

2022 WILD WONDER NATURE JOURNALING CONFERENCE

SPEAKERS AND TEACHERS

Note: Current as of 7/1/22. This list is subject to change.

Sunni (Sun) Brown is the Innovator-in-Residence at MURAL and the Founder of Sunni Brown Ink. She's a best-selling author, keynote speaker, expert facilitator, and an American Zen-chaplain-in-training. Sun was named one of the "100 Most Creative People in Business" and one of the "10 Most Creative People on Twitter" by Fast Company. Her TED talk has drawn over 1.6 million views and her work on visual thinking has been featured in every major U.S. publication including *The New York Times*, *The New York Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Time Magazine*, *WIRED*, and *Entrepreneur*, as well as being featured twice on CBS Sunday Morning and on The TODAY Show. Her two globally-beloved books—*Gamestorming: A Playbook for Innovators, Rulebreakers and Changemakers*, and *The Doodle Revolution: Unlock the Power to Think Differently*—have been translated into 25+ languages. She is widely credited with the rise of visual thinking as a tool for deeper inquiry. Sun is currently hard at work on Gamestorming 2.0 for digital facilitation environments and is designing a system for Collaborative Intelligence with MURAL as it relates to the future of work. <https://www.sunnibrown.com>

Bethan Burton is an artist and environmental educator. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Ecology and Conservation Biology and a Master of Environment majoring in Education for Sustainability. She teaches nature journaling to all age groups and is passionate about connecting people with the natural world. She lives in Brisbane, Australia, where she takes daily backyard expeditions with her five-year-old nature journal buddy. Bethan is the founder of International Nature Journaling Week, an event designed to celebrate nature journaling and bring people together as a world-wide community with a shared passion. She is also the host of Journaling With Nature Podcast, a show that explores the joys of nature journaling through interviews with nature lovers from around the world. <https://www.journalingwithnature.com>

Robin Lee Carlson is an author and natural science illustrator with a particular interest in how landscapes and ecological communities change over time. Her work is based on observing and documenting the world around her as it unfolds. How are we moved by the places we find ourselves in? When we experience a place, how do we change it? How does it change us? Robin started out as a biologist and spent sixteen years managing projects to track and analyze stream habitat restoration projects for salmon and steelhead. As an illustrator, Robin has created artwork for groups including the UC Natural Reserve System, the Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County, Caltrans, and the Oregon Marine Reserves Partnership. She is currently focused on ecosystem dynamics after disruption, especially how species and habitats respond to wildfire and changing fire regimes in the West. Her book, *The Cold Canyon Fire Journals: Green Shoots and Silver Linings in the Ashes*, will be published by Heyday Books in August 2022. Robin's work can be found on her website (<https://robinleecarlson.com/>) and Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/anthropocenesketchbook/>).

Lara Call Gastinger has her undergraduate degree in Biology from the University of Virginia and a master's degree in plant ecology from Virginia Tech. She has been awarded two gold medals (2007, 2018) at the Royal Horticultural Society Botanical Art shows in London and her work is in the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Her artwork appears in the latest *Peterson's Field Guide to Mushrooms* and *ASBA's Botanical Art Techniques Handbook*. She teaches online and at the University of Virginia Landscape Architecture Department with a class that unites both plant identification and ways to artistically document plants. She has gained international recognition with the creation of her “perpetual journal” that has inspired naturalists around the world to start their own. <https://www.laracallgastinger.com>

Mike Yoshiaki Daikubara began carrying a sketchbook in 2000 to be able to communicate better and faster at his design day job. Now he sketches daily to see, understand, and enjoy! He is the author of several books including *Sketch Now, Think Later, Jump into Urban Sketching with Limited Time, Tools and Techniques*. A Japanese-American, Mike grew up in Tokyo and New York City attending an International school with kids from all over the world. He is an industrial designer and graphic designer with more than 20 years of experience in various industries such as cosmetics, consumer electronics, bath/kitchen products, medical and the juvenile industry, designing products for infants and toddlers. <http://www.daikubara.com>

British artist **Tony Foster's** work is based on his journeys into the world's wild places—rainforests and deserts, mountains and canyons, the Arctic and the Tropics. For more than forty years, he has been traveling on foot or by canoe, kayak or raft, making camp, and painting his often large-scale watercolors on site. His paintings describe not only the landscape he is living in, but also his observations of flora and fauna, geology, ethnography, and history. The finished works incorporate “souvenirs” of maps, written diaries, and symbolic objects that he finds or constructs. Tony Foster has had many solo exhibitions, including at the Smithsonian Natural History Museum, the California Academy of Sciences, the Yale Center for British Art, and the Royal Watercolour Society, London. *Exploring Beauty: Watercolour Diaries from the Wild and Sacred Places: Watercolour Diaries from the American Southwest* are two complete Journeys on exhibit at The Foster, a museum in Palo Alto, California. <https://www.thefoster.org/>

Born and raised in Northern California, **Fiona Gillogly**, age 18, is a birder, nature journaler, artist, naturalist, writer, actor, musician, composer, and advocate for nature. A six-time recipient of the **Central Valley Bird Club Youth Scholarship**, Fiona volunteers her time with research and conservation including bird surveys, nest box monitoring, bird banding, and bird walks. She has published essays and illustrations in the ABA's **Birding magazine**, on the **Children & Nature Network's Finding Nature News Blog**, on **NatureJournalingWeek.com**, and **elsewhere**. She has taught classes and given talks for many organizations, including the Exploratorium in San Francisco, Environment for the Americas/World Migratory Bird Day, the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory, Richardson Bay Audubon, the Point Reyes Birding Festival, and the Central Valley Bird

Symposium. Fiona is one of several naturalists who contributed interviews and nature journal pages to the book *How to Teach Nature Journaling* by John Muir Laws and Emilie Lygren (Heyday, 2020). Fiona is also an artist with a line of blank greeting cards featuring her nature art. Visit her website for links to her writing and talks, sample nature journal pages, and her art cards.
www.fionasongbird.com

Catherine Hamilton began drawing at age two, and began birding at age seven with her father. She started her first birding sketchbook at that time. Mysteriously, her parents encouraged both art and birding, and today she melds those two pursuits into her career. She has been a professional artist for 35 years, and a professional birding guide for the past 12 years. Catherine gives keynote speeches and workshops at ornithological events around the U.S. and the world. She also leads birding and field sketching tours around the globe. As the ZEISS U.S. Ambassador for Birding, she has had some incredible experiences, and very much enjoys her role as a liaison between conservation projects and wider audiences. From a groundbreaking trip to Nagaland, India, to witness the unbelievable migration spectacle of the Amur Falcon, to making a short film on the conservation of the Northern Bald Ibis in Morocco, to meeting conservationists and raising funds for communities in Central and South America, she is honored to live a life immersed in birding. Catherine holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the Rhode Island School of Design and a Master of Fine Art from Bennington College. Her paintings and drawings can be found in collections around the world, and her writing and illustrations have been published in the journal *Nature*, the Princeton University Press book *The Warbler Guide*, the Houghton Mifflin book *Good Birders Still Don't Wear White*, *Birding Magazine*, the ABA Blog, the board game series *Evolution*, and more. Her latest work has just been released in the *Birding Guide to the Greater Pasadena Area*. <https://www.instagram.com/birdspot/>

Roseann Beggy Hanson is one of the organizers of the Wild Wonder Nature Journaling Conference, and the author of the books *Nature Journaling for a Wild Life* and *Master of Field Arts*. She is a naturalist, artist, and explorer who has been keeping science-based nature and field notes journals for more than 40 years. She studied journalism and ecology and evolutionary biology at the University of Arizona, and has worked in the American Southwest, Mexico, and East Africa as a conservationist, naturalist, and writer. She has authored a dozen natural history and outdoor books, including the Southern Arizona Nature Almanac with her husband Jonathan Hanson, and San Pedro River: A Discovery Guide, both of which include her nature journal data and art. Roseann is a lapidary, metalsmith, and watercolor artist, and for several years she has worked on significant cultural heritage projects, including long-term work with the South Rift Land Owner's Association – an all-Maasai cultural preservation group. Her diverse work has involved tens of thousands of miles of overland driving experience on four continents, from the deep backcountry of Mexico's Sierra Madre to Ethiopia's Omo Valley, and from Arctic Canada to the deserts of Australia's Red Centre. Roseann enjoys integrating conservation, science, outdoor skills, and cultural awareness into her work. Currently she is coordinator for the trans-disciplinary Art & Science Program at the 115-year-old Desert Laboratory on Tumamoc Hill, part of the University of Arizona College of Science. Through the Desert Lab and other institutions she teaches nature writing and nature

journaling and field notes for biologists. She was named a Fellow of both the Explorers Club in the U.S. and the Royal Geographical Society for her conservation and expedition work. You can find her on her website at <http://www.exploringoverland.com/fieldarts> on social media at <https://www.facebook.com/roseannhansonexplore> or <https://www.instagram.com/roseannhanson>

Timothy Michael Joe is an American self taught, representational artist from the rural southern town of Greensboro, Alabama. He participated in his first art festival in his mid teens and has since completed many commissioned pieces. Timothy creates art based on themes associated with the southern rural culture of loving God, family, and heritage. He has experience with many mediums over the years including graphite, calligraphy, charcoal, gouache, acrylic, oil paints, and soft pastels. He enjoys using his gift to educate, uplift, and encourage. Over the years, Timothy produced artwork for galleries and commissioned work. His love for nature started him teaching birds and nature journaling with gouache. He now makes his own watercolor journals. Timothy is a mechanical engineer and a third-generation black angus farmer. The Joe Black Angus Farm rests on 200 acres going back to the early 1900s. Today the Joe Angus farm hosts bird and nature tours spreading the word of land stewardship. His work will be on display in the Honoring the Past, Envisioning the Future Art Exhibit for Black History Month. Timothy will showcase art inspired by the rural culture in the Black Belt region of Alabama. <https://www.timothymjoe.com>

Oklahoma artist **Debby Kaspari** has been drawing, painting, and sketching from nature in places near and far since the early 1980s. She studied illustration and design at California College of the Arts, and has taught drawing techniques in a range of media while working as an illustrator and gallery artist. Kaspari has contributed drawing tutorials to Artists Magazine, illustrated articles and covers for *Bird Watchers Digest*, and wrote and illustrated the award-winning "Oklahoma Sketchbook" column for *Oklahoma Today Magazine*. Her field sketches and field-inspired paintings have been shown in the Museum of American Bird Art, the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, and the Woodson Museum's annual Birds in Art exhibition. She is a Signature Member of the Society of Animal Artists. Her blog, Drawing the Motmot, is a portfolio of field sketches, gallery paintings, and musings from the rainforest and beyond. <https://drawingthemotmot.com/>

Working from her studio in Northern California's Santa Cruz Mountains, **Maryjo Koch** is widely regarded among the world's most accomplished naturalist painters. Largely self-taught, Maryjo began her career doing renderings as an environmental designer, but soon returned to her childhood fascination with the world of nature. Maryjo is an artist whose work combines authority and enchantment, and her paintings and private commissions are featured in galleries and museums from North America to Asia. She has illustrated 22 books that are treasured and collected by people all around the world. Both *Pond Lake River Sea* and *Dragonfly Beetle Butterfly Bee* received the Scientific American Book Award. Maryjo began teaching nature painting at both the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco and at Monterey's renowned Monterey Bay Aquarium. She now conducts workshops online and her studio in the Santa Cruz Mountains in California. <https://maryjokoch.com>

Mattias Lanas grew up in Santiago, Chile, where family visits to the seashore fostered a love for natural history. After studying Earth Systems at Stanford, he completed the Science Illustration Certificate Graduate Program at California State University, Monterey Bay. In fall 2019, he headed to Paris on a Fulbright Scholarship to work on a botanical illustration project at the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle (France's Natural History Museum). Today, Mattias lives in Bogotá, Colombia, where he spends his time “botanizing” and searching for rare plants, working for and collaborating with The Foster Museum, teaching art classes, leading field sketching trips, and working as a freelance illustrator. When not in the studio, Mattias can be found reading about passionflowers or insects, or doing pottery! <https://www.mattiaslanas.com/>

John Muir Laws is a naturalist, artist, and educator who has dedicated his life to connecting people to nature through art and science. From an early age his parents instilled in him a deep love and respect for nature. Over the years, that love has grown to a commitment to stewardship and a passion to share the delight of exploring nature with others. As both a scientist and artist, Laws has developed interdisciplinary programs that train students to observe with rigor and to refine techniques to become intentionally curious. He teaches nature study and natural history workshops that incorporate illustration and scientific note-taking as a means to greater observation, memory and curiosity. Laws is the founder and host of the Nature Journal Club, a family-friendly, intergenerational community that connects with nature through art and field journaling. Each week, he leads free online nature drawing workshops for an international community of nature artists. The entire program is free and supported by donations and grants. His latest book, *How to Teach Nature Journaling* (coauthored with Emilie Lygren, 2020), is a standards-based curriculum that merges science, language arts, and visual arts through teaching students to keep a nature journal. This book is also available as a free downloadable PDF for educators and has been used all over the world in schools, science centers, home school communities, camps, and informal science education programs. Laws has written and illustrated several other books including *The Laws Guide to Nature Drawing and Journaling* (2016), *The Laws Guide to Drawing Birds* (2012), *Sierra Birds: a Hiker's Guide* (2004), and *The Laws Guide to the Sierra Nevada* (2007). He is a regular contributor to *Bay Nature* magazine with his “Naturalists Notebook” column. Learn more here [:https://johnmuirlaws.com/biography/](https://johnmuirlaws.com/biography/)

Artist and educator **Jean Mackay** has been exploring and sketching nature for more than 25 years. Working in all kinds of settings, from tide pools to farm fields to her own backyard in Upstate New York, Jean's journals reflect a keen eye for detail and profound sense of wonder. She is the author/illustrator of *The Nature Explorer's Sketchbook*, published in 2020. Jean offers workshops both online and in person. Discover the ordinary, yet extraordinary things that she encounters close to home and farther afield on her blog, Drawn In; <https://jeanmackayart.com>

Akshay Mahajan works as a hardware engineer most of the week, which means his days are usually packed with attempting to make sense of the unknown unknowns, churning plausible solutions, and

then trying to diagram his thoughts in front of his team. Nature journaling for him is no different. The unique structure and mechanism of nature starts a series of cognitive contraptions, which then become fun to connect when he dumps it all out on his journal. "There is just so much going on in nature, that I am unconsciously stimulated to capture as much information as I can through the means of text, arrows, diagrams, color keys, memory associations, or even just fun cartoons—I love cartoons!" says Akshay. "And not everything on the page needs to match what the internet says: for me, simple guess-work of why things are they way they are is just as fascinating as the real thing!" You can find Akshay online at:

<https://instagram.com/nature.doodles.by.inkventor?igshid=NWRhNmQxMjQ=>

<https://instagram.com/harlequin.project.by.inkventor?igshid=NWRhNmQxMjQ=>

<https://instagram.com/taoc.by.inkventor?igshid=NWRhNmQxMjQ=>

Kristin Meuser's watercolor nature journaling workshops provide students with hands-on skill-building exercises that help them "see" and render the individual colors, shapes, and textures of our beloved natural world. Her workshops are intended for people with all levels of experience. Kristin has been painting the land in various mediums for over 35 years. Many years ago her love of nature lead her to the Sierra Nevada Field Campus, where she studied nature journaling with John Muir Laws, watercolor with Andie Thrans, and writing with Sarah Rabkin. Her career as a graphic designer lends her journal pages a sense of structured variety and a cohesive overall effect. She has been teaching for the past 10 years privately and at art and retreat centers in California and Nevada. Over the past three years she has adapted her teaching to 3-hour online workshops. Her work is found in private collections; it has been shown regionally; and has been represented by the Ansel Adams Gallery in Yosemite National Park. <https://www.naturemeuse.com>

Yvea Moore is a lifelong lover of nature as well as a long-term restoration ecology enthusiast and volunteer. When she was 13, she started volunteering to help restore Crissy Field, a local marsh in California's Bay Area, and she has been hooked ever since. When she was 16, she started doing annual birthday beach cleanups, a tradition that continues to this day. Nature journaling has been the natural fit for these favorite activities, the missing piece that makes her a better restoration volunteer, naturalist, and person in general. You might also know her as the facilitator of Pencil Miles & Chill, as well as John Muir Laws' regular co-host for his weekly Zoom classes. When she is not nature journaling or playing in the soil, she is raising her very rambunctious 11-year-old son to be mindful and caring of the nature on our planet. <https://www.instagram.com/yveaeaton/>

Rosemary Mosco makes books and cartoons that connect people with the natural world. Her Bird and Moon nature comics won the National Cartoonists Society's award for Best Online Short Form Comic and were the subject of an award-winning museum exhibit. She makes best-selling science books for kids and adults and gives keynotes at birding festivals. She's written and drawn for *The New York Times*, Audubon, PBS kids' Elinor Wonders Why, *Ranger Rick*, and more. Her typical range includes the US northeast and parts of eastern Canada, where she enjoys birding, botanizing, and butterflying. Her favorite glacial landform is the esker. <https://rosemarymosco.com>

Melinda Nakagawa is a naturalist, biologist, and educator living on the central California coast. She loves taking people into nature and guiding them in activities that reawaken the senses, develop the ability to see the unseen, spark wonder and curiosity, and deepen a relationship with the natural world. For the past 18 years, she has worked as a marine biologist, educator, and naturalist in Monterey Bay, California. She offers classes in nature journaling, birding and nature awareness, online and in person, to students and adult learners. <https://sparkinnature.com>

Marley Peifer is a nature journaling educator, explorer, and YouTuber with hundreds of hours of nature journaling content online. He strives for a reintegration of art, science, and culture—a synthesis that he develops in his journaling. Marley believes that the nature journaling practice has the potential to revolutionize and heal our relationships with nature, ourselves, and each other. <https://marleypeifer.com>

Mike Rohde is a designer and the author of two bestselling books: *The Sketchnote Handbook* and *The Sketchnote Workbook*. He evangelizes sketchnoting and visual thinking literacy around the world. He's a principal designer and visualizer at Johnson Controls. That team helps groups define problems and imagine new solutions using human-centered, design thinking principles. Mike illustrated the bestselling books *REWORK*, *REMOTE*, *The \$100 Startup*, and *The Little Book of Talent*. He lives in Milwaukee, Wisconsin with his wife and 3 children. <https://rohdesign.com>

Max Romey is a dyslexic Alaskan artist who found his voice in watercolors. His work as an environmental videographer takes him all over the globe, but his true passion is found on Alaskan trails and in the communities they bring together. <http://maxromeyproductions.com/trailboundalaska>

Kate Rutter is a visual journaler, sketchnoter and designer with an experimental and rambunctious visual practice. She believes observation is a window to the natural world, and advocates for bold experimentation as a path to wonder and curiosity. Kate teaches at the California College of the Arts, hosts the East Bay Sketchers Meetup group, has illustrated a few books, and once journaled the first 100 days of an avocado pit's growth. She holds a BA in studio art from Wellesley College. Kate tweets and instas at [@katerutter](#), and blogs at www.intelleto.com

Mark Simmons is a freelance illustrator and cartoonist, specializing in comics and storyboarding. His past teaching adventures include teaching figure drawing at the Academy of Art University, and classes in cartooning, sketching, and wildlife illustration for SF Bay Area institutions such as the Nature Journal Club, the San Francisco Zoo, and the Cartoon Art Museum. For more info, see <http://www.ultimatemark.com>

Bill Singleton is a fine artist and illustrator living in Tucson, Arizona. He has been painting for more than 50 years in both traditional and digital media, and has painted everything from

stamp-sized landscapes to 50-foot-long murals. For the last 20 years, he has focused on the plants, animals, and people of the Sonoran Desert. <http://billsingleton.com>

Born in the U.S. to immigrant parents from China, **Amy Tan** rejected her mother's expectations that she become a doctor and concert pianist. She chose to write fiction instead. Her novels are *The Joy Luck Club*, *The Kitchen God's Wife*, *The Hundred Secret Senses*, *The Bonesetter's Daughter*, *Saving Fish from Drowning*, and *The Valley of Amazement* (2013), all *New York Times* bestsellers. She is also the author of a memoir, *The Opposite of Fat*, two children's books, *The Moon Lady* and *Sagwa*, *The Chinese Siamese Cat* and numerous articles for magazines, including *The New Yorker*, *Harper's Bazaar*, and *National Geographic*. She is also the author of the short story "Rules for Virgins" published in e-book format (Byliner Original). Her work has been translated into 35 languages, from Spanish, French, and Finnish to Chinese, Arabic, and Hebrew. Amy Tan's most recent book is a memoir about writing titled *Where the Past Begins: A Writer's Memoir*. Amy was the subject of the documentary, "Amy Tan: Unintended Memoir," which debuted at the 2021 Sundance Film Festival and premiered on the PBS series *American Masters*. Amy is also an avid nature journaler and artist and shares her pages under the name Enmei Tan on the Nature Journal Club Facebook page. Amy wrote the introduction to *How to Teach Nature Journaling* (by John Muir Laws and Emilie Lygren). *The Backyard Bird Chronicles*, a collection of her nature journal pages and bird drawings, is forthcoming from Knopf in 2024. <http://www.amytan.net>

Vitor Velez, age 27, was born and raised in Lisbon, Portugal, and he now lives in Poznań, Poland. With a master's degree in architecture, he presently works in a 3D graphics studio but considers himself a wildlife and nature illustrator. "I honestly think I've been fascinated and obsessed with animals ever since I was a small kid," he says. "And I can say pretty much the same about painting. I've probably learned how to draw by copying the illustrations of my childhood wildlife encyclopedias. With time, I came to realize it was only when painting animals that I felt an incomparable joy and happiness—a true sense of completeness. Today, I seek to interpret through my artworks the 'stories' that the animals I paint can't express by themselves in our language. In the world we live in today, so marked by a constant rush, I genuinely believe we just need to stop and observe what surrounds us for enough time to start noticing the marvelous treasures that Nature has to present us—colours, patterns, details—and thus fall in love with them." <https://www.instagram.com/theheadlessketcher/>

Karen Romano Young is a writer, illustrator, comic creator, polar explorer, and deep-sea diver. In 2020, her 30th children's book was published — *A Girl, A Raccoon, and the Midnight Moon* (named an Amazon Best Book of 2020 So Far). Karen's work as a science communicator has taken her on expeditions all over the world, and inspired the creation of her science comic series #AntarcticLog. After publishing two graphic novels, *Doodlebug* and *Stuck in the Middle (of Middle School)*, Karen created her first science comic aboard an ice breaker in the Arctic Circle. *Humanimal Doodles* was published monthly in the science magazine *Odyssey*. In 2017, under the National Science Foundation's Antarctic Artists and Writers program, Karen debuted her weekly climate comic #AntarcticLog,

which continues today and now encompasses two voyages to Antarctica. Her new project, *I Was a Kid*, is intended to open doors to careers in the sciences for young people. New books about Antarctica, the Galápagos islands, and the deep sea are on their way.

<https://www.karenromanoyoung.com>

Julie Zickefoose lives and works quietly on an 80-acre wildlife sanctuary in the backcountry of Whipple, Ohio. She is a prolific writer and painter, and advising editor to *BWD Magazine*. Her heavily illustrated books include *Natural Gardening for Birds*, *Letters from Eden*, *The Bluebird Effect*, and *Baby Birds: An Artist Looks Into the Nest*. Her latest book is *Saving Jemima: Life and Love With a Hard-Luck Jay*, the intimate story of how an orphaned bird can save a soul.

<http://www.juliezickefoose.com/>