz Roy in Patagonia.

Jake Talley, Salt Lake City, UT

Climbing centered multi-sport trip to the Cirque of the Unclimbables.

Suzanne Stroeer, Boulder, CO

Return trip to open a new route on Kusum Kangru, Nepal.

Owen Simpson, Denver, CO

Climb Mt. Owen in Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming.

Zach Lovell, Parker, CO

First-ascent on Middle-Triple Peak in the Cathedral Spires, Alaska.

Samuel Novey, Salt Lake City, UT

Towards a climbing documentary in the Pacific Northwest.

Northeast Region Awardees

Chair: Howard Sebold

Kristofer Fiore: Burlington, Vermont

Assist in new route development efforts focused in Kipwa, Kenya.

Aaron Gerry: Sudbury, Massachusetts

Climb the Diedro UBSA in Costa Blanca, Spain, an 8 pitch, 5.10a PG-13 mostly sport route.

Madeline Grupper: Montclair, New Jersey

Climb the endurance crimpfest Mackach Walou (5.13a) in Ceuse, France.

Fan Yang: West Roxbury, Massachusetts

Attempt at the first free ascent of Hairline 2000 ft, 5.10+/C2+, on the East Face of Mt. Whitney, in a ground-up alpine-style push.

Phil Brown: Saranac Lake, New York

Climb all of Fritz Wiessner's 60+ rock routes in the U.S.

Nick Lingler: Boston, Massachusetts

Two-week trip to the Ruth Gorge in Denali National Park to climb routes such as the West Face of Mt. Dickey.

Erik Dey: Beacon Falls, Connecticut

Successfully lead climb a big Yosemite climb for the first time, such as Royal Arches or Snake Dike.

Ramona Filipi: Lincoln, Massachusetts

Send Levitation 29 in Red Rocks, Nevada in good style.

Jennifer Sun: Brookline, Massachusetts

Send Levitation 29 in Red Rocks, Nevada in good style.

Eduardo Carrillo: Somerville, Massachusetts

Complete several multi-peak technical alpine traverses in the Southern Alps of New Zealand in single-day pushes.

Michael Nawrot: Cambridge, Massachusetts

Complete several multi-peak technical alpine traverses in the Southern Alps of New Zealand in single-day pushes.

Richard Redding: East Hartford, Connecticut

Spend a week climbing in the Cirque of the Towers in the Wind River Range, with the ultimate goal of completing the Cirque Traverse.

Patrick Bender: East Providence, Rhode Island

Spend a week climbing in the Cirque of the Towers in the Wind River Range, with the ultimate goal of completing the Cirque Traverse.

Vadim Kuklov: Somerville, Massachusetts

"Free as can be" ascent of the Salathe Wall on El Capitan in Yosemite.

Lindsey Leone: Sabattus, Maine

Obtain instruction & mentorship in learning to trad climb with the goal of leading classic multipitch routes around North Conway, NH, cleanly and with confidence, including Thin Air on Cathedral Ledge (5.6) and the Whitney-Gilman ridge (5.7).

Seth Campbell: Orono, Maine

Complete the Forbidden-Torment Traverse, the Cirque of the Towers Traverse, and the Grand Teton Traverse.

Ryan George: New Haven, Connecticut

Redemption trip on Liberty Ridge on Mt. Rainier.

Ana Tobio: Dumont, New Jersey

Summiting a series of peaks in the High Sierras, including but not limited to the Third Pillar on Mt. Dana (5 pitch 5.10), the Moon Goddess Arete on Temple Crag (18 pitch 5.8), and Positive Vibrations on the Incredible Hulk (12 pitch 5.11).

Robert Johnson: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Climb a series of classic multipitch Yosemite 5.10s, including Sons of Yesterday and the East Buttress of El Capitan.

Ashley Malins: Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts

Attend a multi-pitch training course to develop skills and confidence to prepare for some big wall adventures.

Kelsey Rex: Portland, Maine

Lead Irene's Arete and possibly the Exum Ridge in Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming.

John Slosson: Syracuse, New York

Complete a trio of trad climbs during a multi-day trip to New Hampshire: Thin Air at Cathedral Ledge (5.6), the Whitney-Gilman Ridge at Cannon Cliff (5.7), and the Northeast Ridge of the Pinnacle on Mount Washington (5.7).

Neha Sundaram: Brooklyn, New York

Gym membership at the Cliffs in Long Island City, New York, with the twin objectives of regaining comfort on the wall following a bouldering accident, and to reconnect with other female climbers of color.

Western Region

Chair: Tony Yeary

Lauren DeLaunay: Bishop, California

Travel to Cochamo, Chile for three weeks to sample the soaring granite walls and climb the classic routes Bienvenidos a mi Insomnio (5.11a IV) and La Presencia de mi Padre (5.10c IV), along with others in the region.

Kenneth Goff, Joshua Tree, California

Spend time on Denali, ultimately summiting via Cassin Ridge.

Connor Herson: Emerald Hills, California

Travel to the Bugaboos for the first time, aiming for an attempt to free climb the Tom Egan Memorial Route (5.14).

Giselle Field: Moorpark, California

Spend two weeks climbing in the Mendenhall Towers outside of Juneau, Alaska, with the possibility of establishing a new Grade IV route.

Rebeca Rodriguez: Paradise Valley, Arizona

For her first mountaineering adventure by climbing Mount Shasta with an all women team. The adventure will begin with snow school and then an attempt to ascend and descend the West Face of Mount Shasta.

Chelsea Gelbart: Mill Valley, California

Climb three classic alpine routes in Chamonix: Aiguille du Grepon - Mer de glace, Aiguille de la Republique - voie normale, and Gran Capucin - Voie des Suisses.

Bharath Tata: Chandler, Arizona

Climb a number of alpine routes in Patagonia, particularly in Torres del Paine and on the Fitz Roy Massif.

Cole Thompson: Mammoth Lakes, California

Climb a remote volcano in Ecuador called El Altar, or Capac Urcu (5,319m).

Caroline Dignes: San Francisco, California

Travel to Southwest China and meet up with local Chinese climbers/highliners to climb, highline, and exchange skills with the growing Chinese highline community. We intend to establish a ~100m aesthetic highline across the mouth of the Great Arch in the Getu Valley by climbing established routes on both sides of the arch in teams.

Ross Sharp: Pasadena, California

Break into high altitude mountaineering and long term expeditions with an ascent of Denali's West Buttress route.

Elliott Nguyen: Oakland, California

Climb Divided Sky, a four-pitch sport route in Lake Tahoe.

Michelle Xue: San Ramon, California

Climb the South Howser Tower in the Bugaboos (BC, Canada) via the Beckey Chouinard Route, car to car, in one day.

Colin Landeck: Scotts Valley, California

Establish the first route on a massive granite formation in the Daniels River Valley of southern British Columbia.

James Xu: Tucson, Arizona

Travel to Southwest China and meet up with local Chinese climbers/highliners to climb, highline, and exchange skills with the growing Chinese highline community. We intend to establish a ~100m aesthetic highline across the mouth of the Great Arch in the Getu Valley by climbing established routes on both sides of the arch in teams.

Eli Spitulnik: Orinda, California

Attempt All Along the Watchtower, a 32-pitch grade VI alpine big wall on the North Howser Tower in the Bugaboos, with the goal of free climbing as much as possible.

Ryan O'Rourke: San Francisco, California

Attempt to climb the 15 peaks in California above 14K in under 62 hours. This would be the FKT for the CA 14ers.

Emma Grimco: Scottsdale, Arizona

Climb the west face of Mt. Shasta in June on an all women's mountaineering trip, learning mountaineering and snow skills along the way.

Zachary Harrison: Flagstaff, Arizona

Climb a new free route in the Paria River drainage, near Page, AZ, in a canyon of sandstone cliffs with relief of ~1000 feet.

Zack Pena: San Diego, California

Complete the Thunderbolt to Sill Traverse in the Sierra Nevada Palisades, as part of a multi-year push to climb all of California's 14,000 ft mountains.

Trevor Shumaker: Columbia, California

Make the First Ascent of a free variation to Dan McDevitt's 2001 aid route "911" on Fifi Buttress' 800' overhanging West Face.

Beau Martino: San Francisco, California

Spend 7 days in July at the Bugaboos where to climb Surf's Up, McTech Arete, and North East Ridge.

Margaret Shumaker: Columbia, California

Make the First Ascent of a free variation to Dan McDevitt's 2001 aid route "911" on Fifi Buttress' 800' overhanging West Face.

Kathryn Vasilaky: San Luis Obispo, California

Travel to El Potrero Chico in México and tackle a series of multi-pitch sport routes working towards a final challenge: to lead the classic Will the Wolf Survive?: a 4 pitch 5.10a sport climb.

Jonathan Hart: Cameron Park, California

Complete a two day summit attempt on Mt. Rainier via the Disappointment Cleaver route.

Ash Gambhir: San Diego, California

Climb Mt Denali via Cassin Ridge, with the goal to climb it in seven days.

Elizabeth Lampson: Sunnyvale, California

Backpack in and complete the Saber Ridge Traverse in Sequoia National Park.

Scott Larson: San Diego, California

Climb Mt Denali via Cassin Ridge, with the goal to climb it in seven days.

Taylor Poli: San Francisco, California

Week-long trip to Indian Creek, Utah, to push himself on a variety of off-width routes.

Max Sellars: San Francisco, California

Week-long trip to Indian Creek, Utah, to push himself on a variety of off-width routes.

Roxanne Vogel: Berkeley, California

Attempt at a 14-day (door-to-door) "lightning ascent" of Mt. Everest.

Michael Habicht: South Lake Tahoe, California

Summit attempt of Denali via the West Buttress Route.