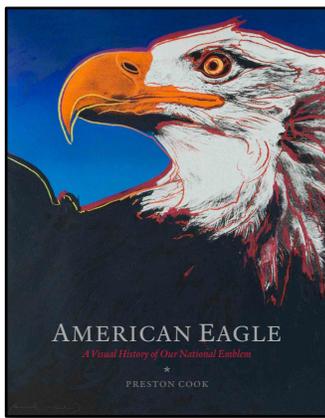


Publication date: April 15, 2019
 Contact: Sharon Donovan
 (415) 328-6061, sharon.donovan@igc.org

Announcing the release of *American Eagle: A Visual History of Our National Emblem* and the Preston Cook Collection at the National Eagle Center



On the banks of the Mississippi River on an eagle flyway in beautiful Wabasha, Minnesota, a massive tribute to an American icon is underway. The Preston Cook Collection of twenty-five thousand eagle objects will be housed and displayed in a major expansion currently underway at the National Eagle Center. In addition, the forthcoming book, *American Eagle: A Visual History of Our National Emblem* (Goff Books, \$75.00 hardcover), will be released in April 2019. It will showcase for audiences worldwide a sampling of this magnificent collection.

A bold expression of a fledgling republic's aspirations and bravado, the American bald eagle has been designed, drawn, illustrated, stamped, engraved, painted, sculpted, carved, photographed, and etched by thousands of artists and artisans since 1782, when it first appeared as the central figure on the Great Seal of the United States.

As America's most versatile emblem, the eagle emanates confidence during peace and prosperity, and strength during crisis and war; as a North American native species it exemplifies nature's grandeur and the advance of conservation. In all, the bald eagle is a stirring national symbol made all the more vibrant by its indisputable dominion in the sky.

American Eagle: A Visual History of Our National Emblem explores the eagle in American life through an array of objects in virtually every imaginable shape, size, and medium. Among them are a brass button from one of George Washington's presidential inaugurations, original prints by John James Audubon and Andy Warhol, a Civil War Bowie knife, and a rare children's bank from 1910.

Gathered here for the first time, these objects chart the bald eagle's appearance in government, the military, politics, commerce, travel, art and culture, and nature. Descriptive captions provide physical details and contextual information, and an annotated chronology supplies a comprehensive, illustrated timeline of the bald eagle as an American icon.



