2010 United States Postage Stamps

Year of the Tiger
Lunar New Year series
January 14
The U.S. Postal Service® introduced its Celebrating Lunar New Year series in 2008. The Year of the Tiger is the third stamp in that series. Upcoming stamps include the Year of the Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Ram, Monkey, Rooster, Dog, and Boar.
People born in the Year of the Tiger are brave and competitive, but unpredictable. Tigers are born to lead, intelligent, always on alert, and extremely generous. They are sensitive and sympathetic, but can be very short-tempered.
The narcissus flower, considered auspicious at any time of the year, was chosen as the topic for this stamp commemorating the Year of the Tiger. A tiger can be seen climbing over the flowers.

$4.90 Mackinac Bridge
Priority Mail stamp
February 3
As early as 1884, people were looking for a practical, all-year method of crossing the Straits of Mackinac. After many years of studies and proposals, the Mackinac Bridge was opened to traffic on November 1, 1957.
This bridge is the longest suspension bridge in the western hemisphere, with a total length of 26,372 feet. At mid-span, the roadway is approximately 200 feet above water level.
As with all suspension bridges, the Mackinac Bridge is designed to accommodate wind, change in temperature, and weight. It is possible that the deck at center span could move as much as 35 feet due to high winds. However, the bridge has been designed so the deck will not swing, but rather move slowly in the direction of the wind. After the winds subside, the weight of the vehicles crossing slowly moves it back into center position.
To the people of Michigan, the five-mile Mackinac Bridge is more than a bridge — it is a fulfillment of a dream of many generations for a physical link between the two peninsulas of their state.

Olympic Winter Games
January 22
Stamps featuring Olympic themes have been popular since the first modern Olympiad in 1896, when Greece issued 12 Olympic-themed commemorative stamps. However, the U.S. did not issue an Olympic stamp until 1932.
More than 80 countries participated in the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games. Approximately 5,000 athletes and officials were involved in the XXI Games, while about one million people traveled to Vancouver to view the events.
The number of sports designated for Olympic Winter Games has grown over the years. In addition to those included since 1924 — figure skating, ice hockey, cross-country skiing, bobsled, Nordic combined, ski jumping, and speed skating — athletes today compete in Alpine skiing, biathlon, luge, and curling, as well as in the newer disciplines of snowboarding, freestyle skiing, and short-track speed skating. After making their Olympic debut in 2006, snowboardcross and the team pursuit speed skating were officially added to the 2010 program, which also included the debut of ski cross, a race down a technically challenging course resembling a motocross track.

$18.30 Bixby Creek Bridge
Express Mail
February 3
One hundred twenty miles south of San Francisco, stands one of the world’s highest single-span concrete arch bridges. As the Carmel-San Simeon Highway was being constructed, engineers needed to find a way of crossing Bixby Creek. The deep V-shaped canyon, about 100 feet wide at the bottom, with slopes consisting of altered and disintegrated granite, presented a difficult problem. The eventual decision was to build a high bridge right along the coast spanning the bluffs, allowing for beautiful, scenic views of the Pacific Ocean.
The Bixby Bridge is 714 feet long and over 280 feet high, with a main span of 320 feet. It was opened on November 27, 1932, but it was another five years before the highway was completed. The bridge was retrofitted in 1996 to make it more resistant to seismic activity, ground motion, or soil failure due to earthquakes.

With 36,000 members in 100 countries, the 125-year-old 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.
2010 United States Postage Stamps

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February 3

Visit the American Philatelic Society online at www.stamps.org
2010 United States Postage Stamps

Distinguished Sailors
February 4

These stamps immortalize four U.S. Navy who served with bravery and distinction during the 20th Century: William S. Sims, Arleigh A. Burke, John McCloy and Doris "Dorie" Miller.

William S. Sims (1858-1936) was Commander of U.S. naval forces in European waters during World War I. He was an outspoken reformer and innovator who helped shape the Navy into a modern fighting force. Frustrated by the Navy bureaucracy, he circumvented his superiors to get the Navy to adopt improved gunfire techniques that increased firing accuracy as ships rolled through ocean swells. He also is noted for promoting the convoy system that grouped ships closely together as they were accompanied by small numbers of Navy escorts while crossing the U-Boat infested Atlantic — saving countless lives in both world wars. The stamp features a detail from a 1919 photograph of Sims and depicts the crest of the destroyer escort USS W.S. Sims (DE-1059), commissioned in 1970.

After serving as one of the top destroyer squadron commanders of World War II, Arleigh A. Burke (1901-1996) had an equally distinguished postwar career in which he played a major role in modernizing the Navy and guiding its response to the Cold War. During World War II, he gained a reputation for brilliance and innovation while commanding Destroyer Squadron 23, known as “the Little Beavers.” The squadron fought in 22 separate actions in a four-month period, sinking or helping to sink nine enemy destroyers and downing 30 airplanes. He later served an unprecedented three terms as the Navy’s highest ranking officer — Chief of Naval Operations — to speed construction of nuclear-powered submarines and initiating the Polaris Ballistic Missile Program. His stamp, based on a 1951 photograph, depicts the crest of the guided missile destroyer USS Arleigh Burke (DDG-51), commissioned in 1991.

Described by a shipmate as “like a bull” who couldn’t be stopped, John McCloy (1876-1945) holds the distinction of being one of the few men in the nation’s history to earn two Medals of Honor for a rescue mission during the Boxer Rebellion in which he was wounded, and during the 1914 Mexican Revolt for intentionally exposing his boat to draw enemy fire to identify their positions for retaliation by U.S. cruiser gunfire. Shot in the thigh, he remained on post 48 hours until the brigade surgeon sent him to a hospital. In 1919 he was awarded the Navy Cross as commander of USS Curlew, which engaged in the “difficult and hazardous duty” of sweeping mines in the North Sea in the aftermath of World War I. His stamp is based on a circa 1920 photograph and depicts the crest of the destroyer escort USS McCloy (DE-1038), commissioned in 1963.

Doris Miller (1919-1943) was the first black American hero of World War II. Miller became an inspiration to generations of Americans for his actions at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. Serving aboard the battleship West Virginia as a mess attendant — the only job rating open to blacks at the time — Miller helped rescue scores of shipmates wounded or trapped in wreckage. He was later ordered to the bridge to help move the ship's mortally wounded captain. Never trained in its operation, he manned an unattended 50-caliber machine gun to fire on Japanese aircraft until ordered to abandon the bridge as fires raged out of control. He was later awarded the Navy Cross. Miller was promoted in June 1943 to Officer's Cook Third Class aboard the new escort aircraft carrier Liscome Bay and was killed in action on Nov. 24 that year along with more than 600 shipmates when an enemy torpedo sank the ship during the invasion of the Gilbert Islands. His body was lost at sea. His stamp is based on a 1942 photograph and depicts the crest of the destroyer escort USS Miller (DE-1091), commissioned in 1973. Actor Cuba Gooding Jr., portrayed Miller in the 2001 movie Pearl Harbor.
Abstract Expressionists
March 11

The artistic innovations and achievements of a group of artists who moved the United States to the forefront of the international art scene are honored on the *Abstract Expressionists* commemorative postage stamps. The vibrant stamps feature works by each of the following:

Influencing much of the American abstract art that followed, Arshile Gorky (1904-1948) developed an original style that combined cubism and surrealism with his own disguised imagery. *The Liver Is the Cock’s Comb* — one of his largest and greatest pictures — uses abstract forms to camouflage a deeply personal portrait of his family at home.

Adolph Gottlieb (1903-1974) created a uniquely American blend of inspiration from late medieval and early Italian Renaissance masters, European cubism, and the freely expressive line of surrealism in his innovative “Pictographs” of the 1940s. *Romanesque Façade* brings together his aspiration to be intuitively understandable to everyone and to convey a universal emotional reality.

Willem de Kooning (1904-1997) transformed the traditions of European art to create his own energetic and unconstrained style. While much of his work was entirely abstract, de Kooning’s best-known paintings blend abstraction and figural representation. Skittering black lines, shifting shapes, fragmented body parts, and flashes of color fill the surface of this work entitled *Asheville*.

Robert Motherwell (1915-1991) viewed literature and philosophy as integral components of his art. He is best known for the “Elegy to the Spanish Republic” series, an ambitious group of somber abstract paintings. *Elegy to the Spanish Republic No. 34* features black bars and ovals and vertical white stripes that partly obscure colors that refer to the flag of the Spanish Republic.

One of the most influential art teachers of the 20th century, Hans Hofmann (1880-1966) pioneered a method of improvisational painting that helped shape the development of abstract art after World War II. *The Golden Wall* features his trademark “push and pull” technique: geometric shapes that animate the canvas by seeming to shift and overlap.

Best known for his poured paintings, Jackson Pollock (1912-1956) created spontaneously painted works that marked a break with artistic tradition. For *Convergence*, he laid blue and white clouds and loops of red and yellow atop a black-and-white base. The expressive color and drawing are so fresh that the paint still looks wet.

Barnett Newman (1905-1970) created deceptively simple works often characterized by large, even expanses of a single color punctuated by one or more vertical lines, which he called “zips.” One of several works based on ancient Greek mythology, *Achilles* does not feature a zip but rather a swath of red paint that moves down the canvas to end in a ragged edge.

Mark Rothko (1903-1970) is best known for his monumental paintings of two or more rectangles floated within a field of color. *Orange and Yellow* features two rectangles painted in the vibrant tones that Rothko favored. Far from static, the rectangles seem to stretch and contract, while translucent, luminous colors bring them to life.

Joan Mitchell (1925-1992) created expansive paintings with an energetic style distinguished by large gestural strokes, driving brushwork, and emotional intensity. She is perhaps best known for her ability to communicate the visual sentiments of nature — or, in her own words, “to convey the feeling of the dying sunflower.” *La Grande Vallée 0* is one of 21 opulent French landscapes.

Clyfford Still (1904-1980) painted ponderous, abstract canvases to convey universal themes about the human condition. *1948-C* illustrates his signature style of richly textured surfaces, expressive lines and shapes, and sublime color in an expansive field. Still kept tight control of his work, much of which has never been seen.
2010 United States Postage Stamps

Abstract Expressionists
Arshile Gorky
March 11

Abstract Expressionists
Adolph Gottlieb
March 11

Abstract Expressionists
Willem de Kooning
March 11

Abstract Expressionists
Robert Motherwell
March 11

Abstract Expressionists
Hans Hofmann
March 11

Abstract Expressionists
Jackson Pollock
March 11

Abstract Expressionists
Barnett Newman
March 11

Abstract Expressionists
Mark Rothko
March 11

Abstract Expressionists
Joan Mitchell
March 11

Abstract Expressionists
Clyfford Still
March 11
Continuing its proud tradition of honoring state and territorial flags, the U.S. Postal Service this year dedicated the fourth set of the Flags of Our Nation stamp series.

The series features the state flags of Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina and North Dakota. As an added bonus, the Stars and Stripes that depicts the “purple mountain majesties” inspired by the opening lines of “America the Beautiful” by Katharine Lee Bates also is included.

“The flags depicted in nine of these stamps we dedicate today represent contributions these states have made to the development and growth of our nation,” said U.S. Postal Service Senior Vice President and General Counsel Mary Anne Gibbons. “Many principles these states exemplify also can be recognized within the Postal Service — diversity, unity, pride and values. As the nation works to recover from the current economic crisis, the employees of the Postal Service work to bring you record-breaking service and a continuing commitment. I want to assure you, just as these flags wave and this nation holds strong, the Postal Service will continue to deliver for you.”

In 2009, the third set in the series included the Stars and Stripes and the state and territorial flags of Kentucky through Missouri. Stamps depicting Northern Marianas through Tennessee will be issued in 2011, Texas through Wyoming and the U.S.A. Fruited Plain Flag stamp will conclude the series in 2012. The series began in 2008.
2010 United States Postage Stamps

Flags of Our Nation IV
Montana
April 16

Flags of Our Nation IV
Nebraska
April 16

Flags of Our Nation IV
Nevada
April 16

Flags of Our Nation IV
New Hampshire
April 16

Flags of Our Nation IV
New Jersey
April 16

Flags of Our Nation IV
New Mexico
April 16

Flags of Our Nation IV
North Carolina
April 16

Flags of Our Nation IV
North Dakota
April 16

Flags of Our Nation IV
Purple Mountain Majesties
April 16

American Philatelic Society, www.stamps.org
Bill Mauldin
(1921–2003)
March 31

During World War II, Bill Mauldin's cartoons, appearing in Stars and Stripes, made him a hero to many in the military. His sympathy for “dogfaces,” the slang term for soldiers in the infantry, was clearly expressed through his characters Willie and Joe, who gave their military audiences a hearty laugh and civilians an idea of what life was like for soldiers.

In 1945 Mauldin won the first of his two Pulitzers “for distinguished service as a cartoonist” and the Allied high command awarded him its Legion of Merit. His illustrated memoir, Up Front, was a bestseller. In 1958, he took a job as a cartoonist for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and the following year he won a second Pulitzer for his cartoon portraying Boris Pasternak, author of Doctor Zhivago, as a Soviet prisoner.

“In a very real way, Bill Mauldin chronicled the path taken by the Greatest Generation — a generation that spoke, not with pompous words, but through noble deeds,” said Mickey Barnett, member of the U.S. Postal Service Board of Governors. “As we honor him, we honor that generation and all that it did for our country.”

Love: Pansies in a Basket
April 22

Vivid colors, velvety petals, and intriguing “faces” have long made pansies a favorite flower of gardeners and artists. The U.S. Postal Service's 2010 Love stamp features a white woven basket brimming with these purple flowers and green foliage. The word “LOVE” adorns the left side of the stamp. (Cards and stamps depicting these graceful blossoms convey sentiments of appreciation, affection, and love.)

The Postal Service began issuing its popular Love stamps in 1973. Over the years these stamps have featured a wide variety of designs, including heart motifs, colorful flowers, and the word “LOVE” itself.

Cowboys of the Silver Screen
April 17

Legends of the silver screen are featured on the Cowboys of the Silver Screen stamps and stamped postal cards. The stamps honor four extraordinary performers who helped make American Westerns a popular form of entertainment — Gene Autry, William S. Hart, Tom Mix and Roy Rogers.

William S. Hart
Before making his first appearance on the silver screen in 1914, William S. Hart (1864-1946) starred on Broadway and in theatrical productions nationwide. During his cinematic career, the acclaimed actor insisted on authentic depictions of the Old West and its people. He frequently played a stalwart, tough-as-nails cowboy.

Gene Autry
A successful radio performer prior to becoming the silver screen's first singing cowboy star, Gene Autry (1907-1998) is known for his distinctive singing style and easygoing personality. Autry entertained countless fans in nearly 100 films and recorded more than 600 songs, including the popular hits, "Back in the Saddle Again," and "Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer." He is a 1969 Country Music Hall of Fame inductee.

Roy Rogers
Often remembered for his signature hit song, “Happy Trails,” Roy Rogers (1911-1998) sang his way to silver screen stardom in the late 1930s, and by 1943 Republic Pictures was calling him “King of the Cowboys.” For millions of fans, Rogers was the essence of the Western hero — the good guy with the white hat, warm smile — and exemplary character. Rogers is a 1980 inductee into the Country Music Hall of Fame.

Tom Mix
As one of the most popular stars of silent Westerns, Tom Mix (1880-1940) made his movie debut in 1909. In his action-packed movies, he displayed athleticism, fearlessness and expert riding and roping abilities. In 1922's Sky High, for example, he climbed the steep walls of the Grand Canyon, leaped deep chasms, dropped from a plane into the Colorado River, lassoed villains and rescued a damsel in distress.
2010 United States Postage Stamps

Bill Mauldin
March 31

Love: Pansies in a Basket
April 22

Cowboys of the Silver Screen
William S. Hart
April 17

Cowboys of the Silver Screen
Gene Autry
April 17

Cowboys of the Silver Screen
Roy Rogers
April 17

Cowboys of the Silver Screen
Tom Mix
April 17
2010 United States Postage Stamps

Adopt a Shelter Pet
April 30

Animal Rescue: Adopt a Shelter Pet is the Postal Service’s 2010 social awareness stamp. The stamps feature photographs of five cats and five dogs — all ten animals were adopted from a shelter in New Milford, CT.

This set is part of the “Stamps to the Rescue,” a promotional campaign created by the Postal Service to provide additional information about the stamps and pet adoption. This campaign included posters placed in post office across the nation and a new website — stampstotherescue.com.

“These stamps continue a Postal Service tradition of bringing attention to serious social issues of the day … one letter at a time,” said Postmaster General John E. Potter. “This campaign will increase public awareness about sheltered pets and our hope is that it will encourage pet adoption and promote humane and responsible pet care.”

Past social awareness stamps have highlighted important issues such as children’s health, literacy, breast cancer awareness, organ and tissue donation, philanthropy and Alzheimer’s awareness.
2010 United States Postage Stamps

Adopt a Shelter Pets
April 30

Bindi Su
Aussie Shepherd

Frankie
Black, White, and Tan

Buddy
Golden Retriever

Willow
Maltese

Trevor
Labrador Retriever

Lucas
Yellow Tabby

Teddy
Jack Russell Terrier

Jake
Boston Terrier

Bianca
Calico

Peaches
Shorthaired
Legends of Hollywood series
Katharine Hepburn
(1907–2003)
May 12
Katharine Houghton Hepburn was one of America’s true cinematic treasures. With her freckles, mass of red hair, preference for wearing trousers and occasional quirkiness — such as draping a live gibbon around her neck — Hepburn stood out in Hollywood.

Over the course of her career, Hepburn made more than 40 motion pictures. She received 12 Academy Award nominations for Best Actress and won four Oscars. She also received an Emmy for her performance as Jessica Medlicott in Love Among the Ruins (1975), a made-for-television movie.

Hepburn left her indelible mark in the annals of American film history. She is ranked the number one female in the American Film Institute’s “50 Greatest Movie Legends.”

Monarch Butterfly
May 17
The Monarch butterfly, perhaps the best known of all North American butterflies, is easily recognizable with its orange and black patterned wings.

This stamp was specifically issued for use on over-sized and odd-sized greeting cards. The butterfly symbol was chosen as a universal symbol and is scheduled to be used for all future stamps for nonmachinable letters.

The new monarch butterfly stamp is for “all of us who relish the ‘aha’ moment” when someone receives a greeting card in the mail, said Patti Stracher, manager of the National Stationery Show. She cited the great synchronicity of issuing a 64-cent stamp at the 64th National Stationery Show.

Kate Smith
(1907–1986)
May 27
With this stamp, the Postal Service honors Kate Smith, a much beloved singer and entertainer best known for her rendition of Irving Berlin’s “God Bless America.” A native of Washington, DC, Smith won amateur singing contests as a youth and was invited to sing at a White House dinner. After moving to New York to pursue a career in show business, she became a radio star — popular for her homespun personality as well as for her singing. In the early 1950s, she hosted a daytime television show, the Kate Smith Hour, as well as a prime time show, the Kate Smith Evening Hour. In 1973, toward the end of her career Smith sang “God Bless America” at Philadelphia Flyers hockey games. Philly fans considered her a good luck charm as the Flyers won two Stanley Cups and other big games when she sang. The team later erected a bronze statute of her outside the Spectrum arena.

Black Heritage Series
Oscar Micheaux
(1884–1951)
June 22
The 33rd stamp in the Black Heritage series honors filmmaker Oscar Micheaux, who wrote, directed, and produced more than 40 movies during the first half of the 20th century. An ambitious figure, Micheaux thrived at a time when African-American filmmakers were rare, venues for their work were scarce, and support from the industry did not exist. Micheaux’s entrepreneurial spirit made him an icon who continues to inspire new generations of filmmakers and artists.

In 1986, he was posthumously awarded a special Directors Guild of America award. In 1995, the Producers Guild of America established the Oscar Micheaux Award to honor “an individual or individuals whose achievements in film and television have been accomplished despite difficult odds.”

Negro Leagues Baseball
July 15
The Negro Leagues Baseball stamps pay tribute to the all-black professional baseball leagues that operated from 1920 to about 1960. Drawing some of the most remarkable athletes ever to play the sport, the Negro leagues galvanized African-American communities across the country, challenged racist notions of athletic superiority, and ultimately sparked the integration of American sports. In 1920, Andrew “Rube” Foster (1879-1930)—who began his baseball career as a pitcher—established the Negro National League, the most successful league of African-American teams. He is considered the “father” of Negro leagues baseball.
2010 United States Postage Stamps

Legends of Hollywood series
Katharine Hepburn
May 12

Kate Smith
May 27

Monarch Butterfly
May 17

Black Heritage Series
Oscar Micheaux
June 22

Negro Leagues Baseball
July 15
2010 United States Postage Stamps

Sunday Funnies
July 16

The U.S. Postal Service celebrated five newspaper comic stamps when they dedicated the Sunday Funnies stamps. The strips, as well as their characters, may have changed over the years, yet each remains an enduring classic.

The Archie stamp features Archie sharing a chocolate shake with brunette Veronica Lodge on his right and blonde Betty Cooper on his left. Offering an idealized portrait of American adolescence, Archie existed only in comic-book form before debuting in newspapers in 1946. A typical small-town teenager with a knack for goofing things up, 17-year-old Archie Andrews is often torn between haughty Veronica and sweet Betty.

The Beetle Bailey stamp features Beetle, smiling calmly while Sarge loses his cool. A military strip with universal appeal, Beetle Bailey first appeared in September 1950. Possibly the laziest man in the army, Private Beetle Bailey is an expert at sleeping and avoiding work. His chronic indolence antagonizes Sergeant Orville P. Snorkel, who is tough on his men but calls them “my boys.”

Captured on the Calvin and Hobbes stamp is the precocious six-year-old and his tiger pal making scary — and ridiculous — faces. Calvin and Hobbes explores the fantasy life of six-year-old Calvin and his tiger, Hobbes. The inseparable friends ponder the mysteries of the world and test the fortitude of Calvin’s parents, who never know where their son’s imagination will take him. The strip ran from November 1985 to December 1995.

Five-year-old Dennis is featured on the Dennis the Menace stamp, dressed in red coveralls and striped shirt running off to some new adventure. Dennis the Menace follows the antics of Dennis Mitchell, a good-hearted but mischievous little boy who is perpetually “five-ana-half” years old. His curiosity tests the patience of his loving parents and neighbors, guaranteeing that their lives are anything but dull. The comic debuted in March 1951 as a single-panel gag.

The Garfield stamp features the crabby tabby standing back to back with Odie, a carefree, energetic dog. Garfield first waddled onto the comics page in June 1978. Self-centered and cynical, Garfield hates Mondays and loves lasagna. He lives with Jon Arbuckle, a bumbling bachelor with a fatally flawed fashion sense, and Odie, a dopey-but-devoted dog.
2010 United States Postage Stamps

Sunday Funnies
Archie
July 16

Sunday Funnies
Beetle Bailey
July 16

Sunday Funnies
Calvin and Hobbes
July 16

Sunday Funnies
Dennis the Menace
July 16

Sunday Funnies
Garfield
July 16

Sunday Funnies
Strip of 5
July 16
2010 United States Postage Stamps

Scouting
July 27
The Boy Scouts of America celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2010. Since the creation of the international youth scouting movement, hundreds of millions of youth have benefited from opportunities for adventure, skill building, leadership, personal development, and community service.

The United States Postal Service and the Boy Scouts of America came together at the 2010 National Scout Jamboree to unveil this stamp, celebrating the adventure and spirit of scouting.

American Treasures series
Winslow Homer
(1836-1910)
August 12
Winslow Homer is considered one of the greatest American painters of the 19th century. Born in Boston, Massachusetts, he began a two-year apprenticeship in a lithography shop at the age of 19 and afterwards became a freelance illustrator. In 1859, he moved to New York City, where he studied at the National Academy of Design and worked as a freelance artist for Harper's Weekly magazine. In 1861, at the start of the Civil War, the magazine sent him to the front lines as an artist-correspondent.

The ninth issuance in the American Treasures series features Boys in a Pasture, an 1874 painting by Winslow Homer. The painting is part of the Hayden Collection at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. According to the Museum, the boys in this painting—companionable, idle, at peace—may be seen as emblems of America's nostalgia for a simpler, more innocent time as well as of its hope for the future.

Literary Arts series
Julia de Burgos
(1914–1953)
September 14
Award-winning writer and journalist Julia de Burgos was recognized for her accomplishments on this Literary Arts series stamp.

De Burgos' first collection, Exact Poems to Myself, consisted of poems she wrote in 1934 and 1935. One of the poems written during this early period also became her most famous, "Río Grande de Loíza," a love song to the river of her childhood.

In another poem, de Burgos rejected the social and behavioral restrictions placed on women, forcefully proclaiming, "I am life, strength, woman." Other poems address political themes such as equality and social justice.

In 1946, she received a literary award for her essay, “To Be or Not To Be Is the Motto.”

Mother Teresa
(1910–1997)
September 5
With this stamp, the U.S. Postal Service recognizes Mother Teresa, a diminutive Roman Catholic nun and honorary U.S. citizen who served the sick and destitute of India and the world for nearly 50 years. Her humility and compassion, as well as her respect for the innate worth and dignity of humankind, inspired people of all ages and backgrounds to work on behalf of the world's poorest populations.

Drawn to the religious life as a young girl, she left her home in what is now the Republic of Macedonia at the age of 18 to serve as a Roman Catholic missionary in India. Having adopted the name of Sister Mary Teresa, she arrived in India in 1929 and underwent initial training in religious life at a convent north of Calcutta. Two years later, she took temporary vows as a nun before transferring to a convent in Calcutta. She became known as Mother Teresa in 1937, when she took her final vows.

President Ronald Reagan presented Mother Teresa with the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1985, the same year she began work on behalf of AIDS sufferers in the U.S. and other countries. In 1997, Congress awarded Mother Teresa the Congressional Gold Medal for her “outstanding and enduring contributions through humanitarian and charitable activities.” In 1996, President Bill Clinton and the U.S. Congress awarded Mother Teresa honorary U.S. citizenship.

Lady Liberty/U.S. Flag
December 1
On December 1, the Postal Service issued a first-class mail Lady Liberty/U.S. Flag Forever stamp as a se-tenant pair (two designs). Forever stamps are always equal in value to the current first-class mail one-ounce rate. The two new Forever stamps feature photographs of world-recognized symbols of the United States: the Statue of Liberty and the United States flag.
2010 United States Postage Stamps

Scouting
July 27

American Treasures series
Winslow Homer
August 12

Literary Arts series
Julia de Burgos
September 14

Mother Teresa
September 5

Lady Liberty Forever
December 1

U.S. Flag Forever
December 1

American Philatelic Society, www.stamps.org
Nature of America series
Hawaiian Rain Forest
September 1

Featuring a Hawaiian rain forest, the 2010 Nature of America issuance is the 12th stamp pane in an educational series focusing on the beauty and complexity of major plant and animal communities in the United States.

Located in the north-central Pacific Ocean, the Hawaiian Islands are more than 2,000 miles from any continental landmass. Rainfall is abundant in the Hawaiian rain forest, a verdant world dotted with ‘ōhi‘a tehua blossoms and the flowers of the kanawao and other shrubs. Typically the leaves and branches of mature ‘ōhi‘a tehua trees make up the forest canopy. Saplings, shrubs, and tree ferns dominate the understory, while a great variety of smaller ferns, herbs, and mosses carpet the forest floor.

The lush vegetation offers protection and sustenance for wildlife, including several bird species, numerous insects, and the islands' only native terrestrial mammal — the ‘Ôpe‘ape‘a, or Hawaiian hoary bat. Because of Hawaii’s remote location, its rain forest plants and animals were safe from competition and predation by introduced species until relatively recent times. Today, they are among the most vulnerable biological communities on earth.

This stamp pane features a rain forest on the island of Hawaii. Depicted on the stamp pane is a tiny happyface spider clinging to a leaf in the foreground as honeycreepers and other birds seek nectar, insects, and berries amid the dense foliage.
2010 United States Postage Stamps

Nature of America series
Hawaiian Rain Forest
September 1
2010 United States Postage Stamps

Angel with Lute
October 21

For the holiday season, angels represent peace on earth. This stamp features a detail of a fragment of a circa-1480 fresco by Melozzo da Forli (1438-1494). Clad in red and green, an angel with a halo strums a lute and glances downward. It radiates serenity and dignity, along with compassion, while the lute points to harmony and song.

The fragment shown on the stamp and thirteen other surviving fragments from the fresco are on display in Room IV of the Vatican Pinacoteca (art gallery) in Rome.

Holiday Evergreens
October 21

Decorating with evergreens during the winter holiday season is a popular and appealing tradition. The U.S. Postal Service joins in the winter celebrations by issuing Evergreens, beautiful new stamps that feature close-up views of the foliage and cones of four different conifers: ponderosa pine, eastern red cedar, blue spruce, and balsam fir.

The Holiday Evergreens are the first holiday-themed Forever stamps issued by the USPS. Although they are perfect for holiday correspondence, the denomination they carry will ensure they are forever in season.
2010 United States Postage Stamps

Angel with Lute
October 21

Holiday Evergreens
Balsam Fir
October 21

Holiday Evergreens
Eastern Red Cedar
October 21

Holiday Evergreens
Ponderosa Pine
October 21

Holiday Evergreens
Blue Spruce
October 21
Admission is free to AmeriStamp Expo 2011, the winter show of the American Philatelic Society, coming to the Charleston Convention Center February 11–13, 2011.

Whether you are eight or 80, learn the ins and outs of one of the world’s greatest hobbies. Stamp exhibits, world-class rarities, and priceless historical mail will be shown. Helpful seminars and how-to sessions, catering to interests of every kind will be held every day.

Dealers from the U.S. and abroad will have everything you need to pursue the stamp hobby — stamps, covers, supplies, and more.

Experts will be available to give free thumbnail evaluations of your collection. This booth, entitled “Stamps in Your Attic,” is sponsored by the National Stamp Dealers Association.

AmeriStamp Expo is open Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.