

Junior Duck Stamp Program

Fact Sheet

What is the Federal Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program?

The Federal Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program is a dynamic educational program designed to teach wetlands and waterfowl conservation to students in kindergarten through high school. The program incorporates scientific and wildlife management principles into a visual arts activity. This non-traditional pairing of subjects brings new interest to both the sciences and the arts. After learning about wetlands and waterfowl conservation, students are encouraged to create drawings and paintings to submit to their state Junior Duck Stamp Contest.

What is the Junior Duck Stamp Contest?

In 2007, nearly 30,000 students participated in the Junior Duck Stamp Contest. Students are required to create realistic images of any North American waterfowl species. Each state holds a contest for different age groups, then, submits one Best of Show to be entered in the national contest. At the national level, students with the top ten art entries and the top three conservation messages receive cash awards. In 2007, the first place art entry received \$5,000. Additionally, each year the first place national art award winner, his or her art teacher and a parent are invited to participate in the First Day of Sale Ceremony for both the Federal Duck Stamp and Junior Duck Stamp.

When and where is the Junior Duck Stamp Contest held?

Each year students submit their artwork in mid-March (earlier for some states). State contests are held in March and April; the National Contest is held in late April. Each year, the National Contest is held at a different location throughout the country. In 2007, the Smithsonian Institution's National Zoo hosted the contest.

Who participates in the Junior Duck Stamp Contest?

The Junior Duck Stamp Contest is open to all United States, school-age children in kindergarten through twelfth grade, whether home schooled or in public school. Participation in the Junior Duck Stamp Program is largely dependent on dedicated teachers and parents who incorporate the program into various learning environments. The program is administrated by state and regional coordinators, most of whom are employees of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, state natural resource agencies or nonprofit conservation organizations.

How is Junior Duck Stamp revenue spent?

Each year the winning entry from the national contest is made into the Junior Duck Stamp sold for \$5. Proceeds generated from the sale of Junior Duck Stamps are returned to state coordinators to support the program. In past years, sales of Junior Duck Stamps have raised nearly \$200,000.

How can I buy a Junior Duck Stamp?

Federal Junior Duck Stamps are sold through the U.S. Postal Service's Philatelic Catalog, Amplex, and National Wildlife Refuges. The U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service Federal Duck Stamp Office does not sell duck stamp products, but it does allow licensed vendors to produce and sell products bearing the images of both Federal and Junior Duck Stamps. To license the Junior Duck Stamp image, contact the Federal Duck Stamp office.



2007 - 2008 Junior Duck Stamp

When did the Federal Junior Duck Stamp Program get started?

In 1989, a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation was used to create a conservation and arts curriculum named the Federal Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program. In 1994 Congress passed the Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program Act authorizing the Department of the Interior's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to sponsor the Junior conservation program and produce the Junior Duck Stamp. In 2001, the U.S. Postal Service began selling Junior Duck Stamps in its USA Philatelic Catalog, greatly increasing stamp sales and providing more revenue for environmental education activities and program materials. On January 10, 2006, the President signed the reauthorization of the Junior Duck Stamp Act, authorizing the program for an additional five years.

What students say about the Junior Duck Stamp Program?

The program teaches students about waterfowl, increases their appreciation for natural places and instills a sense of responsibility.

“In researching the Tundra Swan, I realized how limited their habitat is and how important it is to keep the environment clean.” Amy Galipeault, 18, Vermont

“Growing up in the sportsman’s paradise of Louisiana, we are raised to have an appreciation for the wildlife and their homes. This contest has enhanced my love for the outdoors.” Evan Austin, 14, Louisiana

“It is our responsibility to protect and preserve our precious natural habitats with fever and reverence – inaction means destruction.” Brett Cooper, 18, Nebraska

What teachers say about the Junior Duck Stamp Program?

“This contest has done so much good for our students. I think it is very worthwhile. All of my students are

more aware and knowledgeable about our Hawaiian wildlife.” Karen, Middle School Teacher, Oahu, Hawaii

“The Program not only teaches, it builds confidence.” Karrie Schmidt, Junior Duck Stamp Program State Coordinator, South Dakota

Buy Junior Duck Stamps

To purchase a Junior Duck Stamp and support environmental education, please contact:

United States Postal Service
www.usps.com
1-800-782-6724 or 1-800-STAMP24

Amplex Corporation
www.duckstamp.com
1-800-852-4897

National Wildlife Refuges
www.fws.gov/Refuges

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Junior Duck Stamp Program
(703) 358-2000
<http://www.fws.gov/juniorduck/>**

June 2007



**Conservation
Through the Arts**
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE