

2017-2018 FEDERAL JUNIOR DUCK STAMP JUDGING

APRIL 21 | CHARLESTON, SC

WHEN

Friday, April 21, 2017

Doors open - 9:30 a.m.

Judging Begins - 10:00 a.m.

Activities and Intermission - 10:45-11:15 a.m.

Winner announced - 12:00 p.m.

WHERE

The Charleston Music Hall

37 John Street

Charleston, SC 29401

PROGRAM DETAILS

Your students in grades K-12 are invited to attend the judging of the Federal Junior Duck Stamp (JDS) Contest at Charleston Music Hall in Downtown Charleston, hosted by the Southeastern Wildlife Exposition (SEWE) on Friday, April 21, 2017, from 9:30 a.m. until noon. This is the first time the judging for the Federal JDS will be held in Charleston - for the past 20-plus years, this contest has taken place in the Washington, D.C. area.

As the South Carolina JDS state coordinator, SEWE has lined up activities for an interactive and educational morning along with the Children's Museum of the Lowcountry and representatives of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The day's festivities will include the Federal judging, live painting by local wildlife artists, face painting, activities combining art and science and much more.

Each state holds its own JDS contest for students from kindergarten to high school seniors. Best of Show winners from all the U.S. states, Washington, D.C., and several territories are also entered into the federal judging. The winning artwork selected at the judging this April will grace the 2017-2018 Junior Duck Stamp. The five-dollar purchase price of the stamp goes directly to funding the environmental education opportunities and recognition for the children who participate in the program, as well as awards for the top winners.

Admission is free but seating will be limited and on a first-come basis. The 2017-2018 Federal JDS winner will be announced at noon. Lunch will not be provided.

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ABOUT THE JUNIOR DUCK STAMP

The Junior Duck Stamp (JDS) program, for K-12 students, integrates wildlife and nature education with a visual arts curriculum. Students learn the importance of wetlands and waterfowl and use their knowledge to create a drawing or painting of one of the 46 native species of ducks, geese and swans and compete for a big prize: a commemorative federal stamp. The Junior Duck Stamp program is also a great opportunity for students to get out and explore wildlife for themselves.

Open to public, private and home-schooled South Carolina students, participants compete in four grade groups (K-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12). The overall South Carolina “Best of Show” competes in the National Junior Duck Stamp Contest. The winner will have his or her artwork turned into a postage stamp sold by the U.S. Postal Service and other vendors. Proceeds from the sales support environmental and conservation education efforts.

The artwork of the winning students in the South Carolina Contest will be exhibited at several locations throughout the year, including the 35th Annual Southeastern Wildlife Exposition, held Downtown Charleston from Feb 17-19, 2017.

SEWE thanks its sponsor, Ducks Unlimited, and its partner South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, who help to ensure the continuance of this important program.

WHAT IS A JUNIOR DUCK STAMP?

In 1989 the first Junior Duck Stamps were produced. Through an annual contest the designs are created by children artists and chosen, first on a state level, then on the Federal level. The winning design becomes the Junior Duck Stamp for that year. Like the Federal Duck Stamps, the Junior Duck Stamp is a pictorial revenue stamp and is sold for \$5 each. Revenue generated by the sales of Junior Duck Stamps are used to fund environmental education programs in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, as well as two US territories: American Samoa and The Virgin Islands. Junior Duck Stamps can be purchased at National Wildlife Refuges and select post offices.

The Junior Duck Stamp is not just another art contest. It is now the capstone of the US Fish & Wildlife service’s Junior Duck Stamp Environmental Education Program, teaching students “conservation through the arts.” With correlations to seven national curriculum standards indices, this program is an educational tool that spans across the classroom curriculum integrating language arts, math, science, and social studies, as well as art. At the same time children learn social and environmental responsibility towards wetland habitats and waterfowl conservation.

MORE INFORMATION AT WWW.SEWE.COM/JR-DUCK-STAMP/