

Schmidt honored in Youth Photo Contest

Article & photo by Velma Schmidt, South Texas Border Chapter

South Texas Border Chapter Texas Master Naturalist (TMN) Robert “Zeke” Schmidt placed second in his age division during the recently concluded Southern Exposures Youth Photo Contest with his entry of a ribbon snake taken at the Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center. The annual contest sponsored by the Valley Land Fund premieres the work of young photographic artists from throughout the Rio Grande Valley.

Robert has participated in the competition for five consecutive years—each time placing as a finalist. As a seventh-grader, Robert received a perfect score and highest honors. Robert credits his love for photography and nature to his parents and his participation in Scouting. He has attained the rank of Eagle –Scouting’s highest youth honor.

Robert recently began his senior year in high school at South Texas ISD World Scholars in Edinburg, where he lives with his family. He continues to be involved with scouting as Junior Assistant Scoutmaster in Troop 1927 chartered by Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Edinburg.

Robert enjoys being outside photographing wildlife whenever time permits and continues to educate and inform his community about the beauty and diversity of nature within the Valley through his continued involvement as a Texas Master Naturalist.



TMN South Texas Border Chapter member Robert “Zeke” Schmidt with award-winning photo of a ribbon snake.