

For Immediate Release:

Scholarships Available in Nature Studies Offered by Audubon Festival in 2010

Scholarships for students and teachers will be made available this year through proceeds from the 25th Audubon Art & Craft Festival, to be held July 17 and 18 in Hawley, PA. Studies will focus on conserving and restoring the environment including wildlife and their habitats for the benefit of humanity.

“The mission of the North East Pennsylvania Audubon Society is to conserve and restore our environment to benefit humanity, birds and other wildlife, through education, action, and advocacy. This unique festival helps people enjoy nature while caring for the environment. Our scholarships give young people and their teachers an opportunity to study environmental issues in depth.” Festival Coordinator Dave Fooks said.

A \$4,000 scholarship will be offered to a local student majoring in a field related to the environment. Additional scholarships are given to young children and teens attending ecology camps. The Festival also funds full scholarships for teachers to attend environmental camps as well. Grant requests have been honored for other opportunities such as an environmental school for teens at Penn State, and financial aid to a student going to New Zealand to do special research on bird populations.

The Audubon also sponsors a free educational program for the Wallenpaupack school system in appreciation for their hosting the Art and Craft Festival. Environmental Education reference books, Nature books, and Wildlife books are have been donated by the Audubon to all of the local school libraries and local public libraries. Additionally, the NEPA Audubon Society maintains 2 wetlands in Wayne County.

Sponsored by the North East Pennsylvania Audubon Society, the festival is known for its superb presentations and exhibits related to nature and the environment. In addition, artists and craftspeople from 15 states participate in the Festival, demonstrating and selling their distinctive works with wildlife and the environmental themes. Many of the finest wildlife and nature artists in the country will be exhibiting this year at the Audubon Festival.

Among the 2010 Festival highlights are presentations by the Pocono Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, Bingham Park Zoo, the Delaware Valley Raptor Center, and the Pocono Snake and Animal Farm. In addition there will be presentations by several conservation groups both days of the festival. Plenty of delicious food is available at the event.

Hours each day are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Wallenpaupack School complex on the shore of Lake Wallenpaupack. Admission is \$5 for adults, and children under 12 are free.

Contact: Dave Fooks

Email: dave@audubonfestival.com

Phone: 484-256-4485

Visit our website at: [www.audubon festival.com](http://www.audubonfestival.com)

Photos available upon request!

XXX