Join us!

Members agree that the Guild is unique in that it provides a caring, worldwide connection with others who generously share scientific illustration techniques and business experiences. You don't have to be a member to visit our website, use the Listserv, ask a question in our general Forum, or purchase our publications, but joining the GNSI does have advantages:

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (think resumé!):

- LEARN: at Guild workshops and courses (some offer credit);
- PARTICIPATE: any way that you can help the Guild is likely to benefit you;
- ⋄ CONNECT: make professional connections, join a Chapter;
- TEACH: present at Guild conferences and workshops;
- OFFICIATE: start a new chapter, or become an officer in an existing one;
- COORDINATE: participate in existing Guild projects, or start a new one.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP:

- The GNSI Journal (in-depth articles on techniques or business practices);
- GNSI news and information by mail and on our website;
- Access to all the features of the GNSI website;
- Traveling Exhibit (membership not required, but an institutional host is);
- ≼ Funding for educational outreach (proposal based);
- * Available at reduced cost to members:
- † Guild events (conferences, workshops);
- ‡ Guild publications (visit the GNSI Store on our website, www.gnsi.org);
- ‡ Self-promotion: advertise your portfolio art at discount rates with Science-Art.com.

Membership options:

The Guild offers two membership categories:

- † Professional Membership
 Full benefits plus printed Journals and
 newsletters/informational mailings;
- † "Green" Electronic
 Professional Membership
 Full benefits; all publications available online.

Look inside for details and full list of benefits, or stop by online at www.gnsi.org



GNS!

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Front panel: Rubus discolor - blackberry, ©Susan McDonough; watercolor

This panel: Upper: Bullfrog Skeletal System, dorsal view ©Ikumi Kayama; b&w line

Lower:Nesting Baltimore Oriole, ©Cynthia Belcher; pen and ink

Left panel: Spring Azure Butterfly ©Nicolle Rager Fuller; colored pencil

Design and revised text by Britt Griswold, Gail Guth and MaryBeth Hinrichs.

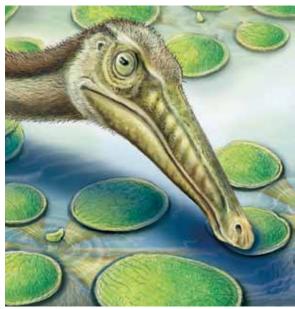


What is a natural science illustrator?

A natural science illustrator is an artist who works in the service of science, creating images of natural subjects and complex processes, seeking to teach, inform, and understand the natural world.

The variety of subject matter and need for accuracy demand that the illustrator be proficient in both traditional drawing and painting media as well as in computer rendering techniques. In order for the final rendering to appear lifelike, the illustrator must also have a thorough understanding of the subject.

Beyond technical skill and knowledge and a passion for accuracy, natural science illustrators strive to create images that are beautiful as works of art. A thorough knowledge of artistic technique (design, composition, balance, lighting and mood) is vital to creating illustrations that are both scientifically accurate and artistically elegant.



Fossil Reconstruction: Cobbania corrugata and ornithomimus, @Marjorie Leggitt; digital

Who are we?

The Guild of Natural Science Illustrators, a nonprofit organization of both illustrators and those interested in natural science illustration, was founded in 1969 at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. to provide members with opportunities to meet and share ideas.

OUR GOALS:

- to maintain and encourage high standards of competence and professional ethics by educating our members and the general public;
- ⋄ to foster communication among members.

For a taste of the fellowship and communication among current members of GNSI go to the GNSI website, www.gnsi.org and sign up for the listserv (SciArt-L) and the GNSI Forums. These are friendly, helpful places where you can ask questions and share ideas about natural science illustration.

The listserv is email-based so you must have internet access and an email account to subscribe and participate.



EDUCATION SERIES WORKSHOPS

The Guild also sponsors Education Series workshops in a variety of locations around the United States. These workshops range from a few days to week-long, in-depth explorations of a particular technique or topic. Taught by experienced, highly-skilled instructors, they are invaluable for professional development and insight.

Upper left: Asclepias syriaca, Common Milkweed, ©MaryBeth Hinrichs; pen and ink Above: Bumble Bee Study, ©Karen Johnson; watercolor



2011 Annual Conference attendees focus on Trudy Nicholson's demonstration of scratchboard technique; GNSI members are always eager to share knowledge and information.

Photo ©Gail Guth

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Guild's conference is held every year in a different location around the United States (and occasionally overseas). This is a great opportunity to meet a wide variety of GNSI members, attend presentations or take workshops on wide-ranging topics (from business practices to traditional techniques, all levels of digital illustration, research, advances in natural science studies, and many others), to enjoy the company of like-minded colleagues, and have the opportunity to explore, study and sketch the surrounding areas — often at locations that you would not be able to access as a member of the general public.

Both the conference and workshops are available at discounted rates to GNSI members.



Bird Skeletal and Feather Anatomy, ©Laurie O'Keefe; colored pencil