



## **FRIENDS OF PRIME HOOK, NWR**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **BELTED KINGFISHER JUDGED TOP PHOTO IN PRIME HOOK CONTEST. EXHIBIT OPEN UNTIL DECEMBER 22.**

**PRIME HOOK** – The Prime Hook Nature Photography Contest opened to the public on November 10 with an opening reception and awards ceremony.

Some 250 photographs from nearly 70 photographers will be on display to the public in the refuge auditorium until December 22.

Jerry am Ende of Wilmington won the best in show award with his photograph of a belted kingfisher. It was one of several winning photos submitted by am Ende, who impressed judges with the quality of his work.

In the junior category (age 12 and under) Sara Figurski swept the first, second and third place awards as well as winning two honorable mentions. In the senior student category, 13-year-old Jordyn Frieze duplicated the feat by winning first, second and third place with a pair of honorable mentions.

Special awards were also given to students, even though they did not win a judge's award. Special Friends Recognition Awards were presented for the many fine photographs submitted by: Denay Cox, Garrett Biggs, Hykeem Evans, Evan Mruk and Marysol Gonzalez.

Here is a listing of all the award winning photographs:

#### Native Wildlife Birds

1. Jerry am Ende "Black Necked Stilt Attack"
  2. Jerry am Ende
  3. Jerry am Ende
- Honorable Mention - Bill Parris

#### Native Wildlife (Non-Birds)

1. Jerry am Ende "Red Fox"
  2. Sandy Morgan
  3. Scott Figurski
- Honorable Mentions - Deb Payette, Steven Hess and Sharon Young

#### Beauty of Prime Hook

1. Ed Chamberlain "Pastel Pallet"

2. Jerry am Ende

3. Allan Levin

Honorable Mentions - Jane Melhorn Mruk and Robin Ray

Native Flowers and Plants

1. Peggy Douglas

2. Sue Eberhart

3. Jane Melhorn Mruk

Honorable Mention - Robert Pilkington

Delmarva Scenery

1. Leslie Sinclair

2. Deb Payette

3. Paula Shannon

Honorable Mention - Terry Willis

The annual contest sponsored by the Friends of Prime Hook showcases some of the best and most talented nature photography on Delmarva.

Viewers will have an opportunity to decide the "People's Choice Award," which will be presented at the conclusion of the exhibition. Everyone who sees the exhibit is invited to cast a ballot for their favorite photo and the winner is the "People's Choice."

Judges for this year's contest were photographers: Kevin Fleming, Taylor Crist and David Koster. Fleming also donated several of his award-winning photography books to be used as prizes.

The exhibition is located in the Refuge auditorium at 11978 Turkle Pond Road, Milton, DE. 19968. Refuge hours are Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information about the photography contest, the Friends Group or Prime Hook National Wildlife Refuge, please call (302) 684-8419.

*The mission of the Friends of Prime Hook National Wildlife Refuge, Inc. is to support environmental, educational, and recreational activities and programs that increase the public understanding of the history, habitats and heritage of Prime Hook National Wildlife Refuge and of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

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November 12, 2013