



National
Wildlife Refuge
Association

For Immediate Release
April 30, 2008

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NWRA 2008 Youth Photo Contest Results Announced

Washington, DC – The National Wildlife Refuge Association (NWRA) is pleased to announce the winners of the first annual 2008 Youth Refuge Photo Contest, a digital photo contest showcasing America's national wildlife refuges and the diverse wildlife that depend on them.

“More than ever, it is so important to ensure our young people have an opportunity to connect with the outdoors,” said Evan Hirsche, President of the NWRA, “Photography is an excellent way to build kids’ appreciation for our national wildlife refuges and the natural world.”

The top 5 prize winners in the Senior Youth Category are Joshua Gahagan of Oakham, MA (First Place); Ian Davies of Medford, MA (Second Place); Zachary Peterson of Ipswich, MA (Third Place); Peter DellaVecchia of North Salem, NY (Fourth Place); and Shane McVeigh of Homer, AK (Fifth Place).

The top 5 prize winners in the Junior Youth Category are Bryan Goslin of Vancouver, WA (First Place); Erin McBride of Fairview, WY (Second Place); Rebecca Bartels of Farwell, NE (Third Place); Warren Smith of Starkville, MS (Fourth Place); and Liam Coddington of Huntsville, AL (Fifth Place).

To view all the winning youth images, visit: <http://www.refugenet.org/contest/2008YouthWinners.html>.

First through third place winners in both categories will receive a premier feeder from Wild Bird Centers of America. All Senior Category winners will receive field guides from Houghton Mifflin. All Junior Category winners will receive a giant stuffed manatee and year's supply of Wild Puffs Cereal from Barbara's Bakery.

The National Wildlife Refuge Association wishes to express its great appreciation to all photo contest sponsors, including [Barbara's Bakery](#), [Houghton Mifflin](#), and [Wild Bird Centers of America](#) for providing prizes in recognition of the winning youth photographers, and would like to recognize Zenfolio in particular for hosting the contest on its elegant website, www.zenfolio.com. The NWRA also thanks the photo contest judges who contributed their time and expertise to selecting the winners. They are Matt Poole, Randy Robinson, and Wil Hershberger.

The National Wildlife Refuge Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, nationwide membership organization, established in 1975. The NWRA's mission is to protect enhance and expand the National Wildlife Refuge System, lands and water set aside by the American people to protect our country's diverse wildlife heritage. Over the years we have worked to make the Refuge System stronger and better able to address the growing challenges of conserving wildlife in our country. For more information, visit <http://www.refugassociation.org>

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