Emancipation Proclamation  
January 1

With this stamp, the U.S. Postal Service commemorates the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, which President Abraham Lincoln signed on January 1, 1863. Lincoln's proclamation declared that all slaves in the rebel states of the Confederacy "are, and henceforth shall be free." The document also authorized the recruitment of black soldiers into the Union army. Their courage in battle and contributions to the Union's ultimate victory greatly influenced the nation to adopt the 13th Amendment to the Constitution in 1865, outlawing slavery forever.

Kaleidoscope Flowers  
January 14

Flowers are among the most popular subjects for collectors and the stamp-buying public. In a modern twist on a perennial favorite, the Kaleidoscope Flowers stamps combine the allure of flowers with the impact of modern computer graphics. The set of four stamps depicts the same contemporary flower drawing, with each stamp featuring one of four different color combinations: red and blue, green and purple, orange and violet, or pink and green. Some of the color combinations create the illusion that patterns recede or come forward, giving the stamps a dramatic visual appeal. The lines and curves of the drawing are reminiscent of a kaleidoscope flower — familiar, yet at the same time utterly distinctive.

An Apple a Day  
January 17

With these stamps, the U.S. Postal Service proves that apples are not only good—and good for you—but they're also delightful, cheery stamp subjects, just right for postcards!

Some of America's favorite varieties of this popular fruit are shown on these four stamps. The Baldwin apple is delicious when eaten in season—fresh, cooked, or in baked goods—and are prized for cider-making. The Northern Spy apple is delicious when baked in desserts, and is also good for cider and juice. The Golden Delicious apple is an excellent all-round apple, and is said to make the best apple butter! The Granny Smith apple, with its pleasingly sour flavor and crisp texture, is good for cooking or eating fresh.

Year of the Snake  
Celebrating Lunar New Year Series  
January 16

The 2013 Year of the Snake stamp features a bundle of firecrackers colored red for luck. The Year of the Snake stamp is sixth of twelve stamps in the Celebrating Lunar New Year Series.

Across many cultures, in the United States as elsewhere, the Lunar New Year is celebrated in various ways, often with parades and parties. Firecrackers are traditionally used to scare off evil spirits and welcome this time of renewed hope for the future.

The intricate paper-cut design of a snake and the Chinese character for “Snake,” drawn in grass-style calligraphy has created a culturally rich design on this stamp.

Wedding Cake  
Wedding Stamp Series  
January 18

Often the centerpiece of a wedding reception, the cake has been a wedding tradition for many generations. Sure to add a touch of beauty and romance to wedding correspondence, the Wedding Cake stamp, first introduced in 2009, is a timeless addition to the U.S. Postal Service's Wedding stamp series. Sold at the two-ounce rate, this stamp accommodates the heavier weight of an invitation, as well as other mailings such as oversize cards or small gifts that require extra postage.

This wedding stamp features a photograph of a three-tier wedding cake topped with white flowers; their green stems and leaves a delightful contrast to the cake's creamy white frosting.

With 34,000 members in 100 countries, the 127-year-old American Philatelic Society is the largest, nonprofit society for stamp collectors in the free world. APS offers services and educational opportunities to broaden your enjoyment of the hobby and enhance your special collecting interests, whatever they may be. The APS is supported entirely by membership dues, gifts, and the sale of its publications and services.
2013 United States Postage Stamps

Emancipation Proclamation
January 1

Year of the Snake
Celebrating Lunar New Year Series
January 16

Kaleidoscope Flowers
January 14

An Apple a Day
January 17

Wedding Cake
Wedding Stamp Series
January 18
Spicebush Swallowtail  
Butterfly Stamp Series  
January 23  
The spicebush swallowtail is known as one of the most beautiful and intriguing of the swallowtail butterflies. Both as caterpillars and adults, spicebush swallowtails hide from their predators by mimicking other animals and even objects. When very young, the brown and white caterpillar resembles a bird dropping. The caterpillar later morphs into what looks like a small green snake, with yellow and black markings that resemble a snake's eyes and a false forked tongue. The butterfly's chrysalis mimics a dried brown leaf, complete with veins.

Envelopes for many large cards requiring the additional postage will feature a silhouette of a butterfly to suggest the use of this stamp.

Tufted Puffin  
January 23  
With the Tufted Puffin stamp, the U.S. Postal Service celebrates a remarkable bird named for the striking tufts of long, yellow feathers that grow from the sides of its head during breeding season. Looking a bit like a punk rock haircut, the tufts accent the bold coloring of the bird's black body, white facial mask, and bright orange bill and webbed feet.

Found on the open ocean, islands, and coastal areas of the North Pacific, the tufted puffin's true home is the sea, as it hunts underwater and spends most of its life far from land. The birds have adapted to an unusually broad range of ocean habitats, raising their young anywhere from southern California to arctic Alaska.

Arlington Green Bridge  
January 25  
The Arlington Green Bridge spans the Batten Kill stream in Arlington, Vermont. It stretches 80 feet across the stream, with a roadbed only wide enough to allow one lane of traffic to rumble through at a time. The bridge is constructed from wooden planks and timbers, using a lattice truss design. The purpose of the covering is to protect the wooden structure from the weather.

Built in 1852, the Arlington Green Bridge is one of the best-loved and most photographed covered bridges in Vermont.

Sealed With Love  
Love Series  
January 30  
This Sealed with Love stamp expresses the joy and beauty of handwritten love letters from the Victorian era. The stamp art depicts an envelope fastened with an elegant wax seal — a invitation to send a love letter, a romantic gesture that never goes out of style.

The Victorians were ardent letter writers, often wishing to make their feelings known — and there was a proper way to use sealing wax. Although today red is the color most associated with passion, in the mid-1800s, blue was the color of love, with wax of various shades denoting the degree of emotion felt by the sender.

$1.10 Globe  
Global-rate Forever Series  
January 28  
In 2013, the U.S. Postal Service introduced Global Forever®, a new international rate stamp. The Global Forever® stamp offers a single price for any First-Class Mail International 1-ounce letter to any country in the world.

This stamp features a rendering of Earth composed of images created from satellite data and redesigned with 3D computer technology. The view of our planet shows the Atlantic Ocean flanked by the Americas, Africa, and part of northern Europe. The text, which surrounds the image of Earth, includes the words “Global Forever.”

Grand Central Terminal  
Express Mail  
February 1  
A beloved New York City landmark, the Grand Central Terminal train station, officially opened on February 2, 1913. It was soon recognized as one of the most majestic public spaces in the world.

This stamp captures the grandeur of this architectural masterpiece with an illustration of the main concourse. Early morning sunlight streams through the 60-foot-tall windows, illuminating the people below. In the foreground, travelers gather near the round information booth topped with its famous four-sided clock. The concourse's sky ceiling stretches overhead, decorated with a mural of constellations and figures of the Zodiac.

Rosa Parks  
February 4  
In 1955, on a municipal bus in Montgomery, Alabama, Rosa Parks (1913–2005) refused to give up her seat to a white man, defying the discriminatory laws of the time. Her arrest incited a boycott of the Montgomery bus system that lasted for more than a year.

The many honors Parks received in her lifetime include the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Spingarn Medal, and the Congressional Gold Medal. Upon her death, she became the first woman and second African American to lie in honor in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda in Washington, DC.

The stamp honoring Rosa Parks is one of three stamps in the civil rights set celebrating freedom, courage, and equality issued in 2013.
2013 United States Postage Stamps

Spicebush Swallowtail Butterfly Stamp Series
January 23

Tufted Puffin
January 23

Arlington Green Bridge
January 25

$1.10 Globe
Global-rate Forever Series
January 28

Sealed With Love
Love Series
January 30

Grand Central Terminal
Express Mail
February 1

Rosa Parks
February 4
Muscle Cars
America on the Move Series
February 22

With the issuance of the Muscle Cars stamps, the United States Postal Service celebrates five powerful, eye-catching, high-performance vehicles.

The 1969 Dodge Charger Daytona was powered by a standard 440-cubic-inch, 375-horsepower Magnum engine. The car featured multiple additions designed to boost aerodynamics, including a nearly two-foot tall, rear-mounted wing. Other signature touches included thick body stripes containing the word "DAYTONA." The 1969 Dodge Charger Daytona was distinctive and rare; only 503 were produced.

The 1966 Pontiac GTO — available as a hardtop, coupe, or convertible — was propelled by a 335-horsepower, V8 engine that could really move. "The Goat," as the GTO was known, ushered in the American muscle-car era in the mid-1960s. In tests, it went from 0 to 60 miles per hour in 6.8 seconds. The distinctive car featured curvy Coke-bottle styling and a split grille.

The 1967 Shelby GT-500 was former racecar driver Carroll Shelby's version of the Ford Mustang. It was powered by a 428-cubic-inch, 355-horsepower Police Interceptor engine. The car also featured a rear spoiler and dealer-installed LeMans stripes as an option. The Shelby GT-500 was both striking and rare; only 2,048 were built.

The 1970 Chevelle SS, with features like optional twin racing stripes and a black grille, looked fierce. The car featured a 396-cubic-inch engine, but an optional 454-cubic-inch engine really gave the model credibility among muscle car enthusiasts. Two versions of the 454 engine were available: the 360-horsepower LS-5 and the 450-horsepower LS-6. Available as a coupe or a convertible, the Chevelle SS featured emblems on the grille and the rear bumper.

The 1970 Plymouth Hemi ‘Cuda was a performance-oriented alter-ego of the standard 1970 Plymouth Barracuda. The car's 426-cubic-inch Hemi engine was a 425-horsepower beast. The Hemi ‘Cuda was "our angriest, slipperiest-looking body shell wrapped around ol' King Kong hisself," one Plymouth advertisement bellowed. It was available in several eye-popping color choices, such as Lemon Twist, Lime Light, and Vitamin C. Fewer than 700 Hemi ‘Cudas were produced.

Bank Swallow Stamped Envelope
March 1

On this stamped envelope, the U.S. Postal Service features the bank swallow, the smallest swallow in North America. The art, based on photographs, shows a large illustration of a bank swallow perching next to a smaller illustration of the bird in flight. The bank swallow is a songbird that typically nests in sandy banks overlooking lakes and streams.
2013 United States Postage Stamps

Muscle Cars: Dodge Charger Daytona  
America on the Move Series  
February 22

Muscle Cars: Pontiac GTO  
America on the Move Series  
February 22

Muscle Cars: Shelby GT-500  
America on the Move Series  
February 22

Muscle Cars: Chevelle SS  
America on the Move Series  
February 22

Muscle Cars: Plymouth Hemi ’Cuda  
America on the Move Series  
February 22

Bank Swallow Stamped Envelope  
March 1
Modern Art in America 1913–1931
March 7

With this sheet of stamps, the U.S. Postal Service commemorates twelve modern artists and their works, 100 years after the International Exhibition of Modern Art opened in New York in 1913. This groundbreaking show — which became known as the Armory Show — was the beginning of Modernism in America, having an overwhelming effect on artists and collectors.

Charles Demuth created his “poster portraits” of friends such as the poet William Carlos Williams, the subject of the work I Saw the Figure 5 in Gold, in oil, graphite, ink, and gold leaf on paperboard. Watercolorist John Marin transformed the medium by experimenting with abstraction, such as in his watercolor-on-paper painting, Sunset, Maine Coast. Stuart Davis’s oil-on-canvas painting, House and Street, presents two views of a street in New York, forcing the viewer to be in two places at once. Marsden Hartley’s oil-on-canvas work, Painting, Number 5, is an abstract composite portrait of Karl von Freyburg, a young German officer who was killed in World War I. Georgia O’Keeffe is widely known for her close-up flower paintings. She also famously painted urban and desert landscapes, including this oil-on-canvas painting, Black Mesa Landscape, New Mexico / Out Back of Marie’s II. Man Ray is best known for his photography. His gelatin-silver print, Noire et Blanche, is from a series of photographs juxtaposing a woman’s face with a Baule mask (or a replica) from West Africa. Aaron Douglas’s gouache-on-paper painting, The Prodigal Son, was created in a modernist style that has been described as “Afro-Cubism.” Charles Sheeler explored the balance between abstraction and realism in his photographs and paintings. This oil-on-canvas painting American Landscape explores the relationship between rural traditions and modern subject matter. Joseph Stella is remembered for his images of iconic New York scenes. The oil-on-canvas painting, Brooklyn Bridge has been read as a comment on the tension between technological achievement and the spiritual dimension implicit in any human endeavor. Gerald Murphy’s oil-on-canvas painting, Razor, typifies his work in detailed depiction of commonplace objects. Marcel Duchamp outraged and disturbed many viewers by irreverently flouting artistic convention. His painting, Nude Descending a Staircase, No. 2, was the most talked-about work at the Armory Show of 1913. Arthur Dove was probably the first American artist to paint a totally abstract canvas. The oil-on-canvas painting, Fog Horns, suggests the peal of foghorns at sea.

Deer Postal Card
March 8

The silhouette of a fanciful deer is featured on the Deer Stamped Postal Card. More than 40 species of deer are found around the world. In the United States, the white-tailed deer is the most common species. The animals range as far north as Canada and as far south as Bolivia. As many as 30 million white-tailed deer are estimated to live within the U.S. When bounding away from danger, these deer raise their tails like a signaling flag, exposing the pale hair underneath for which they are named.

Young deer, called fawns, are born in the spring and summer. Spotted coats help them blend into the shade-dappled forest floor, where they hide while their mothers are grazing. Twin fawns are common, and they begin following their mothers when about a month old. Although white-tailed deer can live to be 20 years old, life expectancy for many deer is just two to three years. Wolves, mountain lions, bears, and humans all hunt whitetails, and many deer die from malnutrition or collisions with cars. Excellent runners and swimmers, whitetails can exceed speeds of 30 miles per hour when fleeing a predator.
2013 United States Postage Stamps

Modern Art in America 1913–1931
March 7

Deer Postal Card
March 8
Patriotic Star
March 19
With this illustration of a striped Patriotic Star, the U.S. Postal Service celebrates American patriotism. The star is one of the nation's most recognized symbols, a shining reminder of our strong spirit.

The 2013 Patriotic Star, which is designed to look like it is crafted from striped ribbon, is the latest issuance featuring a star. The Patriotic Star stamp features a red, white, and blue five-pointed star on a white background. The star on the stamp is actually two stars — a smaller one inside a larger one. Both have five points, like the stars on the American flag.

La Florida
April 3
The U.S. Postal Service continues issuing a perennial favorite — flowers. The four La Florida stamps contain a cascade of blossoms that evokes the feeling of a tropical garden. Each stamp shows a particular variety of flower: red and pink hibiscus; yellow cannas; morning glories in white, red, and shades of purple; and white and purple passionflowers.

Where Dreams Blossom
April 11
As universal symbols of love and happiness, flowers are often the centerpiece of our most sacred ceremonies and cheerful occasions. With a splash of color and a beautiful bouquet, the Where Dreams Blossom stamp adds a fun and contemporary flair to all kinds of correspondence.

With a stylized bouquet of flowers similar to the design of the two-ounce Yes, I Do wedding stamp, Where Dreams Blossom is perfect for any occasion, including for use on save-the-date notices, response cards, and thank-you notes. It can also be used for cards and letters sent to celebrate other joyous moments and to deliver comfort and encouragement.

Yes, I Do
Wedding Series
April 11
Yes, I Do. Though seemingly small, these three words hold enormous meaning, marking the beginning of two lives joined together in love. The Yes, I Do wedding stamp is a charming and romantic addition to the U.S. Postal Service's Wedding stamp series, adding a festive yet elegant flair to wedding correspondence.

With the words “Yes, I Do” nestled in a colorful bouquet of stylized flowers in the shape of a heart, this wedding stamp is sure to add a touch of beauty to wedding invitations.

Vintage Flower Seed Packets
April 5
From hand-tinted lithographs in the early 1800s to modern photography, images of floral perfection have adorned the covers of flower seed packets for more than a hundred years. The stamp art features ten photographs of antique seed packets (printed between 1910 and 1920), cropped to highlight their beautiful floral detail. Each of the ten stamps depicts the colorful blossoms of one kind of flower — phlox, calendula, digitalis, linum, alyssum, zinnias, pinks, cosmos, aster, and primrose. Above each illustration is the name of the flower in bold capital letters.
2013 United States Postage Stamps

- Patriotic Star
  March 19

- La Florida
  April 3

- Where Dreams Blossom
  April 11

- Yes I Do
  Wedding Series
  April 11

- Vintage Flower Seed Packets
  April 5
2013 United States Postage Stamps

Flag for All Seasons
May 3

From the heights of the sunny summer to the snowy depths of winter, Old Glory proudly waves. Each of these four A Flag For All Seasons stamps shows an American flag, viewed from below, flying from a pole at full staff. The background of trees evokes one of the four seasons of the year — spring, summer, fall, or winter.

Federal law states that the American flag should be displayed every day of the year, but especially on federal and state holidays, the “birthdays” of states, and other days according to presidential proclamation. As long as a flag is a durable, all-weather flag, it may be displayed outdoors throughout the year, regardless of the weather.

Lydia Mendoza
Music Icons series
May 15

One of the first and greatest stars of Tejano music, Lydia Mendoza (1916-2007), is seen strumming her 12-string guitar on this lively stamp. Nicknamed La Alondra de la Frontera (the Lark of the Border,) Lydia Mendoza performed the Spanish-language music of the Texas-Mexico borderlands and beyond. She is best known for her solo performances, her soulful voice accompanied only by the playing of her 12-string guitar. Mendoza recorded more than a thousand songs in a career that spanned seven decades. Through her music, she gave a voice not only to the poor and working-class people of the border, but also to Latinos throughout the Western Hemisphere.

The Civil War, 1863
May 23

The Civil War (1861-1865), the most profound conflict in American history, claimed the lives of more than 620,000 soldiers and brought vast changes to the country. These stamps depict the Battle of Gettysburg, the largest battle of the war, and the Battle of Vicksburg, a complex Union campaign to gain control of the Mississippi River.

The Battle of Vicksburg stamp is a reproduction of an 1863 lithograph by Currier & Ives titled “Admiral Porter's Fleet Running the Rebel Blockade of the Mississippi at Vicksburg, April 16th, 1863.”

The Battle of Gettysburg was fought July 1–3, 1863, in and around the town of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The stamp depicts one of the skirmishes in the battle that is often described as the war’s turning point.

Johnny Cash
Music Icons series
June 5

Johnny Cash (1932-2003) is best remembered as a country music artist, but we feel his influence just about everywhere — from rock and folk to blues and gospel.

Cash found inspiration for his music in the stories of outlaws and laborers, and in his own life experience. A child of the Depression, he grew up in rural Arkansas. The culture of that time and place — especially the Bible and gospel and country music — remained with him all his life. Themes of redemption, loneliness, love, loss, and death colored his music with a gritty realism that differed markedly from other socially conscious popular music.

West Virginia Statehood
June 20

With this stamp, the U.S. Postal Service celebrates 150 years of West Virginia statehood. Admitted to the Union on June 20, 1863, in the midst of the Civil War, West Virginia is one of only two new states created during the war and the only one created by separation from a Confederate state.

Today, coal is the state’s most abundant natural resource, with nearly 30,000 West Virginians working in the coal-mining industry. In keeping with the current state slogan, “Wild and Wonderful,” tourism is also vital to the West Virginia economy. The mountains and rugged wilderness draw visitors from across the country for hunting, fishing, skiing, mountain biking, rock climbing, and whitewater rafting.
2013 United States Postage Stamps

Flag for All Seasons
May 3

Lydia Mendoza
Music Icons series
May 15

The Civil War, 1863
May 23

Johnny Cash
Music Icons series
June 5

West Virginia Statehood
June 20
New England Coastal Lighthouses
Lighthouses Series
July 13

There's something about lighthouses. They fascinate us; they enchant us; they draw us in. Functional yet majestic, these structures possess a beauty and romance that reach far beyond their practical natures. New England Coastal Lighthouses, the sixth in the series, features five lighthouses:

* Portland Head (Cape Elizabeth, Maine)
* Portsmouth Harbor (New Castle, New Hampshire)
* Point Judith, (Narragansett, Rhode Island)
* Boston Harbor (Boston, Massachusetts)

The five lighthouses are among the oldest in the U.S., and each is on the National Register of Historic Places. Boston Harbor Light is also a National Historic Landmark.

Made in America:
Building a Nation
August 8

"The world is moved along, not only by the mighty shoves of its heroes," social activist Helen Keller wrote in 1908, "but also by the aggregate of the tiny pushes of each honest worker." The Made in America: Building a Nation stamps honor the courageous workers who helped build our country.

The top row of stamps shows an airplane maker, a derrick man on the Empire State Building, a millinery apprentice, and a man on a hoisting ball on the Empire State Building.

The middle row features a linotyper in a publishing house, a welder on the Empire State Building, a coal miner, and riveters on the Empire State Building.

On the bottom row are a powerhouse mechanic, a railroad track walker, a textile worker, and a man guiding a beam on the Empire State Building.
2013 United States Postage Stamps

New England Coastal Lighthouses
Lighthouses Series
July 13

Made in America:
Building a Nation
August 8
Folk Art Eagle Stamped Envelope

August 9

This stamped envelope features a photograph of a plaque that shows an eagle carrying two American flags and a shield. Made from pinewood, the plaque is finished with red, white, and blue paint with a gold finish.

Whether shown on the Great Seal of the United States, portrayed majestically in flight, or seen while perched atop a mountain ledge, the eagle has long been associated with patriotism. Since its adoption as our national symbol in 1782, countless artists and artisans have worked eagle motifs into paintings, pottery, furniture, courthouse decorations, quilt patterns, wood carvings, weather vanes, and countless other functional and decorative objects.
2013 United States Postage Stamps

Eid
August 8
Featuring calligraphy from the 2011 Eid stamp with a new green background, this 2013 issue commemorates the two most important festivals — or eids — in the Islamic calendar: Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha. On these days, Muslims wish each other Eid mubarak, the phrase shown in Islamic calligraphy on the stamp. Eid mubarak translates literally as “blessed festival” and can be paraphrased “May your religious holiday be blessed.” This phrase can be applied to both Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha.

Althea Gibson
Black Heritage Series
August 23
This stamp honors Althea Gibson (1927-2003), a pioneering tennis player who became the first black Wimbledon champion. The tall, lean Gibson was fast, had a long reach, and relied on a booming serve and precise volleys. She blazed a trail for future generations of African-American players, such as Arthur Ashe and sisters Venus and Serena Williams. The first black tennis player to win one of the four major singles tournaments, Gibson helped integrate her sport at the height of the civil rights movement. She twice won Wimbledon and the U.S. Championships (now known as the U.S. Open) and became the top-ranked player in the world.

The War of 1812: Battle of Lake Erie
September 10
The War of 1812, sometimes called “the forgotten conflict,” was a two-and-a-half-year confrontation with Great Britain that brought the United States to the verge of bankruptcy and disunion. The war ultimately helped forge our national identity and gave us our national anthem, “The Star-Spangled Banner.” The stamp’s subject for the second year of the war is the Battle of Lake Erie, which took place on September 10, 1813.

March on Washington
August 23
With this stamp, the U.S. Postal Service commemorates the 50th anniversary of the August 28, 1963, March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. The highlight of the event — in which some 250,000 people participated — was the powerful “I Have a Dream” speech that Martin Luther King, Jr., delivered from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. The March on Washington was a milestone in the civil rights movement. King called it “the greatest demonstration for freedom in the history of our nation.”

Less than a year after the march, Congress passed and the President signed into law the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which desegregated public institutions and outlawed job discrimination. Two years later, the Voting Rights Act of 1965 which provided for federal oversight of voting rights in the South, became the law of the land.

Ray Charles: Music Icons Series
September 23
With this stamp, the U.S. Postal Service proudly honors inspiring musician Ray Charles (1930–2004). This extraordinary composer, singer, and pianist, blind from childhood, went beyond category, blending blues, gospel, country, jazz, and soul music in a unique and highly influential pop music style. His work spanned almost the entire breadth of American music and brought him 17 Grammy Awards, plus an award for lifetime achievement. Countless other prizes include the Polar Music Prize, the National Medal of Arts, and the Kennedy Center Honors. In 1986 Charles was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

$2 Stamp Collecting Inverted Jenny
September 22
This souvenir sheet features a new version of perhaps the most famous error in the history of U.S. stamps. The Inverted Jenny — a 1918 misprint — highlights the ways a single stamp can turn history upside down.

Issued to commemorate the start of the first regular airmail service in the United States, the original Jenny stamp was designed to show a Curtiss JN-4H, or "Jenny," the biplane used to deliver the mail. However, on May 14, 1918, the day an official notice said the stamp would debut, collector William T. Robey of Washington, D.C., purchased one sheet of 100 stamps that mistakenly showed the biplane upside down — and one of the greatest philatelic treasures in U.S. history was released into the world. The new Inverted Jenny stamp is being reprinted with a $2 denomination to make it easily distinguishable from the 24-cent 1918 original.
2013 United States Postage Stamps

- Eid
  - August 8

- Althea Gibson
  - Black Heritage Series
  - August 23

- March on Washington
  - August 23

- The War of 1812: Battle of Lake Erie
  - September 10

- Ray Charles
  - Music Icons Series
  - September 23

- $2 Stamp Collecting Inverted Jenny
  - September 22
Snowflakes Presorted Standard  
Non-denominated Stamp  
October 1

This set of stamps features five festive snowflakes. The stamps are photographs of five different snowflakes, set against a background of colors that fade from white at the bottom to icy blues and purples at the top. To photograph these snowflakes, fallen snowflakes were rapidly transferred from a cardboard collecting surface to a glass slide and inserted into a high-resolution microscope. Photographs were made with a digital camera attached to the microscope.

With a value of 10¢ each, these presorted standard non-denominated stamps were designed to be used by bulk mail users. They were sold in coils of 10,000 stamps.
Snowflakes Presorted Standard
Non-denominated Stamp
October 1
2013 United States Postage Stamps

**Poinsettia Plant**  
**October 10**

The U.S. Postal Service continues its tradition of issuing classic holiday stamps with this bright and cheerful rendering of America’s favorite holiday flower, the poinsettia. While considered by the ancient Aztecs to be a symbol of purity, the poinsettia today symbolizes good cheer. The gift of a poinsettia is said to bring with it wishes of laughter and celebration.

**Virgin and Child**  
**October 11**

The new Virgin & Child by Jan Gossaert Christmas stamp features Gossaert’s 1531 painting Virgin and Child. Draped in purple and blue. The Virgin Mary supports her own head by leaning on one of her hands. In her other hand, a curly-haired infant Jesus draped in white holds a bunch of red currants, which scholars believe are meant to foreshadow his future suffering.

**Holy Family**  
**October 11**

The Holy Family stamp, first issued in 2012, celebrates Christmas with a scene from the Nativity story that reminds us of the joys of the season: family, togetherness, and the birth of the baby Jesus. The stamp illustration shows Joseph leading a donkey that carries Mary and Jesus, guided by a star shining in the twilight of a desert sky.

**Wreath**  
**October 24**

The sight of a festive and elegant evergreen wreath on the front door offers a traditional welcome to family and friends during the holidays. The U.S. Postal Service celebrates that tradition internationally with the Evergreen Wreath, its first global holiday stamp. This international rate stamp offers a single price for any First-Class Mail International 1-ounce letter to any country in the world. The Evergreen Wreath stamp may also be used to mail a 2-ounce letter to Canada.

**Contemporary Gingerbread Houses**  
**November 6**

Four new cheerful holiday stamps capture the delicious tradition and childlike nostalgia of making gingerbread houses. Stumbling across a magical cottage made of cake and candy, Hansel and Gretel knew just how special gingerbread houses could be. These houses feature four different gingerbread houses set against a bright blue background. Made with gingerbread and royal icing, each house has sugary fruit slices for shingles, peppermint sticks for support beams, and round, candy-coated chocolate for doorknobs and holly berries.

**Hanukkah**  
**November 9**

Celebrated by Jewish people around the world, Hanukkah, the joyous Festival of Lights, spans eight nights and days of remembrance and ritual. Central to the celebration is the hanukiah, a nine-branched menorah used only at Hanukkah. Eight of its branches represent each of the eight nights and days of Hanukkah, and the ninth, the shamash or “the servant,” is used to light the other candles.

Hanukkah is the Hebrew word for “dedication.” Tradition relates how a miracle took place during the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem, which had been desecrated. The sacramental oil, thought to be enough for only one day, burned for eight days. The miracle of the oil is at the heart of the ritual of the lighting of the hanukiah.

**Kwanzaa**  
**November 26**

With bright colors and a new stylized design, the U.S. Postal Service continues its tradition of celebrating Kwanzaa. This annual non-religious holiday, which takes place over seven days from December 26 to January 1, brings family, community, and culture together for many African-Americans.

The stamp art features a man, woman, and child dressed in traditional, African-inspired clothing joined together in a unifying embrace. Their intertwined arms form a circle around seven candles, known as the mishumaa saba—a centerpiece of the Kwanzaa table. An open book symbolizes the holiday’s emphasis on knowledge and cultural history. The design is cast in the holiday’s primary colors of red, black, and green.
2013 United States Postage Stamps

- Poinsettia Plant
  October 10
- Virgin and Child
  October 11
- Holy Family
  October 11
- $1.10 Wreath
  Global rate Forever
  October 24
- Contemporary Gingerbread Houses
  November 6
- Hanukkah
  November 9
- Kwanzaa
  November 26
Medal of Honor
World War II
November 11

The Medal of Honor: World War II stamp features the nation's highest award for valor in combat. It is presented “for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life, above and beyond the call of duty.” One stamp features a photograph of the Navy version of the Medal of Honor; the other stamp features a photograph of the Army version of the award. More than 16 million people served with the American armed forces during World War II, but only 464 were chosen to receive the Medal of Honor.

Harry Potter
November 19

The Harry Potter films brought J.K. Rowling's magical world to the screen, giving physical shape to the characters, creatures, and places that had lived in readers' imaginations since publication of the first book. The U.S. Postal Service celebrates that magic with a 20-stamp souvenir booklet featuring stills from the award-winning Warner Bros. movies.

The folded booklet has five pages. The front cover features the title Harry Potter, with an image of Harry playing Quidditch, the beloved wizarding sport. The back cover has a picture of a young Harry in class, taking notes with his quill; the title Harry Potter is centered under the picture. When the booklet is opened, an illustration of Hogwarts covers two pages on the back, and selvage text appears on the last page. Inside there are five groupings of four stamps, each grouping set on its own page. Each set of four stamps, featuring stills from the Warner Bros. movies, surrounds the red wax seal of Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

The stamps capture the magic of Harry's world, with photographs of a few of the brave heroes, fearsome villains, and extraordinary creatures that he encounters throughout his adventures.

Best friends since first meeting on the Hogwarts Express, Harry, Ron Weasley, and Hermione Granger face new challenges each year they attend Hogwarts. The first set of stamps shows the friends in action.

The second stamp set includes photos of four of the amazing creatures that will one day come to Harry's aid—Hedwig, Harry's pet owl; Fawkes the phoenix; Dobby the house-elf; and Buckbeak the Hippogriff.

continued on page 24
2013 United States Postage Stamps

Medal of Honor: Army Version
November 11

Medal of Honor: Navy Version
November 11

Harry Potter: Set #1
November 19

Harry Potter: Set #2
November 19
Harry Potter
November 19

continued from page 22

At Hogwarts, the friends receive support and guidance from many of their professors, among them the four depicted on the third set of stamps-Rubeus Hagrid, Professor Minerva McGonagall, Headmaster Albus Dumbledore, and Professor Severus Snape. Their fellow students-including Fred and George Weasley, Luna Lovegood, and Ginny Weasley, featured on the fourth group of stamps-fight bravely alongside Harry, Hermione, and Ron in the Battle of Hogwarts.

Harry and friends encounter frightening villains, none more terrifying than Lord Voldemort, considered to be the most evil wizard of all time. He is featured alongside two of his fanatic followers-the sinister Bellatrix Lestrange and devious Draco Malfoy-on the fifth set of stamps, which also includes a photo of Harry during his final, epic battle with Voldemort.
2013 United States Postage Stamps

Harry Potter: Set #3
November 19

Harry Potter: Set #4
November 19

Harry Potter: Set #5
November 19
The American Philatelic Society

This album may not include every issue. Use the blank pages to add stamps to your album.

Stamps in this album are shown courtesy the American Philatelic Society Reference Collection, created and sustained through the generosity of APS members.

Membership in the American Philatelic Society provides many benefits, including:

The American Philatelist — The world’s premier stamp magazine written by our members for our members.
APEX Expertizing Service — Offers guaranteed opinions on the genuineness of all stamps by our committee of experts.
American Philatelic Research Library — Book loans, copy service, reference assistance, and an online catalogue.
APS Stamp Insurance Plan — The best and most comprehensive coverage available — low cost for members and quality service, too.
Education Programs — Summer Seminar, On-the-Road Courses, Internet and Correspondence Courses — learning never ends, sign up today!
Quick I.D. — Helps identify that troubling stamp at a substantially lower cost than through the formal certification process.
Sales Division Circuits — Our most popular service — $9,000,000 inventory awaits your requests — mini-stamp stores delivered to your front door!
StampStore — Buy/Sell online via our members only Internet sales site, more than 235,000 items. New items added every business day!
Youth Programs — Young Stamp Collectors of America, All-Star Stamp Club program — support for the individual young collector or leaders of local youth clubs.
Get in touch with other collectors — through APS directories of local stamp clubs, dealers in your area, and specialty societies geared to your collecting interests. The directories are available on our website or in print from headquarters.
Take advantage of fellow members expertise — use the Translation Service and the Committee for the Care and Preservation of Philatelic Material.

Visit the American Philatelic Society online at www.stamps.org