

# News Release



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## Ohio Youth Wins the Federal Junior Duck Stamp Competition

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced today a single hooded merganser was selected to appear on the 2010-2011 Federal Junior Duck Stamp. The design for the new stamp, painted by 18-year old Rui Huang of Columbus, Ohio, was chosen by a panel of judges at the National Junior Duck Stamp Design Contest held at the Science Museum of Minnesota in St. Paul.

The prisma-color entry, which previously won the Ohio State Junior Duck Stamp Contest, was judged the winner among Best-of-Show entries from all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The 2010-2011 Junior Duck Stamp, which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service sells for \$5 to stamp collectors, conservationists, and the general public will be released on June 25, 2010. Proceeds from Junior Duck Stamp sales support environmental and conservation education efforts, and awards for contest winners.

“I’m excited to celebrate our winning artist and all of the young people who participate in the Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program each year,” said Rowan Gould, acting director of the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service. “As we mark the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Earth Day this week, we look to our younger generation as stewards of conservation and the keepers of our Earth for the generations that follow them.”

Ciara Davis, age 18, of Lebanon, Pennsylvania, took second place with an acrylic painting depicting a pair of hooded mergansers.

Third place went to Miri Kim, age 15, of Charlestown, Rhode Island for her rendition of a red-breasted merganser.

The 2010 Federal Junior Duck Stamp Conservation Message Contest winner was Patrick Hull from Arizona, with his entry: “*Wildlife speaks only the truth about our planet’s future, but our greatest challenge is learning to listen.*”

The National Junior Duck Stamp Design Contest is the culmination of a year-long Junior Duck Stamp conservation curriculum used by educators across the nation. This year, more than 26,000 Junior Duck Stamp design entries were entered to be judged during

State competitions held from February until mid-April. The judges are people active in the local wildlife art or conservation community.

The top three entries from among the state Best-of-Show winners were chosen today by a panel of five judges. The Junior Duck Stamp Contest winner receives a free trip in June to the First Day of Sale Ceremony for the Federal Duck Stamp, along with their parent. The first-place winner receives a \$5,000 award. The second place winner receives \$3,000, the third-place winner receives \$2,000, and the Conservation Message winner receives \$500.

Judges for this year's national Junior Duck Stamp Design Contest included the 2010-2011 Federal Duck Stamp artist Robert Bealle; Jason Parsons, who won the first Junior Duck Stamp Art Contest in 1993; Glenn Chambers, a research biologist and environmental educator; Ron Lawrenz, director of the Warner Nature Center in Marine on St. Croix, Minn.; and wildlife photographer Karen Hollingsworth. The alternate judge was Jud Dayton, a patron of the arts and lifelong birder.

The First Day of Sale Ceremony for the 2010-2011 Federal and Junior Duck Stamps will be held on June 25, at the Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World at the Arundel Mills Mall in Hanover, Md. It is free and open to the public. Both the Federal and Junior Duck Stamp artists will be available to sign stamps and covers at this event, and the U.S. Postal Service will have a special cancellation on-hand for collectors.

For more information and a complete list of images and contest results, please see the Duck Stamp Program's home page at <http://www.fws.gov/duckstamps/> or the Junior Duck Stamp Program's home page at <http://www.fws.gov/juniorduck>.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov).