

# Junior Duck Stamp Program

## Conservation Through the Arts

The Federal Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program is a dynamic art- and science-based curriculum that teaches wetland and waterfowl conservation to students in kindergarten through high school.

The program encourages students to explore their natural world, invites them to investigate biology and wildlife management principles, and challenges them to express and share what they have learned with others.

### Wetlands Learning and Visual “Term Papers”

The Junior Duck Stamp Art Contest is the culmination of the Junior Duck Stamp educational program. After studying waterfowl anatomy and habitat, students express their newfound knowledge by drawing or painting a picture of an eligible North American waterfowl species.



*After learning about wetlands and waterfowl conservation, students paint a picture of a duck or goose./USFWS*



*2018-2019 Junior Duck Stamp featuring an emperor goose. Art by Rayen Kang, 18, of Johns Creek, Ga.*

Students from across the United States submit their artwork to their state, territory or district art competition.

The “Best of Show” from each competition is submitted to the National Junior Duck Stamp Art Contest, where judges select one image to become the next Junior Duck Stamp, as well as a winning conservation message.

The top three artists at the national level and the winning conservation message receive scholarships, and students receive awards at the state level.

In 2018, more than 20,000 youth participated in state and territory Junior Duck Stamp art contests.

### Art Benefits Conservation Education

The winning artwork from the national art contest serves as the design for the Junior Duck Stamp, which the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service produces annually.

All revenue from the sale of Junior Duck Stamps goes to support recognition and environmental education activities for students who participate in the program.

Many students, parents and educators buy \$5 Junior Duck Stamps to support conservation education. The stamp has become a much sought after collector’s item, similar to Federal Duck Stamps.

### Modern Education Curriculum

A curriculum guide with activities and resources is the basis of the Junior Duck Stamp education program. Students, educators, parents and youth activity group leaders use the curriculum as a year-round study plan to aid in exploring science in real-life situations.

Using scientific and wildlife observation principles, students are encouraged to communicate visually what they have learned through an entry into the Junior Duck Stamp art contest. This non-



The Junior Duck Stamp Program goes beyond the classroom. Students are encouraged to get outdoors to observe and sketch waterfowl as they create their art contest entry. USFWS photo.

traditional pairing of subjects brings new interest to both the sciences and the arts. It crosses cultural, ethnic, social and geographic boundaries to teach greater awareness of our nation's natural resources.

Dedicated teachers and parents incorporate the Junior Duck Stamp Conservation Education Curriculum into various learning environments - public and private school classrooms, home schools, and nonformal education settings such as scout groups, 4-H and national wildlife refuges.

By displaying student artwork and delivering waterfowl and wetland related outdoor activities, state coordinators share student accomplishments with even students, families and communities annually.

**Over 25-Year History**

The program began in 1989. The national Junior Duck Stamp art contest started in 1993 and the first stamp design was selected from the eight participating states. The program was recognized by Congress with the 1994 enactment of the Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program Act.

**Buy Junior Duck Stamps - Support Conservation Education!**

U.S. Postal Service  
[www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com)  
1-800-782-6724 (1-800-STAMP24)

Amplex Corporation  
[www.duckstamp.com](http://www.duckstamp.com)  
1-800-852-4897

Find a national wildlife refuge near you:  
[www.fws.gov/refuges](http://www.fws.gov/refuges)

(call first to ensure they sell the stamp)

By 2000, the program included all 50 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. territories. The program encourages partnerships among federal and state government agencies, nongovernment organizations, businesses, and volunteers to help recognize and honor thousands of teachers and students throughout the United States for their participation in conservation activities.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
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[www.fws.gov/birds/education/junior-duck-stamp-conservation-program](http://www.fws.gov/birds/education/junior-duck-stamp-conservation-program)

Facebook:  
USFWS\_Migratory Birds

Twitter: @USFWSBirds

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**2018 Junior Duck Stamp National Conservation Message Winner:**

*“Conserving our wetlands is as important as conserving our art. It is our history, our inspiration, our life, our future.”*

*-Abigail McIntyre, 16, Manhattan, KS*

**Use “Amazon Smile” and support the Junior Duck Stamp Program!**

Log on to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and designate the “Friends of the Migratory Bird/ Duck Stamp” as your charity

Amazon.com will automatically donate .5% of your purchases to the Friends

The Friends will direct all contributions to the Junior Duck Stamp Program to support conservation education



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

