



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

The 2009 Junior Duck Stamp Contest



Connecting children and nature through science and art



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Conservation through the Arts

The Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program is a dynamic educational program designed to teach wetland habitat and waterfowl conservation to students in kindergarten through high school. Using scientific and wildlife observation principles, the program helps students communicate visually what they have learned by creating an entry for the Junior Duck Stamp art contest. This non-traditional pairing of subjects brings new interest to both science and the arts. It crosses cultural, ethnic, social, and geographic boundaries to teach greater awareness of our Nation's natural resources.

Preparation for the Junior Duck Stamp contest and involvement in the program requires students to learn the fundamental principles of anatomy and environmental science, and can be a valid barometer of a student's grasp of these topics. The program also provides an opportunity for students to express, artistically, their knowledge of the beauty, diversity, and interdependence of wildlife. In fact, preparation for the program often includes a visit to a national wildlife refuge, a prime location not only for observing wildlife, but also for the hands-on educational experience at a visitor center.

The Junior Duck Stamp competition begins each spring when students submit their artwork to a state or territory contest. At the state level, students are judged in four groups according to grade level: K-3, 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12. Three first, second, and third place entries are selected for each group. Contest judges select a "Best of Show" from the twelve first place winners. Each state or territory "Best of Show" is then submitted to the Federal Duck Stamp Office and entered into the national Junior Duck Stamp Contest. To further the interdisciplinary goals of the program, students are also encouraged, but not required, to include conservation messages on their entry forms along with their art design. The conservation message is judged in some states and at the national level for "Best of Show" winners. The message should explain something the student has learned about wetland habitats, conservation, or waterfowl. It may also be a statement encouraging others to learn about and participate in conservation.

The first place art from the national contest is used to create a Junior Duck Stamp each year. Sold by the U.S. Postal Service and Amplex Corporation consignees for \$5 per stamp. Proceeds from the sale of Junior Duck Stamps support conservation education and provide awards and scholarships for participating students, teachers, and schools.



The Junior Duck Stamp closely resembles the Federal Duck Stamp

The Junior Duck Stamp is modeled after the Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, commonly known as the “Duck Stamp.” Federal Duck Stamps are pictorial revenue stamps not valid for postage. Created in 1934 as the Federal migratory waterfowl hunting to help fund the purchase and conservation of our Nation’s wetlands, Federal Duck Stamps also serve as an entrance pass to national wildlife refuges where entrances are charged. Sales of Federal Duck Stamps have generated more than \$700 million, which has been used to help acquire or lease more than 5.2 million acres of waterfowl habitat in the United States. These lands are managed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service’s National Wildlife Refuge System. Federal Duck Stamps are sold for \$15 in many post offices across the country. You can also buy Federal and Junior Duck Stamps on the Internet and at many sporting goods and outdoor-gear stores, and National Wildlife Refuges.

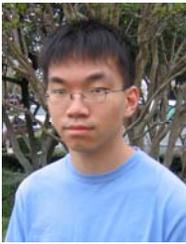
To learn more about the Junior Duck Stamp Program, visit: <http://www.fws.gov/juniorduck> or contact your state coordinator using the contact information on page 15 of the brochure.

An increasing body of evidence shows that a relationship with the natural world helps children become healthier in body and mind—the Junior Duck Stamp program is a wonderful gateway to that relationship.”

H. Dale Hall, Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



Introducing the 2008 Art Contest Winners



First Place Winner
Seokkyun Hong
Age 18
Dallas, Texas
Nene (pair)



Second Place Winner
Lydia Han
Age 15
San Jose, California
Ruddy duck (pair)





Third Place Winner
Rebekah Nastav
Age 17
Amoret, Missouri
Hooded Merganser



Conservation Message Winner

Conservation messages included with Best of Show entries submitted to the national contest are judged separately from the artwork. The winner of the 2008 Conservation message contest is:

"Conservation is our respect for the past, participation of the present, and our responsibility to the future."

Jeriel Chalk, Colorado



Special Information for Teachers or Supervising Adults

Please read carefully:

1. Explain and discuss the specific rules of the competition and the special criteria upon which the artwork will be judged. This includes making the ethics of art known to students.



IMPORTANT

2. **The entry must be the student's own creation and idea.** Do not approve student work that carries any doubt as to its authenticity or originality. Please do not submit work that has been *directly* or *indirectly* copied from *any* published source. Students limited by environment or experience may rely on published images as guides when producing a work, especially when many references are used to develop an understanding of the subject represented in the entry. Students in grade groups III and IV are required to submit a reference sheet along with their contest entry. Please see pages 16–17 of this brochure for more information.

3. **Evaluate and establish aesthetic criteria concerning original stamp designs.** Ask the following questions:

- **Form:** Is the waterfowl anatomically accurate?
- **Texture:** Are the textures visually and physically appropriate?
- **Line:** Are the details necessary, correct, and effective?
- **Colors:** Are the colors used appropriate to the subject matter and are they accurate to the species, plumage, habitat, and season or to a decorative design of the bird?
- **Size:** Is the visual statement appropriate for the reduced size of a 1" × 1½" stamp or will details be lost in reduction?
- **Shape:** Is the design well suited to a horizontal, and rectangular shape?
- **Clarity of Visual Symbol:** Does it communicate the purpose of the stamp and can it be seen easily?
- **Spatial Divisions:** Do the negative and positive areas within the illustration work well together?



4. Any student who enters the contest must be a citizen of the United States or have an official Immigration Visa or Green Card as proof of legal residency. A valid social security number or Visa number is required to award monetary prizes. Teachers, parents and guardians can check to make sure all students who enter are US citizens, or legal residence in this country. A valid social security number or visa number must accompany the “Best of Show” entry when sent to the national Junior Duck Stamp Contest.

Procedures for Entering the Contest

Contest Deadlines

- **Entries must be postmarked by midnight, March 15, 2009** (Note: North Carolina and Arizona’s deadlines are January 18; South Carolina’s deadline is January 30; and Ohio’s deadline is March 1).
- Send entries to **your state’s Junior Duck Stamp State Coordinator (see list on page 14 of this packet). DO NOT** send entries to the Federal Duck Stamp Office. For students attending military school abroad, send entry to the coordinator in the state of the student’s legal residence. Junior Duck Stamp Contest [entry form](#) and [reference form](#) are available for download from Junior Duck Stamp website.
<http://www.fws.gov/juniorduck>

Contest Eligibility— Who May Participate?

- K-12 students attending public, private, tribal or home schools in the United States and the U.S. Territories are eligible to enter, as long as they are U.S. citizens, resident aliens, or nationals. U.S. citizens attending schools abroad may enter through their legal state of residence.
- The student who won first place in the National Junior Duck Stamp Contest the preceding year **may not submit an entry in the current year’s contest.**
- One entry per student.
- Teachers or supervising adults should encourage all students to participate in the Junior Duck Stamp program and enter the art contest. In the case of foreign exchange students, their artwork will be judged at the state level but if the artwork is awarded Best of Show, though it may be honored as a winner in that state, it may not be forwarded to the national contest.



Technical Requirements for Design and Submission of Entry

- The physical size of submitted artwork must be 9" × 12".
- Entries must be less than ¼" thick.
- Image layout must be **horizontal**.
- Image must be a live portrayal of a native North American duck, swan, or goose (refer to eligible species list on page 5).
- Entries should not be matted.
- There should be no border around the image.
- A loose, detachable cover sheet may be laid over the art face to protect it during shipping. Spray chalk and pastel entries with a fixative to eliminate possible scuffing and smudging during transfer of artwork.
- Students should not sign on the front of art entry. Should this entry win, a signature may interfere with stamp design.

The entry may be multi-color, black and white, or a single color; it may be rendered in ink, paint, pastel, crayon, or pencil. Techniques may include scratch-board, airbrush, linoleum printing, paper collage, dry brush, crosshatch, pointillism, etc. No photography, weak pencil or computer-generated art will be accepted. No lettering, words, signatures or initials may appear on the front of the design. Inclusion of such markings will result in disqualification. Design entries must be the contestant's original, hand-drawn creation and may not be traced or copied from published photographs or other artists' works. Photographs taken by the student may be used as references in the development of the design. Computers or other mechanical devices may not be used in creating artwork.

Creating Your Own Design

Scenes should depict birds in their natural habitat; for example, sea ducks should be shown in ocean areas. Feather colors should be appropriate to the time of the year depicted by the environment. Decoratively designed birds are to receive equal voting consideration as realistic depictions, as long as they are anatomically correct according to the species depicted.

Original Artwork Requirement

Students should not reproduce other artists' visual images and present them as their own creative work. **Only work that is the unique creation of the individual student should be entered into competition.** Please do not submit work which has been directly or indirectly copied from *any* published source. Students limited by environment or experience may rely on published images as guides when producing a work. Especially when many references are used to develop an



understanding of the subject represented in the entry, the entry must be the student's own creation and idea.

Students in all grade groups should review the Original Design Requirements on page 16 and the Reference Form on page 17. **Students in grade groups III and IV must submit a Reference Form with their Junior Duck Stamp Contest Entry.**



Permitted Species

Please submit an entry featuring one of the species listed below. Contact the state coordinator for questions regarding the permitted species list. Note: Mute swans are not a permitted species.

A. Whistling Ducks

1. Fulvous Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna bicolor*)
2. Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*)

B. Swans

1. Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*, formerly *olor buccinator*)
2. Tundra Swan (*Cygnus columbianus*, formerly *olor columbianus*)

C. Geese

1. Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*)
2. Snow Goose, including blue phase (*Chen caerulescens*)
3. Ross's Goose (*Chen rossii*)
4. Emperor Goose (*Chen canagica*)
5. Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*)

D. Brant

1. Brant (*Branta bernicla*)

E. Dabbling Ducks

1. Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*)

2. American Wigeon (*Anas americana*)

3. Gadwall (*Anas strepera*)

4. Green-winged Teal (*Anas crecca*)

5. Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*)

6. Mottled Duck (*Anas fulvigula*)

7. American Black Duck (*Anas rubripes*)

8. Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*)

9. Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*)

10. Cinnamon Teal (*Anas cyanoptera*)

11. Northern Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*)

F. Diving Ducks

1. Canvasback (*Aythya valisineria*)

2. Redhead (*Aythya americana*)

3. Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*)

4. Greater Scaup (*Aythya marila*)

5. Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*)

G. Sea Ducks

1. Common Eider (*Somateria mollissima*)

2. King Eider (*Somateria spectabilis*)

3. Spectacled Eider (*Somateria fisheri*)

4. Steller's Eider (*Polysticta stelleri*)

5. Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus*)

6. Long-tailed Duck, formerly Oldsquaw

- (*Clangula hyemalis*)

7. Black Scoter (*Melanitta nigra*)

8. Surf Scoter (*Melanitta perspicillata*)

9. White-winged Scoter (*Melanitta fusca*)

10. Bufflehead (*Bucephala albeola*)

11. Barrow's Goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*)

12. Common Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*)

H. Mergansers

1. Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*)

2. Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*)

3. Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*)

I. Stiff Tails

1. Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*)

2. Masked Duck (*Oxyura dominica*)

J. Hawaiian Ducks

1. Nene (*Branta sandvicensis*)

2. Koloa (*Anas wyvilliana*)

3. Laysan Duck (*Anas laysanensis*)



Special Provisions and Authorities

By participating in the Junior Duck Stamp Contest, each student, teacher, and legal guardian acknowledges the following rights and authorities and willingly agrees to each of these conditions:

The Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:

1. Reserves the exclusive right to authorize the reproduction of the national first-place winning design, including on stamps and various licensed products, and to photograph the winning stamp design without compensation to the student.
2. Has the right to use the name, artwork and photographs of the student for promotional purposes without compensation to the student.
3. May disqualify any entry submitted into the Junior Duck Stamp contest that has the appearance of a plagiarized submission.
4. Will not insure the entries it receives or be responsible for loss or damage of the entries. In the event of an address change, it is the student's responsibility to inform the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service of this change. Artwork unclaimed after one year from the date of the contest may be destroyed.
5. May send artwork on tour around the United States. *Artwork on tour may be handled by a third party.*
6. Requires that the winning artist provides autographs on Junior Duck Stamps and Junior Duck Stamp products without charge to the public or Federal Government.

Judging

All phases of the judging procedure will be open to the general public. Entries will be judged on the basis of original design, anatomical accuracy, artistic composition, and suitability for reproduction on a 1" by 1½" stamp.

Judging will continue until awards have been allocated for first, second, and third place, plus honorable mention. For each state, district, or territory, there will be up to 100 awards: 12 first places, 12 second place, 12 third places, and up to 64 honorable mentions. One student's design will be selected from the 12 first place winners as "Best of Show." Notification of winners will be made as soon as possible.

Conservation Message

Each student is encouraged, but not required, to write a short conservation message that expresses the spirit of what they have learned through classroom discussions, research, and planning for their Junior Duck Stamp Contest entries. Please limit the length of the conservation message to the space provided on the entry form.



Only one message per state is judged at the national level. States submit the Best of Show winner's conservation message. For more information regarding your state's conservation message contest, please contact your state coordinator.

Awards

Recognition and prizes will vary from state to state; however, all entrants will receive certificates of participation and winners will receive special ribbons. In acknowledgment of the integral part teachers and parents play in education and in the future of our Nation's youth, the national winner, one parent or guardian, and the winner's teacher will receive a free trip to participate in the First Day of Sale ceremony in late June/early July.

The following cash prizes will also be awarded:

National First Place: \$5,000

National Second Place: \$3,000

National Third Place: \$2,000

National Conservation Message First Place: \$500

Return of Entries

All entries will be returned to the students or schools. Non-winning entries will be returned by June 1. Winning stamp designs will be returned up to one year after the state contest date. For questions regarding your artwork, please contact your state, territory or district coordinator (see list on page 11). If artwork is unclaimed, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will not be obligated to trace the location of the artist to return the artwork. All unclaimed entries may be destroyed one year from the date of the contest. Every effort will be made to safely return artwork to the students. In some areas, teachers will be notified to pick up the work at a central location.

Display of Duck Stamp Designs

Each state, district, or territory Best of Show entry will be displayed at the Federal Duck Stamp Contest judging-event, waterfowl festivals, wildlife museums, and galleries throughout the United States. State programs may also choose to display the top winning artwork.

ATTENTION: The Junior Duck Stamp Program is going green in 2009–2010! To help preserve natural forest habitat, the Junior Duck Stamp Program will no longer be printing a large quantity of brochures. Instead, this brochure is offered online. Postcards announcing the brochure web address or a CD version of the brochure will be provided. To accommodate any schools or students without access to the Internet, a limited number of printed copies will be available through the Federal Duck Stamp office upon request.



State Receiving Sites

Alaska

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Creating Original Artwork

The Junior Duck Stamp Program and Artistic Integrity

The Junior Duck Stamp Contest 2009

As students participating in the Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Contest, you will create *your* vision of the colorful, winged waterfowl that grace wetlands across North America. To do this, you'll study these beautiful creatures, reviewing pictures, images or video. Perhaps you'll even have the opportunity to observe wildlife in their natural habitat at a national wildlife refuge, a park in your community or your own backyard.

Artist integrity—the idea that each student artist is creating his or her *own* depiction of waterfowl and submitting that original creation as a Junior Duck Stamp Contest entry—is an important aspect of this contest. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service encourages all students who participate in the Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Contest to complete the reference worksheet on the next page. For students in grade groups III and IV, please submit the reference worksheet along with your entry. Do not attach the reference worksheet to your artwork, but include it in the envelope with your entry—or give it to your teacher to send along with your artwork. Students in grade groups I and II are encouraged to work with their teacher or parent to complete the reference form, but are not required to submit it with their entry.

This artistic reference worksheet will encourage you, the young artist, to delve into your own sense of creativity while producing your original wildlife artwork. When filling in your reference sheet:

- Include as much information as possible (see examples below)
- Reference all major sources
- **For students in grade groups III and IV, you must include this reference sheet with your entry or your entry will be disqualified.**



Reference Examples

A Painting or Photograph Not Found In A Book

Artist Last Name, First Name. *Title of the Artwork*. Location Displayed. Cable, Lee. *Mallards on Backbay*. Fredlund Gallery, Winter Park, Fl.

Book/Magazines

Artist Last name, First name. *Title Of The Book/Magazine Italicized*. Pg. Mueller, Keith. *Waterfowl Concepts*. Pg. 6, 32, 54, 112.

Internet Images

Artist or Photographer Last Name, First Name. Website Address. Sevcik, Jan. www.naturephoto-cz.com/photos/sevcik/mallard—anas-platyhyncos-5.jpg

Personal Photographs and Images

Last name, First Name. Species, Medium, Location, Date. Herman, Amber. Mallards Photographed, Mississippi River, Davenport, Iowa. May 2007.

Other

Provide as much identifying information as possible.

How do I enter the contest?

To enter the Junior Duck Stamp Contest fill out an [entry form](#) and [reference form](#) that are available for download from the Federal Junior Duck Stamp website.

<http://www.fws.gov/juniorduck> . Mail these in with your entry to your state Junior Duck Stamp Coordinator /receiving site. A list of receiving sites can be found on the Junior Duck Stamp website and on page 14 of this packet.