

BEST OF SHOW GUIDELINES

When it is time to choose the Best of Show (BOS), you will need to keep a few things in mind. I will go over these again when it is time to judge.

Up until the Best of Show judging there are no rules on how to pick the artwork. You pick the pieces you like the most for whatever reason. It is your own feeling of the artwork – no explanation needed.

1 When you choose the Best of Show please remember:

- This artwork will be submitted to the National competition
- You want the BOS to be as realistic* as possible (*not necessarily does it look like a photo, but is it in the proper type of habitat, does this species really do what is portrayed, is the species the main focus of the picture, etc.)
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I have put a few samples below for you to look at – one that did well at Nationals and ones that haven't.



This is the BOS for Oregon 2004. Although this is an awesome, beautiful picture, it did not do well at Nationals. Why? There is little to no habitat, and it is a drake duck with young on its back which is rare to never seen in this species. If not for those two items, this picture would *probably* have done much better at Nationals.

Now, this isn't to say that if the picture has everything we are speaking of it will do well at Nationals, but, if it doesn't have the realism, it definitely will not do well.



This was Oregon's 2003 Best of Show winner. Although it is also a fantastic picture it did not do well at Nationals either. The drake is a bit rounder than realistic and the ducks aren't really the main focus of the picture – the birdhouse is – which I must say was incredible looking.



This was Oregon's 2002 BOS winner. We really thought it would do well at Nationals and we aren't sure why it didn't. Just to show you, even though it is great – it is competing with 50+ other great pictures.



This is Oregon's 2001 Best of Show winner. This original was absolutely incredible. The duck is the main focus, the habitat is perfect, and the detail is impeccable. This picture won 3rd place at the National Competition.

It was beaten out by the Trumpeter Swan (lower left corner) in the stamps below.

Anyway, these are just a few things to keep in mind while choosing the Best of Show this year. Below, notice the National 1st Place Winners artworks that actually were turned into stamps.



(1993-1994)
Redhead
by Jason Parsons



(1994-1995)
Hooded Merganser
by Clark Weaver



(1995-1996)
Northern Pintail
by Jie Huang



(1996-1997)
Canvasbacks
by Clark Weaver



(1997-1998)
Canada Geese
by Scott Russell



(1998-1999)
American Black Ducks
by Erik Petterson



(1999-2000)
Wood Ducks
by Ryan Kirby



(2000-2001)
Northern Pintails
by Bonnie Latham



(2001-2002)
Trumpeter Swan
by Aremy McCann



(2002-2003)
Mallards
by Nathan Closson



(2003-2004)
Green-winged Teal
by Nathan Bauman



(2004-2005)
Fulvous Whistling
Duck
by Adam Nisbett

I hope this information has been helpful to you in preparing you for this challenging experience.