

## **The Bird Cube**

In 1831, John James Audubon captivated America while exploring birds in Florida to illustrate his book, *Birds of America*. What would Audubon think about our contemporary environmental concerns? He may have been pleased with advances in scientific research on climate change, migration, and evolutionary factors. He certainly would have been disappointed with extinctions and habitat loss. Since the 1930s, the number of breeding pairs of wading birds has declined by approximately 90 percent. Clearly, the ecosystem has struggled to support viable populations of select birds for several decades.

But there is hope. Fast forward to 2021, when the State of Florida enacted the Florida Wildlife Corridor Act, The Act was created to conserve critical natural ecosystems and working landscapes. The Bird Cube displays select species known to utilize these newly protected wildlife corridors.