

For Immediate Release:

**KIDS AND WILD ANIMALS MIX
AT 2015 AUDUBON ART & CRAFTS FESTIVAL**

Children love animals and are always curious about their habits. This year at the 30th annual Audubon Art & Craft Festival, kids will have a close-up opportunity to learn about owls, hawks, eagles, snakes and other reptiles from some of our region's foremost naturalists. They'll also learn why it is important to care about the environment.

"Education and fun for the younger set is especially appropriate since proceeds from the festival help to fund scholarships for children and teachers to learn more about nature and protecting the environment. Kids remember the lessons nature has to teach us, especially if they are combined with the fun and wonder of meeting unique animals face to face, such as they can do here at the Festival," says Festival Coordinator Dave Fooks.

On Saturday, The **Pocono Wildlife Rehabilitation Center** will present live animals With an entertaining presentation on the animals and their behavior. This organization helps injured animals heal and get back into the wild. The **Pocono Snake and Animal Farm** will be presenting a wide variety of snakes and wild animals throughout the day, as well.

During Sunday, The **Pocono Wildlife Rehabilitation Center** will again be presenting their animals, and explaining the unique process of helping wild animals recover and return to their natural habitat, and **Rizzo's Reptile Discovery** will have two presentations of many different live reptiles and animals. These two days of wildlife and woodlands presentations are always filled with fascinated youngsters and adults alike, so make sure you come early to get a good seat!

There will be many interactive activities for youngsters to do this year including both animal and crafts activities. Additionally, the Pennsylvania Dept of Agriculture will have on display their Pennsylvania Woodmobile, a traveling exhibit about the forestlands of our State. The fascinating art of carving native animals out of large solid blocks of ice will be demonstrated by Pocono Ice Sculpture.

2015 will feature many of the finest nature and wildlife artists in the country. Artists and craftspersons from 15 states will exhibit and sell their original paintings, sketches, photography, and hand-made crafts related to wildlife and nature at the festival.

Sponsored by the Northeast Pennsylvania Audubon Society, the festival helps to fund environmental scholarships, and conservation programs for schools and community groups. Additionally, the NEPA Audubon Society maintains 2 wetlands in Wayne County.

The Festival takes place Saturday and Sunday, July 19 and 20 on the shore of quiet and picturesque Lake Wallenpaupack in Hawley, PA. Held at the Wallenpaupack Area High School, an indoor, air conditioned facility, on Route 6 in Hawley, PA. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Admission is \$5, and children under 12 years of age are admitted free.

More information, contact:

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

Photos available upon request