

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

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News Release

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Spring Wildlife/Wildlands Art EXPO Reception Scheduled for April 11 5-8pm at National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center

The Spring Wildlife/Wildlands Art Expo at the National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center on Roanoke Island will kick-off with a reception this Friday, April 11 from 5-8pm. This Art Expo will feature varied artists from the Raleigh/Durham Chapter of the Colored Pencil Society of America.

Annette Kirk, representative for the Society said, "All of the artwork is original and is done primarily in colored pencil, although other media, like watercolor, may be included.

Our chapter conducts a weekly open studio, holds workshops, sponsors exhibitions and is involved in other activities to promote, teach and encourage the use of colored pencils in fine art.

We have all levels of ability represented, from beginner to professional. A number of our artists have been accepted into the CPSA International Exhibition, which is quite an honor because the quality of work submitted is very high. One of our members, Liz Guzynski, was awarded Best in Show in 2012 for her beautiful drawing of hydrangeas. "

Fine art colored pencils are relatively new to the art world, having just been introduced in the 1920s. Considering that other art materials, such as oils and watercolors, have been used continuously in Western art for centuries, it is astounding how quickly colored pencils are becoming an enduring part of the art scene in the United States, as well as around the world. It is not surprising, however, because their color intensity and depth, ability to create fine detail, and their durability make them ideal for rendering many different subjects, from illustration to landscapes to portraits. Since colored pencils are a transparent medium, luminous and vibrant colors can be created by layering. The pigments used in artist grade pencils resist fading, so paintings and drawings done in colored pencil on archival papers or art boards can be handed down from generation to generation.

The Colored Pencil Society of America was founded in 1990 by Vera Curnow. There are presently 27 district chapters throughout the country, and almost 2000 members. While located in the Triangle, the Raleigh-Durham District Chapter has a mission to support artists throughout the Carolinas. For more information, visit the Colored Pencil Society of America website at www.CPSA.org or the Raleigh- Durham Chapter website at www.cpsadc114.org.

Please join us for the reception on Friday, or drop by the Visitor Center any time 9am-4pm Monday - Saturday or noon-4pm on Sundays to view the art. For more information, contact Susie Kowlok at 252-473-1131 ext 226 or susan_kowlok@fws.gov.





These beautiful colored pencil works were created by Jackie Balog, member of the Raleigh/Durham Chapter of the Colored Pencil Society of America, and are a part of the Wildlife/Wildlands Art Expo opening this Friday. Many additional pieces of original artwork will be on display at the national Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center, beginning this Friday. A reception will be held from 5-8pm; the reception and the show are free and open to the public. Photo Credit: Jackie Balog.