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**University Museums**

Anderson Sculpture Garden • Art on Campus Program • Brunnier Art Museum  
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**NEWS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

290 Scheman Building, Ames, Iowa 50011

<http://www.museums.iastate.edu/PressReleases.html>

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**Wildlife Conservation Exhibition Features**  
**Jay N. “Ding” Darling and Maynard Reece**

**Ames, IA** – The University Museums at Iowa State University proudly announces the upcoming 2013 fall exhibition for the Brunnier Art Museum ***In Pursuit of Wildlife Conservation: Jay N. Darling and Maynard Reece***. This free exhibition will open August 27, 2013 and run through December 20, 2013.

For further information about other events and programs at the museums, please visit the University Museums website at [www.museums.iastate.edu](http://www.museums.iastate.edu).

***About the Exhibition***

The fine art prints of **Jay N. Darling** (1876-1962) and oil paintings of **Maynard Reece** (b. 1920) will explore their mutual interests of wildlife conservation.

At age nineteen, aspiring artist Maynard Reece was introduced to Jay N. “Ding” Darling, Pulitzer Prize winning syndicated cartoonist, nationally acclaimed conservationist, and fine artist. Darling soon became Reece’s aesthetic mentor commenting on the younger artist’s images of wildlife and native landscapes. They became colleagues and friends for the next twenty-three years.

Darling’s images, both cartoon and etchings, became the conscience of conservation for over half a century. While Darling has many legacies, one of his most enduring was the development, creation and implantation of the Federal Duck Stamp Program in 1934 under the U.S. Biological Survey (now the United States Fish and Wildlife Service). The proceeds of this program remain directed towards wetland refuges for wildlife where millions of acres have been rescued, restored and preserved.

“What Darling accomplished during his tumultuous 20-month tenure as Chief of the Biological Survey is dizzying—it would not be far wrong to say he single-handedly revitalized the agency—but the Duck Stamp is the thing everybody remembers.” – Tom Davis



Maynard Reece has won five of the Federal Duck Stamp competitions beginning in 1948 and continuing in 1951, 1959, 1969, 1971, more than any other artist. Reece's wildlife art has been published in many national magazines and his oil paintings are prized by collectors.

"With his design of white-winged scoters in 1969 and cinnamon teal in 1971 (just the second stamp to be issued in color), Reece became the first artist to win five Federal Duck Stamps—a record that's still unmatched and one that makes him the contest's undisputed king. When Reece and Ding Darling were proclaimed "perhaps the two most significant artists in the history of the Federal Duck Stamp" in the exhibition *Artistic License: The Duck Stamp Story* at the Smithsonian Institution's National Postal Museum, it only confirmed what everyone familiar with the program already knew." –Tom Davis



The exhibition, *In Pursuit of Wildlife Conservation: Jay N. Darling and Maynard Reece* will include 75 etchings by Jay N. "Ding" Darling, including Darling's original 1934 Duck Stamp and etching, and 30 paintings by Maynard Reece, including the five paintings for the Federal Duck Stamps. A highlight of the exhibition is a newly commissioned painting by Maynard Reece to commemorate the Reece-Darling relationship with wildlife conservation.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a publication featuring an essay by esteemed and award-winning wildlife conservation author Tom Davis.

*The exhibition is organized by the University Museums with participation of Brad Reece. Exhibition support is generously provided by Christopher Koss, Peter Orazam and Patti Cotter, Fred and Ruth Kammeier, and University Museums Membership.*

### Opening Reception

Thursday, August 29 from 5:00 to 6:30 pm in the Brunnier Art Museum, 295 Scheman

#### **Jay N. Darling and Maynard Reece Exhibition Reception**

ISU President Steven Leath and University Museums invite you to join them in celebrating the exhibition *Jay N. Darling and Maynard Reece* at the Brunnier Art Museum. Enjoy light refreshments, conversation, and a brief program at 5:30 with remarks from President Leath and University Museums Director Lynette Pohlman.

### Additional Education Programs

Tuesday, October 15 at 12:00 pm in the Brunnier Art Museum, 295 Scheman

#### **Lunchtime Gallery Talk**

This talk will explore the work of Jay N. "Ding" Darling through the eyes of an ecologist, Dr. Jim Pease, who will discuss the natural landscapes and birds preserved through the work of Darling.

Sunday, November 3 at 2:00 pm in the Brunnier Art Museum, 295 Scheman

#### **America's Darling: The Story of Jay N. "Ding" Darling - Film Screening**

The true story of how a nationally-known cartoonist changed America by influencing her Presidents, shaping her landscapes and winning the hearts of her people. Emphasizing the need to use natural resources wisely, Darling used his language very much like his cartoons to convey his vision. *America's Darling* may be just what America needs now: an opportunity to reflect on Darling's past in order that we may move forward. After all, Darling was a man very much ahead of his time.

Source: [www.marvoentertainmentgroup.com](http://www.marvoentertainmentgroup.com)

Run Time: 57 Minutes

### Admission and Hours

The **Brunnier Art Museum** is located in 295 Scheman Building. Admission is free, however there is a suggested donation of \$3 per visitor. The Brunnier Art Museum's regular hours are as follows: Tuesday

through Friday from 11:00a.m. to 4:00p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Brunnier Art Museum is closed Mondays and during University holidays. Parking available north and south of the Scheman Bldg. in the Iowa State Center lots.

### **Media Information**

To schedule interviews and/or to photograph the exhibition, please contact Allison Sheridan (515-294-3342 [aclone@iastate.edu](mailto:aclone@iastate.edu)).

Images available upon request.

*For more information on University Museums, call 515-294-9500 or visit our web site at [www.museums.iastate.edu](http://www.museums.iastate.edu).*

*Additional images available upon request.*

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