

# 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 photo.*



*2016-2017 Junior Duck Stamp featuring Ross's Geese.  
Art by Stacy Shen, 16, of Fremont, CA*

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 2015, 24,000 youth participated in state and territory Junior Duck Stamp art contests.

### **Art for Education’s Sake**

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-traditional pairing of subjects



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.

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 students, families and communities.

### Twenty-two 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.

By 2000, the program included all 50 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. territories.

The Junior Duck Stamp 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. It also gives students - and educators - an opportunity to investigate what is fun, unique and mysterious about waterfowl and wetlands in North America.

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
Junior Duck Stamp Program  
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: MB  
Falls Church, VA 22041  
703/358-2145  
duckstamps@fws.gov**

**www.fws.gov/birds/junior-duck-stamp-conservation-program**

**On Facebook:  
Federal Junior Duck Stamp**

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

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

**U.S. Postal Service**  
**www.usps.com**  
**1-800-782-6724 (1-800-STAMP24)**

**Amplex Corporation**  
**www.duckstamp.com**  
**1-800-852-4897**

**Find a National Wildlife  
Refuge near you:**  
**www.fws.gov/refuges**  
**(call first to ensure they sell the  
stamp)**

### What people are saying about the Junior Duck Stamp Program:

*"The Junior Duck Stamp Program... taps into children's creativity while bringing the outdoors into the classroom." --Junior Duck Stamp State Coordinator*

*"When I first saw the picture of a king eider, the color and the shape grabbed my attention. After my research I realized that this duck is much more interesting than what I originally thought." --Si youn Kim, 2014 National Junior Duck Stamp Contest Winner*

*"Nature painted us the wetlands, but it is we who must conserve and appreciate the art." --Sherry Xie, 14, Great Falls, Va., 2015 National Junior Duck Stamp Conservation Message Winner*

**Use "Amazon Smiles" and support  
the Junior Duck Stamp Program!**

Log on to 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 your charity

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