

Nicole Dede

(630) 335-7860 coledede@gmail.com

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

I am an ecologist with over four years of experience working with threatened insect and plant species in threatened habitat. I am well versed in taxonomic identification of insect and plant species. I have a passion for understanding and conserving insect diversity and their ecological interactions. I excel in large scale project planning and organization and have managed teams of students both in the field and in animal care. I am adept in facilitating outreach opportunities and communicating within academia as well as with other organizations and the surrounding community.

EDUCATION

Master of Science, Biological Sciences, Aug 2021-December 2023

Southeastern Louisiana University, Hammond, LA

GPA 4.00

Relevant Courses: Advanced Biostatistics, Biostatistics, Biological Data Analysis (R), Biogeography, Ecotoxicology

Thesis Title: Comparing pollinator assemblages of carnivorous plant species in the genera *Sarracenia* and *Drosera* that utilize longleaf pine habitat in southeastern Louisiana

Supervisor: Janice Bossart

This study begins to create a complete picture of pollinators associated with understudied carnivorous plants that utilize endangered longleaf pine habitat in southeastern Louisiana and compare the diversity to surrounding pollinator assemblages.

Bachelor of Science, Zoology with Minor in Chemistry, Aug 2017-May 2021

Olivet Nazarene University, Bourbonnais, IL.

Total GPA 3.72

Relevant Courses: Advanced Botany, Ecology, Biological Seminar, Invertebrate Zoology, Ornithology, Comparative vertebrate anatomy, Fundamentals of Communication

EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

Tour Guide-Global Wildlife Center, Folsom LA

Salary: \$15/hour, Weekly hours: 40, Jan 2024- present

- Present information on over 30 species to audiences up to 150 people
- Operate pinzgauer and give more in depth private tours to smaller groups
- Operate tour tractor wagons on free roaming facility
- Book tickets, sell feed, promote memberships and animal donation packages
- Greet and direct large school events
- Help with facility maintenance and animal care

Graduate Teaching Assistant- Southeastern Louisiana University, Hammond LA

Biweekly Stipend: \$400, Weekly hours: 20, Aug 2021-May 2023

- Organize and teach weekly Biology I Labs
- Lecture on course material, guide students through related laboratory experiments
- Grade lab reports and exams
- Create presentations, videos, and other content for out of class learning material
- Manage online course page and provide outside help to students.

Lab Technician, Entomological Conservation Lab- Olivet Nazarene University, Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, IL

Total Stipend: \$3000, Weekly hours: 5-30, June 2020-May 2021

- Sample bee populations present in threatened remnant and restored tallgrass prairie
- Handle populations of endangered *Bombus affinis*
- Net, photograph, and release *Bombus* species as part of an on going sampling effort
- Initiate pan trapping of other bee species while recording flower preference
- Pin and identify bee specimens down to species (Including *Lasioglossum*)
- Identify both native and invasive plant species in varying levels of prairie and agricultural fields
- Interact with landowners while sampling in a variety of agroecosystems
- Perform habitat assessments for bee diversity to inform restoration action

Zoology Animal Care Aquatics Division Supervisor- Olivet Nazarene University, Bourbonnais, IL

Salary: \$8,25/hour, Weekly Hours: 30, Aug 2020 – May 2021

- Train students to care for several fresh and saltwater aquariums
- Manage several large teams tasked with completing everyday care of animals
- Oversee construction of 60gal planted aquarium and 700gal saltwater aquarium
- Manage purchasing of materials for projects and everyday care
- Provide opportunities for current and potential students to learn aquatic animal husbandry
- Facilitate large scale projects to grow the programs volunteer force and facility

Animal Keeper- Willowbrook Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, Glen Ellyn, IL

Weekly Hours: 16, Jun-Aug 2018, Jun-Aug 2019

- Assist with care and treatment of native Illinois birds, mammals, and reptiles
- Prepare individualized diets for each animal
- Feed animals, clean enclosures, monitor animal conditions
- Assist with release of wildlife

Kennel Assistant/ Vet Tech Intern-Lombard Animal Clinic, Lombard, IL

Weekly Hours: 12-16, Sept 2015 – Jan 2016

- Check in pets, answer phones, make appointments
- Assist vet in exam rooms
- Perform initial examinations, minor grooming, and simple diagnostic testing
- Aid vet and vet techs in surgical procedures
- Articulate information to customers
- Organize and keep detailed records of pet's health history

FIELD EXPERIENCE

- Plant identification in longleaf pine savannah, tallgrass prairie, and arctic tundra
- Taxonomic identification of bees and other insect orders
- Histological analysis of *Lithobates clamitans* gonads affected by municipal waste water
- Isopod fecundity analysis in different temperature ranges
- 24 hour water sampling and filtering from for eDNA extractions, Lake Pontchartrain, LA
- Identification of endangered *Bombus affinis* populations through capture and release
- Capture and photograph sampling of skipper populations in longleaf pine habitat
- Arctic field study course, general investigation of flora/fauna ecology across Alaska

SKILLS/CERTIFICATIONS

- **Rstudio** experience
- **Primer6/Primer7** experience
- **Proficiency in Excel, Word, and Powerpoint**
- **Boaters Education Certification**

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Biology Graduate Student Organization (BGSO) Treasurer-Southeastern Louisiana University, Hammond, IL
May 2022-Present

Zoology Animal Care Aquatics/ Terrestrial Team Leader-Olivet Nazarene University, Bourbonnais, IL
Aug 2017 – Aug 2020.

ONU Zoology Club Public Relations Representative-Olivet Nazarene University, Bourbonnais, IL
Aug 2019 – May 2021

Startup Committee/Event Planner, ONU Animal Outreach-Olivet Nazarene University, Bourbonnais, IL
Aug 2018 – May 2021

Principle Chair/Concert Master in University Orchestra-Olivet Nazarene University, Bourbonnais, IL *Aug 2018-
May 2019, Aug 2020-May 2021*

Concert Master in Orchestra-Glenbard South Highschool, Glen Ellyn, IL
Aug 2015-May 2017

HONORS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

Travel Grant- Ecological Society of America
July 2023 Amount \$500

Travel/Research Grant-Biology Graduate Student Organization, Southeastern Louisiana University, Hammond, LA
Apr 2022, Amount \$200

Orchestra scholarship-Olivet Nazarene University, Bourbonnais, IL
2017-2021, Amount \$1250/yr

Academic Excellence scholarship-Olivet Nazarene University, Bourbonnais, IL
2017-2021, Amount \$8000/yr

Deans List-Olivet Nazarene University, Bourbonnais, IL
Fall 2017-Spring 2018, Spring 2019-Spring 2020

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

Comprehensive analysis of pollinator assemblages associated with carnivorous plant species (Drosera and Sarracenia) in Southeast Louisiana, Thesis Proposal-Southeastern Louisiana University Biology Seminar, Hammond, LA, *Feb 2022*

Analysis of the microclimates created by cotton grass tussocks in the Arctic based on plant communities present-Olivet Nazarene University Biology Seminar, Bourbonnais, IL, *Oct 2019*

Methods of water management used by desert animals-Olivet Nazarene University Biology Seminar, Bourbonnais, IL, *Oct 2018*

OUTREACH/ COMMUNITY SERVICE

Perry Farms Honeysuckle Removal-Bourbonnais, IL, *Dec 2020, Feb 2021*

Kankakee County Soil and Water Conservation Video Series-Bourbonnais, IL, *Aug 2020*

ONU Animal Outreach: Community Animal Extravaganza-Bourbonnais, IL, *Mar 2019, Mar 2021*

Langham Island Kankakee Mallow Restoration-Bourbonnais, IL, *Mar 2019*

ONU Animal Outreach: Breakthrough Ministries Chicago-Chicago, IL, *Feb 2019*

ONU Prairie Planting- Olivet Nazarene University, Bourbonnais, IL, *Jan 2019*

Kankakee River Cleanup-Kankakee, IL, *Sept 2018*