State Bird-- Western Meadowlark

The Western Meadowlark (Sturnella neglecta) was designated the state bird by legislative action in 1929. The western meadowlark is abundant throughout the state and is note for its joyous songs. The birds are eight to 11 inches long and are brown and streaked above, with bright yellow underparts interrupted by a bold crescent of black across the upper breast and white outer tail feathers. The birds nest on the ground in grassy fields or meadows and feed largely on insects.

Source: Nebraska Blue Book 2018-19



Hildreth Meiere designed this image of the western meadowlark for the marble tile floor mosaic in the rotunda of the Nebraska State Capitol.