

POSTAL NEWS

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Postal Service Accepting Pre-Orders For 'Engraved' Waves of Color Stamps

High-resolution images of the stamps for media use only are available by contacting mark.r.saunders@usps.gov

WASHINGTON — Designed as a customer convenience and to lend a contemporary appearance to packages, large envelopes and other mailings, the U.S. Postal Service will issue four elegant Waves of Color stamps in four denominations: \$1, \$2, \$5 and \$10.

Customers may order the stamps by clicking the stamp dollar values above or by phoning 800-STAMP24 (800-782-6724) for delivery a few days following the Dec. 1 issuance. The Waves of Color stamps will be issued at 9 a.m., in Orlando at the Florida State Stamp Show inside the Central Florida Fairgrounds, 4603 West Colonial Drive.

Printed using offset, lithography and intaglio processes, the stamp denominations are embossed. Each stamp denomination will be available in sheets of 10.

The \$10 Wave stamp shows variously colored undulating lines against a white background. A portion of the right side of the stamp provides white space to display the numeral 10. The stamp also includes its denomination written out as Ten Dollars. In order to suggest its status as a high-denomination issue, this stamp benefits from a highly detailed printing process that creates dense, abstract patterns similar to an engraved bank currency.

The other three stamps feature similar designs with different color palettes and are denominated at the \$1, \$2 and \$5 rates. As the denominations increase, the stamp sizes grow larger.

Art director Antonio Alcalá of Alexandria, VA, and designer Michael Dyer of Brooklyn, NY, created these handsome and unusual stamps.

Other stamps can be purchased at <u>usps.com/stamps</u>. Customers may view the Waves of Color stamps, as well as many of this year's other stamps on Facebook at <u>facebook.com/USPSStamps</u>,

on *Twitter @USPSstamps* or on the website *Beyond the Perf* at <u>beyondtheperf.com/2012-preview</u>. Beyond the Perf is the Postal Service's online site for information on upcoming stamp subjects, first-day-of-issue events and other philatelic news.

The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

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A self-supporting government enterprise, the U.S. Postal Service is the only delivery service that reaches every address in the nation — 151 million residences, businesses and Post Office™ Boxes. The Postal Service™ receives no tax dollars for operating expenses, and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations. With 32,000 retail locations and the most frequently visited website in the federal government, usps.com®, the Postal Service has annual revenue of more than \$65 billion and delivers nearly 40 percent of the world's mail. If it were a private set or company, the U.S. Postal Service would rank 35th in the 2011 Fortune 500. In 2011, Oxford Strategic Consulting ranked the U.S. Postal Service number one in overall service performance of the posts in the top 20 wealthiest nations in the world. Black Enterprise and Hispanic Business magazines ranked the Postal Service as a leader in workforce diversity. The Postal Service has been named the Most Trusted Government Agency for six years and the sixth Most Trusted Business in the nation by the Ponemon Institute.

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