

**FRIENDS OF BLACK BAYOU, INC.
FIFTH ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST**

We welcome you as a participant in the fifth annual photographic competition held each October in observation of National Wildlife Refuge Week. Friends of Black Bayou, Inc., which sponsors this event, is a 501 ©(2) nonprofit organization which supports the protection and enhancement of Black Bayou Lake National Wildlife Refuge. This photographic competition is an opportunity to promote and encourage an appreciation of wildlife and the scenic natural settings that abound within the North Louisiana Refuges Complex, consisting of Black Bayou Lake, D'Arbonne, Upper Ouachita and Handy Brake National Wildlife Refuges.

CONTEST RULES

1. TIME OF CONTEST

- a. SUBMISSION DATE: All entries **must be received** prior to noon, October 1, 2008.
- b. JUDGING DATE: Judging of entries will be on October 4, 2008.
- c. DISPLAY DATE: Winning entries will be displayed during the week of October 4 - 11, 2008, and may be displayed until November 11, 2008, in commemoration of National Wildlife Refuge Week at Black Bayou Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Monroe, Louisiana.

2. ENTRANTS

- a. All photographers, whether amateur or professional, are eligible to enter.
- b. Age Categories
 - i. Adult
 - ii. Youth 17 years old or younger

3. SCOPE OF SUBJECT MATTER

- a. All photographs must be taken within the refuges complex and portray wildlife, scenery and/or circumstances found within the refuges complex.
- b. The refuges complex consists of Black Bayou Lake National Wildlife Refuge, D'Arbonne National Wildlife Refuge, Upper Ouachita National Wildlife Refuge and Handy Brake National Wildlife Refuge. A brochure defining, describing and providing the locations of these refuges is available at Black Bayou Lake National Wildlife Refuge.
- c. Photographs which were awarded ribbons in earlier Friends of Black Bayou, Inc., Annual Photo Contests are not eligible in this competition. However, prints that were entered, and were not awarded ribbons, are eligible.

4. CATEGORIES

- a. Color prints and black/white prints may be submitted in the following categories:
 - i. Scenic
 - ii. Wildlife
 - iii. Birds
 - iv. Plants
 - v. People on refuges
 - vi. Macro/Micro (close-up) photography

5. SUBMISSIONS

- a. Prints are to be a maximum of 100 square inches and must be mounted on a black or white 11x14 mat.
- b. Each contestant is limited to three submissions per category. One Entry Form must accompany each photograph submitted for entry.
- c. Identification:
 - i. On the back of the mat on which the photograph is mounted should be the name, address, telephone number and email address of the photographer, the title of the submission and the refuge at which it was taken. Nothing should be written or otherwise placed on the front of either mat or photograph.
 - ii. Entries may be mailed [Mark DO NOT BEND!] to Friends of Black Bayou, Inc., Post Office Box 9241, Monroe, Louisiana 71211; **or delivered** to Friends of Black Bayou, Inc., Black Bayou Lake National Wildlife Refuge, 480 Richland Place, Monroe, Louisiana 71281. Do not mail entries to the Refuge address.

6. JUDGING.

- a. Judges will be selected by Friends of Black Bayou, Inc., and will be disqualified from participating in the competition.
- b. Judging of the images will be anonymous please do not put anything on the face of your photograph or mat which will identify you.
- c. Judging criteria will be:
 - i. Technical excellence (sharpness, lighting, composition, exposure)
 - ii. Print quality
 - iii. Originality/creativity
 - iv. Interest

7. **WINNING ENTRIES.**

Winning entries will be announced and displayed at Black Bayou Lake National Wildlife Refuge from October 4 - 11, 2008, during National Wildlife Refuge Week; and may be displayed for one month thereafter, until November 18, 2008. Winners will be informed by email.

8. **USE OF IMAGES**

Friends of Black Bayou, Inc., shall have the right without compensation to display and use all submissions during the course of National Wildlife Refuge Week and until November 11, 2008 for promotional and advertising use with appropriate credit being given to the photographer. You represent that your photographs are original and of your own creation, the display and use of the material will not violate the rights of any kind of third party, and you have provided all necessary permissions and releases. Prints other than Best Overall Print will be available for the makers to pick up after November 11, 2008. All winning entries will be scanned for inclusion on the Friends of Black Bayou, Inc., website, with credit being given the photographers. The Best Overall Print will be permanently retained for display at the refuge with appropriate credit being given the photographer.

9. **DISCLAIMER.**

- a. Friends of Black Bayou, Inc., the refuges comprising the Refuges Complex and the persons involved in conducting this competition shall not be held responsible for loss of or damage to entries, or for injuries while contestants are on the refuges complex.
- b. Contestants are expected and required to abide by refuge rules while on the premises of the refuges complex.
- c. Persons are not permitted on the refuges complex at night, so night photographs are not permitted.

10. **AWARDS.**

Ribbons will be presented to the winning entries and those, which the judges feel merit special recognition. One entry will be selected as "Best Overall Print" of the entire competition.