



MEDIA ADVISORY

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USPS Stamps Offer Convenience for Consumers and Business Mailers

Sales Begin Nationwide Jan. 27

What: The U.S. Postal Service announced today the new Priority Mail and Priority Mail Express stamps and new stamps for additional ounce, non-machineable surcharge, and 2- and 3-ounce mailings. The stamps go on sale nationwide Jan. 27 with no ceremony. More information will be available in the Dec. 20, 2018 *Postal Bulletin*.

Background: Joshua Tree

Celebrating the desolate beauty of the Joshua tree (*Yucca brevifolia*) and its distinct desert environment, this Priority Mail stamp depicts a common scene throughout much of the Mojave and Sonoran Deserts. Using the bold colors of the sun's reflection off of the trees, rocks and other shrubby vegetation, artist Dan Cosgrove illuminates the desert scene in warm, golden hues. Art director Greg Breeding designed the stamp.

Bethesda Fountain

With this Priority Mail Express stamp, the Postal Service commemorates the Bethesda Fountain, one of Central Park's most iconic structures. Dedicated in 1873, the fountain is a gathering place beloved by New Yorkers and out-of-town visitors alike. The stamp art features a stylized depiction of the fountain. The illustration was first rendered as a pencil sketch and then scanned and finished digitally. Art director Greg Breeding designed the stamp with original art by Dan Cosgrove.

California Dogface (Butterfly)

The California dogface graces the seventh non-machineable butterfly stamp for use on irregularly sized envelopes, such as square greeting cards, invitations or announcements. The stamp art was digitally created using images of preserved butterflies as a starting point. The result is a highly stylized, simplified image of a California dogface (*Zerene eurydice*) rather than an exact replica. Nationally known artist Tom Engeman created the stamp art. Art director Derry Noyes designed the stamp.

U.S. Flag

With this new 2019 stamp, the Postal Service celebrates the American flag, the most recognizable symbol of our nation. The stamp features a U.S. flag, one of several on the flagpoles near the end of Chicago's Navy Pier, waving in a May breeze. The photograph was taken by art director Antonio Alcalá.

Uncle Sam's Hat Coil of 100

Originally released by the Postal Service in 2017, Uncle Sam's Hat, an additional ounce stamp, will be available in 2019 in a coil.

The stamp features eight graphic top hats in Uncle Sam's signature style, with red and white vertical stripes above a blue band with a white star and a gray brim. Beneath each hat is an oval shape representing a face, each in a different shade, meant to suggest the ethnic and racial diversity of the United States. Art director Antonio Alcalá designed the stamp. The words "ADDITIONAL OUNCE" on this stamp indicate its usage value.

Customers may purchase other stamps and philatelic products through the Postal Store at usps.com/shop, by calling 800-STAMP24 (800-782-6724), by mail through *USA Philatelic* catalog or at Post Office locations nationwide.

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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