

## PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Caption: Images available upon request.

### **‘Ding’ Darling hosts bird photographer exhibit, reception**

Bird photographer David Jeffrey is currently exhibiting a display of 30 bird images at the “Ding” Darling Visitor & Education Center Auditorium through April 30, 2018. On Thursday, April 5, the “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) will host a free “Meet the Artist” reception from 10 a.m. to noon.

Jeffrey, a talented amateur photographer who winters on Captiva Island, became seriously interested in bird photography in 2010, after retiring from a career in finance. The self-taught photographer took inspiration from Arthur Morris, author of *The Art of Bird Photography*.

“I feel a deep connection with the birds I photograph,” said Jeffrey, who lives in Massachusetts. “I am particularly pleased if the bird is catching food, trying to attract a mate, building a nest, feeding its young or trying to frighten off a potential rival.... I am also fond of the portrait-like quality of one or two birds expressing absolute peace. I feel that peace when I photograph them.”

The public is welcome to view Jeffrey’s images in the admission-free Visitor & Education Center during regular hours, daily 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

#### ABOUT DDWS

As a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, DDWS works to support J.N. “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge’s mission of conservation, wildlife and habitat protection, research, and public education through charitable donations and Refuge Nature Shop proceeds.

To support DDWS and the refuge with a tax-deductible gift, visit [dingdarlingsociety.org](http://dingdarlingsociety.org) or contact Birgie Miller at 239-472-1100 ext. 4 or [director@dingdarlingsociety.org](mailto:director@dingdarlingsociety.org).

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