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## Bird is the Word: Exhibit opens at Benton Museum

Nicole Zappone @TheChronicleCT

May 27, 2026



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Connecticut State Museum of Natural History



STORRS — The William Benton Museum of Art at the UConn Storrs campus has opened a new exhibition highlighting the avian collections of the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History.

In collaboration with the museum, this summer exhibit will run until Sunday, August 2.

Along with this exhibit, the museum will offer other opportunities for the public to take a closer look at birds during a scientific illustration workshop and at its annual Museum Day.

The exhibit will feature more than 30 preserved specimens and offer an intimate look at bird diversity, showcasing examples of bird prey, perching birds, ducks and other waterfowl, along with an emu specimen and an example of the Museum's trademark owl.

The exhibit, titled "Birds Up Close," will explore the history of early collecting practices and the role of natural history collections in shaping scientific knowledge.

Visitors will be able to see how specimens were gathered, studied and preserved, and how the museum practices have changed over time. The exhibit will also feature rare birds from around the world and have been held by the CSMNH as part of the F. Eugene Allen collection.

"Birds Up Close" will be on exhibit at the William Benton Museum of Art, located at the University of Connecticut, 245 Glenbrook Road in Storrs.

The galleries and museum shop are open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m. Admission to the Benton is always free, and donations are welcome.

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