



GEORGIA AUDUBON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For information contact:

Dottie Head, Director of Communications, dottie.head@georgiaaudubon.org, or 404-388-8538 (cell)

Media Note: Photos to accompany this article and a MS Word version of this press release are available for download at <https://bit.ly/33mdYok>.

GEORGIA AUDUBON IS HOSTING A VARIETY OF VIRTUAL EVENTS FOR BIRD ENTHUSIASTS

(ATLANTA, GA,) February 22, 2021 - Georgia Audubon is hosting a lineup of virtual and digital events for new and experienced bird and nature enthusiasts over the next few months to help hone skills in time for spring migration. With a variety of free and paid events, everyone is sure to find something of interest. Here's what is in store for the next few weeks:

Three Billion Art Exhibit at Hudgens Center for Art and Learning

Co-hosted by Brickworks Gallery and Georgia Audubon

Exhibit will run February 6 through April 24, 2021

FREE

To learn more, please visit <https://www.georgiaaudubon.org/three-billion-art-exhibit.html>

Georgia Audubon is thrilled to partner with Brickworks Gallery on an art show entitled Three Billion — representing the three billion North American birds that have been lost in the past 50 years, according to a recently released study in the journal *Science*. Three Billion is a group show curated by Brickworks Gallery owner and artist Laura W. Adams. The show will feature a small group of artists whose work has either delved into the plight of birds or whose work has celebrated nature and birds and their habitats. All of the artists chosen have shown a long and strong commitment to protecting wild birds and their habitat.

Fridays, February 26, March 12, and March 26 at 9:00 AM: Virtual Field Trip with Georgia Audubon
[Georgia Audubon Facebook Page \(https://www.facebook.com/georgiaaudubon/\)](https://www.facebook.com/georgiaaudubon/)

FREE

Join us on the Georgia Audubon Facebook page for a virtual field trip with Georgia Audubon staff and volunteer trip leaders as they explore their yards or nearby birdy patches and talk about what they're seeing.

Thursday, February 25, from 7:00 to 8:00 PM

Webinar: Becoming a Better Birder with Georgann Schmalz

\$15 Georgia Audubon members/ \$20 non-members

For more information or to register, visit <https://www.georgiaaudubon.org/digital-resources.html>

Join Georgann Schmalz for a workshop designed to improve your skills and increase your enjoyment of birding. This class is a must for any new birder who feels somewhat overwhelmed by the skills of more advanced birders. Time will be spent learning good techniques of birding in the field and choosing good optics, books, and sound devices. Not only will participants develop key identification skills under Georgann's expert guidance, they will also experience the satisfaction that better birding can yield. Georgann holds a master's degree in ornithology, taught at Fernbank Science Center for 29 years, and is three-time past president of Atlanta Audubon. She is a wealth of information and entertainment!

Sunday, February 28, at 3:30 PM

Webinar: Georgia Audubon Monthly Meeting

A Virtual Tour of the Three Billion Art Exhibit Brickworks Gallery Owner Laura Adams

FREE

For more information or to register, visit <https://www.georgiaaudubon.org/monthly-meetings.html>

Three Billion is a group show of art curated by Brickworks Gallery owner and artist, Laura W. Adams at the Hudgens Center for the Arts. In this show, Adams has curated a group of ten artists from the Atlanta region and beyond whose works focus on environmental themes and wildlife declines. In this monthly meeting, Adams will take us on a virtual tour of the exhibit and speak with some of the artists whose work will be on display. The name Three Billion refers to the recent report published in Science magazine on the loss of some three billion of our North American birds in the last 50 years. The artists in this show have come together to display art that speaks to this horrifying loss, its causes and its solutions, as well as to the beauty and awesomeness of birds and their environments. The artists hope to bring more awareness of this unfolding tragedy and its potential solutions, through the medium of art. The show opened on February 6 and runs through April 24. The Hudgens Center for the Arts is located in Duluth in the Infinity Energy Center complex.

Thursday, March 11, from 7:00 to 8:00 PM

Webinar: Raptor Identification with Georgann Schmalz

Cost: \$15 for Georgia Audubon Members and \$20 for non-member

For more information or to register, visit <https://www.georgiaaudubon.org/digital-resources.html>

From their hunting prowess to their majestic soaring, raptors captivate our attention with their gracefulness and power—be it from the trail or from the highway. More than a dozen species of raptors rule the skies over Georgia, but they can be difficult to distinguish at a distance. Learn the basics and the secrets to making raptor identification easy with ornithologist Georgann Schmalz. She will focus on behaviors, habitats, and enough general information that will make recognizing these birds in the field a “no-brainer.”

Friday, March 19, at 9:30 AM

Georgia Audubon Bird Stories: Paddle Perch Climb: Bird Feet are Neat, by Laurie Ellen Angus

FREE

For more information or to register, visit <https://www.georgiaaudubon.org/georgia-audubon-bird-stories.html>

Join us on March 19 at 9:30 AM for Georgia Audubon Bird Stories. We will be reading Paddle Perch Climb: Bird Feet Are Neat, by Laurie Ellen Angus. Bring your curious mind!

Sunday, March 21, from 4:00 to 5:00 PM

Tuesday, March 30, from 7:00 to 8:00 PM

Webinar: Birding by Ear with Georgann Schmalz

TWO SESSIONS (both sessions are the same content)

Cost: \$15 for Georgia Audubon members and \$20 for non-members

For more information or to register, visit <https://www.georgiaaudubon.org/digital-resources.html>

This fun program with ornithologist Georgann Schmalz is for anyone who is interested in learning to identify birds by songs and call notes. Participants will learn the characteristics of bird songs and techniques of birding by ear. Information will include examples of components of bird songs such as tempo, rhythm, pitch, and quality. Handouts will include a list of mnemonics and phonetics for use in the field. We will not play dozens of songs and show dozens of bird photos. Instead, the course emphasizes how to listen and what to listen for so that even new songs from birds you have not encountered before can be learned and memorized.

Sunday, March 28, at 3:30 PM

Webinar: Georgia Audubon Monthly Meeting

Equity in Birding: Does Where We Go Birding Matter? with Deja Perkins

FREE

For more information or to register, visit <https://www.georgiaaudubon.org/monthly-meetings.html>

We are connected through our love of birds, but does where we go birding impact science? Join us as we speak with Deja Perkins on Equity in Birding. We will explore Georgia spatially and take a closer look at how the diversity and abundance of birds changes across different socioeconomic neighborhoods. As an urban ecologist, Deja will share a holistic approach to thinking about urban ecosystems, and discuss the human structures and individual decisions that influence where birds are found in Georgia. How can we as birders contribute better data to help researchers and managers make better decisions about the birds we love?

Wednesday, March 31, 2021

Webinar: What's That Bird? Spring Workshop

7:00 to 8:30 PM

Cost: \$15 for Georgia Audubon members/\$20 for non-members

For more information or to register, visit <https://www.georgiaaudubon.org/digital-resources.html>

Join Conservation Director Adam Betuel as he walks you through some of the most difficult and commonly encountered identification challenges of our resident, breeding, and migratory bird species. Are you having a hard time determining if those swallows overhead are Barn or Cliff Swallows (or even Chimney Swifts!)? Was that raptor zooming through your backyard a Red-shouldered or Broad-winged Hawk? What about those yellowlegs out on the mudflat? And while fall is notorious for its confusing fall warblers, springtime has a number of species that can be tough for newer birdwatchers. If these tough bird ID challenges still puzzle you, then this workshop is for you.

GEORGIA BIRD FEST RETURNS APRIL 17 TO MAY 16, 2021

Please visit www.georgiaaudubon.org/birdfest for more information or to view the full schedule of events.

Georgia Bird Fest 2021 returns this spring with more than 40 events running from April 17 to May 16, 2021. Join fellow nature and bird enthusiasts for exciting field trips, workshops, and other events to celebrate and enjoy Georgia's exciting spring migration period.

This year we will welcome two special guests for Georgia Bird Fest 2021. Our special guest for our opening weekend will be ornithologist **Scott Weidensaul**. Scott is the author of more than two dozen books on natural history, including the Pulitzer Prize finalist book *Living on the Wind, Return to Wild America* as well as *The First Frontier*. His newest book, *A World on the Wing*, about global migration, will be released in spring 2021. Joining us for our closing weekend is **Carolyn Finney**, Ph.D. Carolyn is a storyteller, author, and a cultural geographer. Her first book, *Black Faces, White Spaces: Reimagining the Relationship of African Americans to the Great Outdoors* was released in 2014. Bridging the fields of environmental history, cultural studies, critical race studies, and geography, Finney argues that the legacies of slavery, Jim Crow, and racial violence have shaped cultural understandings of the "great outdoors" and determined who should and can have access to natural spaces.

Other event highlights for Georgia Bird Fest 2021 include past favorites such as a tour of Zoo Atlanta's bird collection; a virtual tour of the avian-inspired collections at the Michael C. Carlos Museum; nature photography workshops; and Shorebird Weekend on the Georgia coast. We'll also be debuting new events such as a guided trip to view rare shoals spider lilies at Flat Shoals Creek and guided birdwatching tours of Phinizy Swamp and Nash Farm Park.

Registration for all Georgia Bird Fest events will open to current Georgia Audubon members on March 2 and to the public on March 8.

Webinar: Liberation and Hope through Black Art
Featuring Dr. J. Drew Lanham, Rasheena Fountain, and Isaiah Scott
Co-hosted with Brickworks Gallery
Thursday, April 22, 2021
7:00 PM via Zoom Webinar
Cost: Pay What You Can
For more information or to register, visit <https://www.georgiaaudubon.org/digital-resources.html>

As part of our collaboration with Brickworks Gallery on the [Three Billion Exhibit](#) currently on display at the Hudgens Center for Art and Learning, we are bringing you this special webinar about the power of art to make change.

Through poetry, prose, and visual art, this panel will highlight the artistic expression of Black joy, history, and perspectives in and through nature, and the role that art plays in healing, liberation, and protecting the diversity of creatures with which we share this planet. Panelists include Dr. J. Drew Lanham, ornithologist, author, and poet; Rasheena Fountain, writer and educator with a focus on Black land connections and environmental memory; and Isaiah Scott, a high school nature artist, ecotourism entrepreneur, and naturalist.

Georgia Audubon is building places where birds and people thrive. We create bird-friendly communities through conservation, education, and community engagement.

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