



C O N N E C T I N G



F L I G H T

Oklahoma photographers look to the skies for
this portfolio of breathtaking avian imagery.

BRANDEN LOVE



Bobwhite quail have been found to
have a wide range of vocalizations,
used to communicate about mating,
predator activity, and feeding.

Right: Yellow-throated warblers are typically seen in Oklahoma during their spring-to-fall migration.



MIKE FUHR

Below: This juvenile yellow-crowned night heron will gain its full plumage when it's about three years old.



MIKE FUHR

The Bewick's wren, a spirited singer during mating season, is found throughout Oklahoma all year.



LARRY D. BROWN



The Louisiana waterthrush is one of a variety of species that can be seen at Lake Thunderbird State Park near Norman, making it a favorite destination for local birders.

STEPHEN OSTHUN



LARRY D. BROWN



STEPHEN OSTHUN

Top: Rufous hummingbirds are known for the iridescent orange patches of feathers on their throats. This juvenile has yet to develop his full plumage.

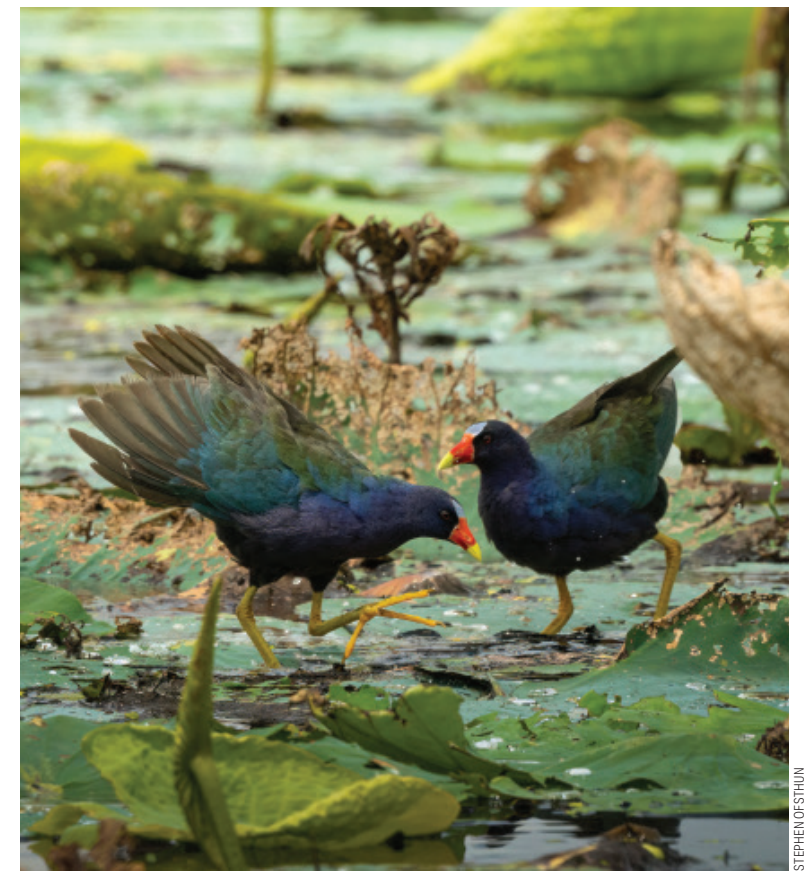
Left: The painted bunting is best known for being Oklahoma's most colorful avian resident.



MIKE FUHR

Right: Purple gallinules are sometimes seen migrating through southeastern Oklahoma. This pair was spotted at the Red Slough Wildlife Management Area near Idabel.

Below: The great blue heron makes its home in water-plentiful areas around Oklahoma.



STEPHEN OFSTHUN



LARRY D. BROWN

Top: Despite its name, the electric-hued prairie warbler prefers to reside in forested areas.

Left: Although it has a blazing noggin, the red-bellied woodpecker is named for a light red wash of color on its belly that is often hard to glimpse.



BRENT FUCHS



The great egret—the official symbol of the National Audubon Society—can be seen all year in Oklahoma. Spotting one is considered a good omen.

MIKE FUHR

Right: Turkey vultures, such as this bunch perched at the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve near Pawhuska, are a familiar sight in all parts of the state. Often unfairly maligned, vultures play a crucial role in healthy ecosystems.



BRENT FUCHS

Below: Great horned owls, like all owls, can see things with about 5 percent of the light needed by human eyes.



DOUG SCHWARTZ