



For Immediate Release

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EAGLES, RIVER, FLYWAY, CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE: Photo Competition Provides Broad Opportunity to Connect with Nature

WABASHA, MN—The National Eagle Center in Wabasha, Minnesota, is accepting entries for its annual photo competition now through February 15. Offering four different themes and two skill levels, this competition incents people of all ages, various interests and diverse expertise to discover and bond with the great outdoors through photography. Both traditional and digital photographers are welcome.

Now in its third year, the annual photo contest continues to grow. Carol Knabe, professional photographer and competition coordinator, describes the addition of the Youth Level, for anyone 16 and under, as a perfect fit for the non-profits educational mission. "Our Youth Level for this competition provides another venue for us to encourage students to get outdoors, learn more about people and the environment, and connect with their natural surroundings."

Photographers may enter a total of five images featuring Bald and/or Golden Eagles, the Mississippi River, the Mississippi Flyway and/or the eagle's human connection. With this varied subject matter, the limitations of the contest are few: Images must be taken in Minnesota or Wisconsin, any animals or birds featured in the images must be wild, and entries may not relay computer manipulation. Images may be printed in black and white or full color. Entries should be no smaller than 8" x 10" and mounted on foam core. Matting is optional, framing is not allowed due to spatial considerations.

A professional jury will award prizes for both skill levels and in all four categories. Twelve images will be selected for the official 2009 National Eagle Center Calendar. Judging will be based upon technical quality, composition, representation of category and the intrinsic beauty of image.

This year, all photo submissions will be displayed at the new National Eagle Center facility through mid-March. This exhibit is in conjunction with "Soar with the Eagles" to be held March 7,8 and 9th. "Soar with the Eagles" is the annual celebration held at the peak of the area's eagle season.

For more information on the annual photo contest, visit www.nationaleaglecenter.org or call the National Eagle Center at 651.565.4989.

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