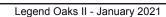






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THE GREAT FISHERMAN

By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center



When o n e mentions raptors, there are a few species that people are very familiar with like owls, eagles and hawks. The osprey, however, isn't a familiar species to most people even though it is one of the most widespread raptors in the world. They are found on every continent except Antarctica.

Like all raptors, the osprey is a large bird

with a hooked beak and sharp talons, both of which are used to catch their prey and tear it apart to eat.

About 99% of the osprey's diet is made up of fish so it only makes sense that they nest near water along the coasts and large lakes. Occasionally they can be seen along rivers. They build their nests at the tops of dead trees, buoys, chimneys, and even atop power poles. Like the bald eagle, they use the same nest year after year but can be seen making minor repairs each spring.

They are amazing to watch as they glide over water looking for a fish. Sometimes they plunge so forcefully into the water that they are totally submerged. After catching a fish, they arrange the fish so it faces upright with the head forward.

The osprey is a great fisherman, successfully catching a fish one out of 4 tries. They have a much higher success rate than it's relatives like the eagle. Sometimes eagles watch and when an osprey catches a fish, the eagle will attack the osprey causing it to drop the fish. Easy meal for the eagle! Benjamin Franklin said in 1784 that "bald eagles are too lazy to fish for himself......and does not get his living honestly." True then, true today.

Ospreys generally mate for life but they will find a new partner should their partner die or disappear during spring migration.

If you'd like to watch an osprey nest, there are many online. The Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey has an osprey cam that you can watch here: http://www.conservewildlifenj.org/education/ ospreycam/. In the New Jersey area, nest building begins in early April and eggs are laid from mid-April to early May. You can watch the eggs hatch and observe Mom and Dad caring for the babies. It's interesting and educational.

TWRC Wildlife Center is a 501(c)(3) organization located in the Spring Branch area of Houston. Since 1979, we have been committed to providing quality emergency care and rehabilitation for injured, ill, orphaned and displaced wildlife. We are proud to be making a difference for the wildlife in our area.

www.twrcwildlifecenter.org

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LETTUCE RECYCLE! by Dena Houston

Each week, I receive recycling questions from the readers of "Lettuce Recycle". I love getting these questions and publish the questions and answers in future articles for all of my readers. One of my best tools is the City of Austin website called "What Do I Do With.....". Here is the link to the website: http://www.austintexas. gov/what-do-i-do. Type in the name of an item you want to recycle and the website will tell you how to recycle or dispose of it.

This is an amazing website and, in this crazy world of everchanging recycling guidelines and policies, it takes a lot of time and effort to keep it up to date. Kudos to the City for this wonderful recycling tool.

There is also a mobile app available for your phone and tablet. It is called "Austin Recycles" and was launched in April of 2020. After you type in your address, a calendar will pop up with all of your recycling collection dates. If you hit the search icon at the bottom, it brings up the "What Do I Do With" tool.

Below is a brief history and more information about "What Do I Do With":

- It was launched in 2015.
- Since it was launched, it has been viewed more than 612,000 times.
- This tool was built by a third-party partner, ReCollect. They work with many municipalities and provide these tools. They manage the coding, build-outs, and technical improvements.

The Austin Resource Recovery marketing representative manages this website in the following ways:

- Makes updates as needed when an item's recyclability changes or more recycling resources become available.
- Posts news of facility changes (like when the Recycle & Reuse Drop-Off Center was closed temporarily during the pandemic).
- For items not listed, adds information as it becomes available. The number of items added to this website increased more that 33% in the last year.

QUESTION AND SUGGESTIONS FROM OUR READERS:

HOW DO I RECYCLE PLASTIC COAT HANGERS? – These can go into your blue recycling bin. Savers will take them for reuse; Goodwill will not.

ARE SMALL PIECES OF PLYWOOD COMPOSTABLE? They are not. The glue that holds the pieces of wood together makes them non-compostable. Put them into the trash bin.

HOW DO I RECYCLE PLANT FLATS FROM THE **NURSERY?** These can go into your blue bin. Be sure they are clean and dirt-free.

REGLUE AUSTIN was featured on KUT as a nonprofit organization that makes used PC's available to school children. Here is their website: http://reglue.org/

INSIDE BOOKS PROJECT donates books to Texas prisoners. Please check out their website for details: https://insidebooksproject. org/donate-books.

If you have any questions or recycling ideas, please send them to: recycling@hpwbana.org.

PLEASE REMEMBER - WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT!



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LEGEND OAKS

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Though this year was tough, I'm so grateful for these things in my life from 2020!



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Shreya Ramanathan of Austin, TX RECIEVES NATIONAL YOUNGARTS FOUNDATION AWARD FOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN World Dance/Indian Classical Dance

Austin, TX (12/18/2020) - Shreya Ramanathan of Austin, TX from LASA High School, has received a 2021 National YoungArts Foundation (YoungArts) award in World Dance/Classical Indian Dance. Shreya Ramanathan has been recognized at the Honorable Mention level, the organization's second highest honor, for her caliber of artistic achievement and joins 659 of the nation's most accomplished artists in the visual, literary, and performing arts. Ramanathan was selected by an esteemed discipline-specific panel of artists through a rigorous blind adjudication process. YoungArts award winners gain access to one of the most comprehensive programs for artists in the United States in which they will have opportunities for financial, creative and professional development support throughout their entire careers. A complete list of the 2021 winners, all 15-18 years old or in grades 10–12, is available online at youngarts.org/winners.

"YoungArts empowers artists to pursue a life in the arts beginning at the critical time when many are faced with decisions about life after high school and we are thrilled to announce this year's YoungArts award winners. This group of extraordinary artists has reminded us yet again that extraordinary artistry is ageless, and I encourage everyone to get to

know these faces and names as we will be seeing them for many years to come," said Executive Director Jewel Malone. "To all of this year's winners, congratulations! This is just the start of YoungArts' commitment to supporting your careers, we look forward to working to with you and supporting your artistic and professional development."

Ramanathan will receive a cash prize and the opportunity to learn from leading artists such as Debbie Allen, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Frank Gehry, Wynton Marsalis, Salman Rushdie and Mickalene Thomas. Ramanathan is now also eligible for exclusive creative and professional development support including a wide range of fellowships, residencies and awards; virtual and in-person presentation opportunities in collaboration with major venues nationwide; additional financial support; and access to YoungArts Post, a free, private digital network for YoungArts artists to connect, collaborate and learn about additional opportunities.

As a YoungArts award winner, Ramanathan joins a distinguished group of accomplished artists including Daniel Arsham, Terence Blanchard, Camille A. Brown, Viola Davis, Allegra Goodman, Josh Groban, Judith Hill, Tarell Alvin McCraney, Andrew Rannells, Desmond Richardson and Hunter Schafer.

Support for the 2020-21 YoungArts season is

provided by Together campaign supporters, including Campaign Chairs Sarah Arison and Thomas Wilhelm, Jay Franke and David Herro, and Michi and Charles Jigarjian and Lead Sponsors Sandra and Tony Tamer.

Additional support for National YoungArts Foundation programs is provided by Anthropologie; Batchelor Foundation; the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture; Funding Arts Network; the City of Miami Beach, Cultural Affairs Program, and the Cultural Arts Council; Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners; Dr. Sidney Stern in loving memory of Florence Stern; and Bruce and Ellie Taub.

ABOUT NATIONAL YOUNGARTS FOUNDATION

National YoungArts Foundation (YoungArts) was established in 1981 by Lin and Ted Arison. YoungArts identifies the most accomplished young artists in the visual, literary and performing arts, and provides them with creative and professional development opportunities throughout their careers. youngarts.org









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