

FLY Art Challenge

(Feathered Lovelies Youth Art Contest)



2023 Contest Overview and Rules

What This Program Is All About:

The FLY Art Challenge is a student competition that celebrates birds of the New River Gorge through art! Through this program and the spring online exhibit, twenty students will have the opportunity as community leaders to raise awareness of bird conservation and diversity of avian species found in this region. The top five art pieces will be framed and put on exhibit at the 2023 New River Birding & Nature Festival. These top five pieces will be included in the festival's silent auction used to raise money to further support the Fayette County Education Fund, Inc. This nonprofit organization supports youth programs in Fayette County, West Virginia.

2023 Contest Rules:

- **Who can enter:** Any 9 - 12 grade students of Fayette County. Students do not have to enter art through their school.
- **Medium:** All entries must be an original work of art in a two-dimensional format, 8" x 10" in size. Entry may be created in any art medium type (pencil, ink, acrylic, oil, glass, charcoal, pastel, watercolor, clay, paper, wood, etc.). Computer-generated art will NOT be accepted in this contest.
- **Bird species contest checklist:** The bird depicted MUST be a species from the attached contest checklist. Photos of birds can be used as reference but should not be traced or copied.

Details of Bird Art Entry (must be art created by hand)

- **Quantity:** Each student can enter one piece of original, handmade bird art.
- **Size:** Entry must be two-dimensional art size 8" x 10" ONLY, portrait or landscape in orientation. Thickness of art must be 1/2" or less. Do NOT frame or mat art.
- **Art subject:** Entry MUST be inspired by a wild bird that lives or migrates through the New River Gorge Region from the attached contest bird checklist. If the art includes a background, it should be representative of the bird's natural habitat (local forest, river edge, or field) and in the appropriate blooming season. The bird should be the focal point of the art, though appropriate plants from the same habitat may be included in the piece. It is inappropriate for contest entries to include a bird in a cage, on a hand, in a house, or with domestic animals. Please remember that a contest goal is to teach people about the region's diverse bird species through art.

2023 Dates and Deadlines:

- **January 5 - February 18:** Image submission window
- **February 28:** Decision notification (sent via email)
- **March 22:** Delivery deadline for accepted artwork and completed entry form
 - Online exhibit art and completed exhibit form must be received by mail by this date. Art should not be bend or folded. Place art in between two pieces of stiff cardboard for shipping. Mark envelope "Do NOT Bend" on the outside. **Ship to Jodi French-Burr, FLY Art Challenge, C/O 40 Corliss Rd., Rainelle WV 25962.** Special arrangements for hand art delivery in Fayette County can be made if necessary by contest the coordinator by email: jodi@birding-wv.com or texting 304-575-6496.
- **April 10:** Top five artist notification
- **April 23:** Online exhibit opens at www.birding-wv.com
- **May 1 - 6:** Top five entries included in silent auction at New River Birding & Nature Festival
- **May 7 - 15:** Art pick-up deadline (does not include top five art)
 - Original art, certificate, and festival T-shirt will be delivered to exhibit participants by mail or in person by special arrangement made by the contest coordinator.

How Students Enter the Contest:

1. Read and follow all contest rules on the contest page at <http://www.birding-wv.com> or be subject to entry disqualification.
2. Download a copy of the digital contest entry form from the contest page at <http://www.birding-wv.com>.
3. Create your art entry, then scan or photograph your completed artwork. NOTE: those artists whose entry is selected for this exhibit will have to turn in their original art.
4. Complete your digital entry form. You can print out this form to fill it out by hand, then scan or photograph the completed form to create a digital file.
5. Email the files of your art entry and completed entry form to **jodi@birding-wv.com**. Art image submission must be in .JPEG file format. Image resolution should be at least 300 dpi. Please include your name in each file title.

Judging and Awards:

- **Judging criteria:** Art entries must be a creative rendering of a wild bird from the New River Gorge region (**MUST** be a species from the attached contest checklist). Works will be judged on the basis of original design, composition, artistic technique, and its representation of a bird species.
- **Judging process:** The first jury panel will review all art entries and select 20 pieces of bird art to included in this year's online contest exhibit. The art selected for this exhibit will be evaluated a second time by a different panel of judges to pick the top five Best in Show overall contest entries.
 - **Participants will be notified of art selected for exhibit via email by February 28.**
- **Display and awards for exhibit artists:** All contest artwork juried into the 2023 exhibit will be included in an online display at <http://www.birding-wv.com>, the website for the New River Birding & Nature Festival. This online exhibit will open April 23, 2023.
 - **Awards for exhibit artists:** the twenty exhibit artists will receive a certificate and a festival T-shirt. These items will be mailed or delivered to these artists between May 7 - 15, along with the return of their original artwork (original art will NOT be returned to the Best in Show artists). Each artists can request to receive a digital copy of their art by email if desired.
 - **Special exhibit for five Best in Show artists:** in addition to the online exhibit, the art of the five Best in Show artist will be framed and put on physical display at the New River Birding & Nature Festival. These pieces will be part of a silent auction to raise funds for Fayette County Education Fund, Inc. These artists will also be invited to an evening dinner and a special award ceremony at the festival during the week of May 1 - 6.
 - **How the festival silent auction works:** the five Best in Show pieces will be on display at the New River Birding & Nature Festival for festival participants to bid for the purchase of these works in a silent auction during the week of May 1 - 6. At the end of the festival each of these one-of-a-kind original works of bird art will be sold to the highest bidder from the festival week. Each youth artist will receive 50% of that purchase price while the remainder of the purchase price will be donated to the nonprofit Fayette County Education Fund, Inc. to support youth programs in Fayette County. NOTE: these five artists will NOT get their original artwork back; a scan of their artwork will be emailed to them after the end of the festival.

Note to Teachers: (WV content connection)

This program is also designed to help teachers meet elements of West Virginia Education Content Standards and Objectives. Related subjects can be found at <http://wvde.us>. Use this website to search for teacher resources with such key words as biology, environment, habitat, nature, and birds. Such content connections can be used to further your students' learning experiences through this contest.

Additional Questions:

Contact contest coordinator by email (best) at jodi@birding-wv.com or text 304-575-6496.

2023 Contest Bird Species Checklist

(art created by hand)



All contest entries **MUST** be inspired by a wild bird from this list, one that lives and/or migrates through the New River Gorge region of the central Appalachian Mountains in West Virginia. If a background is included in the piece, it should represent the bird's natural habitat (local forest, cliff-top, river, wetlands, or field). The bird should be the focal point of the piece. It is inappropriate for contest entries to include a bird in a cage, on a hand, in a house, or with domestic animals. Please remember that a contest goal is to teach people about the region's diverse bird species through art.

This list highlights over 190 avian species seen during the annual spring New River Birding & Nature Festival. Some birds are migrants that pass through the New River Gorge, some nest here in summer, while others are year-round residents. Select one bird to feature in your art. Twenty works of art will be selected for this year's contest exhibit.

Ducks, Geese, and Swans (Anatidae)

- Canada Goose
- Mute Swan
- Wood Duck
- Mallard
- American Black Duck
- Green-winged Teal
- Northern Pintail
- Blue-winged Teal
- Hooded Merganser
- Common Merganser
- Red-breasted Merganser
- Ruddy Duck

New World Quails (Odontophoridae)

- Northern Bobwhite

Partridge, Grouse, Turkey, and

Old World Quails (Phasianidae)

- Wild Turkey
- Ruffed Grouse

Loons (Gaviidae)

- Common Loon

Grebes (Podicipedidae)

- Pied-billed Grebe
- Horned Grebe

Cormorants (Phalacrocoracidae)

- Double-crested Cormorant

Bitterns, Herons, and Egrets (Ardeidae)

- American Bittern
- Great Blue Heron
- Great Egret
- Green Heron

New World Vultures (Cathartidae)

- Turkey Vulture

- Black Vulture

Osprey (Pandionidae)

- Osprey

Kites, Eagles, and Hawks (Accipitridae)

- Bald Eagle
- Northern Harrier
- Sharp-shinned Hawk
- Cooper's Hawk
- Broad-winged Hawk
- Red-shouldered Hawk
- Red-tailed Hawk

Caracaras and Falcons (Falconidae)

- American Kestrel
- Merlin
- Peregrine Falcon

Rails, Gallinules, and Coots (Rallidae)

- Sora
- Virginia Rail
- American Coot

Lapwings and Plovers (Charadriidae)

- Killdeer
- Semipalmated Plover

Sandpipers, Phalaropes, and Allies (Scolopacidae)

- Greater Yellowlegs
- Lesser Yellowlegs
- Solitary Sandpiper
- Spotted Sandpiper
- Semipalmated Sandpiper
- Least Sandpiper
- Wilson's Snipe
- American Woodcock

Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers (Laridae)

- Bonaparte's Gull

- Ring-billed Gull
- Herring Gull
- Black Tern
- Forster's Tern

Pigeons and Doves (Columbidae)

- Rock Pigeon
- Mourning Dove

Cuckoos, Roadrunners, and Anis (Cuculidae)

- Yellow-billed Cuckoo
- Black-billed Cuckoo

Barn Owls and Typical Owls (Tytonidae and Strigidae)

- Great Horned Owl
- Barred Owl
- Eastern Screech-owl

Goatsuckers (Caprimulgidae)

- Common Nighthawk
- Eastern Whip-poor-will

Swifts (Apodidae)

- Chimney Swift

Hummingbirds (Trochilidae)

- Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Kingfishers (Alcedinidae)

- Belted Kingfisher

Woodpeckers (Picidae)

- Red-headed Woodpecker
- Red-bellied Woodpecker
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
- Hairy Woodpecker
- Downy Woodpecker
- Northern Flicker
- Pileated Woodpecker

Tyrant Flycatchers (Tyrannidae)

- Olive-sided Flycatcher
- Eastern Wood-Pewee
- Acadian Flycatcher
- Alder Flycatcher
- Willow Flycatcher
- Least Flycatcher
- Eastern Phoebe
- Great Crested Flycatcher
- Eastern Kingbird

Vireos (Vireonidae)

- White-eyed Vireo
- Yellow-throated Vireo
- Blue-headed Vireo

- Red-eyed Vireo
- Warbling Vireo

Crows and Jays (Corvidae)

- Blue Jay
- American Crow
- Common Raven

Larks (Alaudidae)

- Horned Lark

Swallows (Hirundinidae)

- Purple Martin
- Tree Swallow
- Barn Swallow
- N. Rough-winged Swallow
- Bank Swallow
- Cliff Swallow

Titmice and Chickadees (Paridae)

- Tufted Titmouse
- Black-capped Chickadee
- Carolina Chickadee

Nuthatches (Sittidae)

- Red-breasted Nuthatch
- White-breasted Nuthatch

Creepers (Certhiidae)

- Brown Creeper

Wrens (Troglodytidae)

- House Wren
- Winter Wren
- Carolina Wren
- Marsh Wren
- Sedge Wren

Kinglets (Regulidae)

- Golden-crowned Kinglet
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Gnatcatchers and Gnatwrens (Poliotilidae)

- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

Thrushes (Turdidae)

- Eastern Bluebird
- Gray-cheeked Thrush
- Veery
- Swainson's Thrush
- Hermit Thrush
- Wood Thrush
- American Robin

Mockingbirds and Thrashers (Mimidae)

- Gray Catbird

- Northern Mockingbird
- Brown Thrasher

Starlings (Sturnidae)

- European Starling

Wagtails and Pipits (Motacillidae)

- American Pipit

Waxwings (Bombycillidae)

- Cedar Waxwing

Wood-Warblers (Parulidae)

- Blue-winged Warbler
- Golden-winged Warbler
- Tennessee Warbler
- Orange-crowned Warbler
- Nashville Warbler
- Northern Parula
- Yellow Warbler
- Chestnut-sided Warbler
- Magnolia Warbler
- Cape May Warbler
- Black-throated Blue Warbler
- Yellow-rumped Warbler
- Black-throated Green Warbler
- Blackburnian Warbler
- Cerulean Warbler
- Palm Warbler
- Yellow-throated Warbler
- Prairie Warbler
- Bay-breasted Warbler
- Blackpoll Warbler
- Pine Warbler
- Black-and-white Warbler
- American Redstart
- Swainson's Warbler
- Worm-eating Warbler
- Prothonotary Warbler
- Ovenbird
- Louisiana Waterthrush
- Northern Waterthrush
- Mourning Warbler
- Kentucky Warbler
- Canada Warbler
- Wilson's Warbler
- Hooded Warbler
- Common Yellowthroat

Yellow-Breasted Chats (Icteriidae)

- Yellow-breasted Chat

New World Sparrows and Towhees (Passerellidae)

- Eastern Towhee

- Field Sparrow
- Chipping Sparrow
- Clay-colored Sparrow
- Vesper Sparrow
- Savannah Sparrow
- Grasshopper Sparrow
- Lincoln's Sparrow
- Song Sparrow
- Swamp Sparrow
- Fox Sparrow
- White-throated Sparrow
- White-crowned Sparrow
- Dark-eyed Junco

Cardinals, Piranga Tanagers, and Allies

(Cardinalidae)

- Summer Tanager
- Scarlet Tanager
- Northern Cardinal
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak
- Indigo Bunting

Blackbirds (Icteridae)

- Eastern Meadowlark
- Bobolink
- Red-winged Blackbird
- Common Grackle
- Brown-headed Cowbird
- Orchard Oriole
- Baltimore Oriole

Fringilline and Cardueline Finches and Allies

(Fringillidae)

- Purple Finch
- House Finch
- Red Crossbill
- American Goldfinch
- Pine Siskin

Old World Sparrows (Passeridae)

- House Sparrow