



# St. Regis Mohawk Tribe

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## NEWS RELEASE

For release:  
Seskéha / August 19, 2013

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### **Third Round of Winners Announced for the St. Lawrence River Seasonal Photography Contest**

**Akwesasne** – The St. Lawrence River Area of Concern (AOC) program at the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe (SRMT) and the Friends of the Robert Moses State Park (RMSP) Nature Center hosted their third round (summer) of seasonal photography, July 12-26. This contest resulted in many photos submitted promoting the St. Lawrence River, under a summer sun. Judging took place on August 1<sup>st</sup> with representatives from the SRMT Environment Division and Public Information Office, and the Friends of the RMSP Nature Center Board of Directors.

First place winner, Adrian McDonald was the recipient of the \$25 gift certificate donated by Twin Leaf for his photograph, “Summer Sunset”. This photo splendidly captured many beneficial uses the river graciously provides. “I was riding my bike along Coles Creek State Park, and thought, now that is a perfect moment. The moon was coming up, the sun going down, and so much natural wildlife activity. There were about 15 different ways to enjoy the river in that moment, it was very peaceful” said Mr. McDonald of his winning photograph.

The second place winner was Mary Lisa Whitton who received the Better Bird Watching DVD donated by the Friends of the RMSP Nature Center for, “Day is Done”, capturing the setting sun and a quiet diving dock. One can imagine the sounds of kids laughing and splashing with swimming fun, during the more active parts of the day.

Third place winner Derek Cook received the Friends of the RMSP Nature Center T-shirt for “Sea’ing and Doo’ing on the St. Lawrence,” displaying a uniquely captured view of the International bridge in the rear view mirror of a Sea doo.

“It is a pleasure and honor, to see the beauty and significance of the river environment captured through the eyes of others,” said Jessica Jock, SRMT St. Lawrence River AOC, Program Manager. “Our Program spends a significant amount of time on the data details and study results behind the scenes, the photos bring the river to life and the meaning of its habitat to community members.”

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Framed winning photos can be viewed at the St. Lawrence Centre Mall in Massena, NY. The next, and final seasonal contest round, will begin in the fall, September 13-27. Winning photos that meet the resolution requirements will also be displayed at a new Great Lakes Exhibit at Shedd Aquarium <http://www.sheddaquarium.org/5057.html> in collaboration with SRMT Environment Division.

For more details about the St. Lawrence River Seasonal Photography Contest please go to the SRMT Environment Division website <http://www.srmtenv.org>, or Friends of the RMSP website <http://www.massenanaturecenter.org>. Also, check out the new St. Lawrence River AOC Facebook page where you can find updated information on projects and events going on in the St. Lawrence River AOC area, and the Friends of the RMSP Nature Center, Inc., Facebook page where you can sign up for fun outdoor activities.

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The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Council is the duly elected and federally recognized government of the Saint Regis Mohawk People.

Photos:

Image 1: First place: 'Summer Sunset' by Adrian McDonald



Image 2: Second place: 'Day is Done' by Mary Lisa Whitton



Image 3: Third place: 'Sea'ing and 'Doo'ing on the St. Lawrence' by Derek Cook

