

## U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

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### **Utah Junior Duck Stamp Winner Announced at Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge**

Zhiwen Xu, aged 13, won Best of Show at the 2014 Utah Junior Duck Stamp Contest with her male mallard in flight created with a mixed media of prisma, airbrush, pastel, and guache. From Logan, Utah, Xhiwen's art was entered into the Federal Junior Duck Stamp Contest in Washington, D.C. where it will be judged April 18 at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Conservation Training Center, Shepherdstown, W. Virginia.

The Awards Ceremony will be held at the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge, May 10, where Zhiwen will be recognized as the one of the younger winners of the Utah Junior Duck Stamp Contest. Zhiwen has a love for wildlife and studies art with Julie LeFevre of Sunshine Art School, Logan, Utah.

A group of keen-eyed judges representing the art world included an accomplished photographer, two wildlife artists, an expert birder, and a Federal Duck Stamp artist from Utah. Judges commented that her entry reflected a high level of attention to anatomical detail, creative expression, and use of color.

Students, from kindergarten through twelfth grade are encouraged each year to enter their artistic renditions of North American waterfowl into the contest. Information on the National Junior Duck Stamp contest can be found at <http://www.fws.gov/juniorduck/> and Utah Junior Duck Stamp contest at <http://www.fws.gov/bearriver/>.

A great way to learn about waterfowl and other water birds is to participate in a Bear River Refuge's upcoming FREE guided tours with Refuge Naturalists, Saturdays @ 10:00 a.m. beginning May 25 through September 30, 2014. Seating is limited so make reservations early!

For updates on events and Refuge conditions, please visit the refuge web site at: [http://www.fws.gov/refuge/bear\\_river\\_migratory\\_bird\\_refuge/](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/bear_river_migratory_bird_refuge/). Call 435-734-6422 for more information. Follow us on Facebook for further updates. The James V. Hansen Wildlife Education Center is located at 2155 W. Forest Street, 1/4 mile west of I-15 at Exit 363.

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