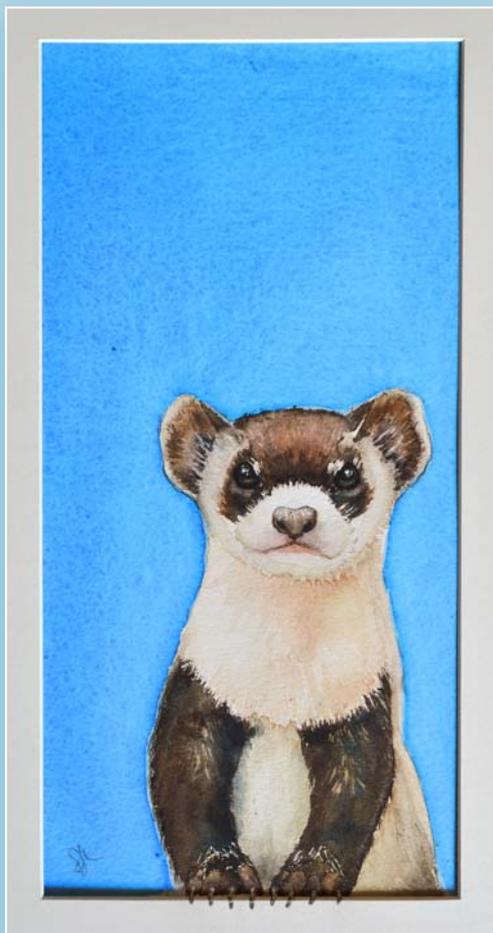


BEAUTY IN WHAT WE SEE



An exhibit of Natural Science Art
by the Finger Lakes Chapter of the
Guild of Natural Science Illustrators

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An exhibit by the members of the
Guild of Natural Science Illustrators
Finger Lakes Chapter

An Introduction

To draw something accurately the artist must look at the subject carefully. This intense observation leads to a great appreciation and admiration of the subject, no matter how common or unusual. Though the subject might not be considered beautiful, this admiration is translated into beauty by the artist's hand.

In this exhibit our members would like to share with you
the beauty in what they see.

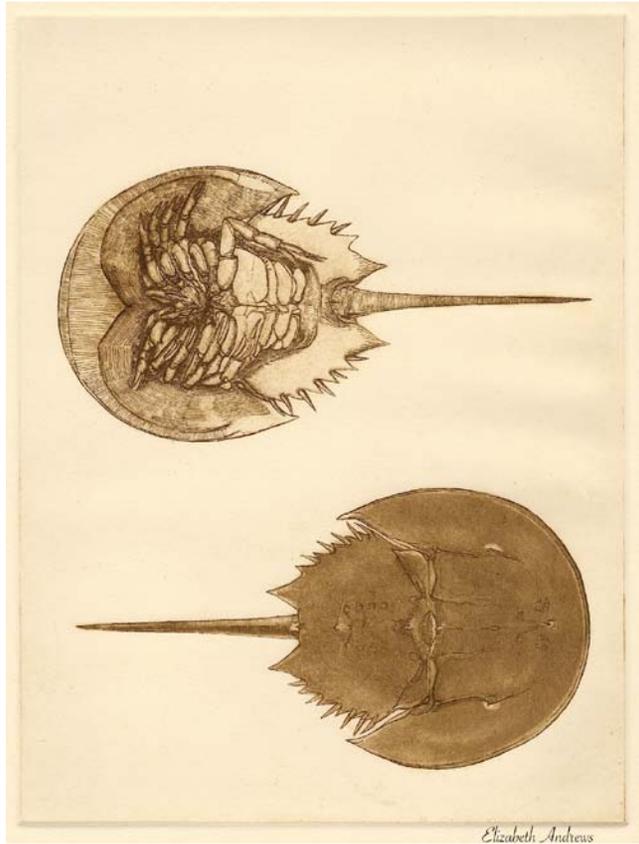
We are brought together by our love of art and natural science and our shared amazement of the wonders on this planet. We are members of the Guild not only because we may create this art in the service of science, but also because we hope our artwork will open the eyes of the viewers to a world they have not noticed before.

Our members create art in many different styles, in many different media. The diversity continues in the range of subjects on view in this exhibit. There is so much in this world to see, appreciate and admire. The common thread is that we learn as we draw and are many times amazed at what we learn. We encourage you to look closely, learn from your observations, and see the beauty.

Contents

Artist	Common name, (<i>Genus species</i>)	Page
Andrews, Elizabeth	Horseshoe Crab (<i>Limulus polyphemus</i>).....	6
Bensadoun, Paula DiSanto.....	Siberian Iris (<i>Iris sibirica</i>)	7
Bensadoun, Paula DiSanto.....	Royal Terns (<i>Thalasseus maximus</i>)	8
Bensadoun, Paula DiSanto.....	Osprey in action (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>)	9
Brahney, Kathleen J.	Mushroom with “Painted Lady” Butterfly (<i>Suillus americanus</i> ; <i>Vanessa cardui</i>)	10
Brahney, Kathleen J.	Woolly Bear Caterpillar (<i>Pyrrharctia isabella</i>).....	11
Coppolino, Marla	Nautilus and Thorny Oyster	12
Corbit, Margaret	Franklinia and Hosta	13
Doucet, Camille	Eastern Meadowlark (<i>Sturnella magna</i>).....	14
Gagliardo, Lucy.....	Harlequin Beetle (<i>Acrocinus longimanus</i>)	15
Gagliardo, Lucy.....	Pattern	16
Gagliardo, Lucy.....	Skunk Cabbage (<i>Symplocarpus foetidus</i>)	17
Halpert, Gretchen Kai	Apple.....	18
Halpert, Gretchen Kai	Northern Diamondback Terrapin.....	19
Halpert, Gretchen Kai	Wild Turkey Feathers	20
Halpert, Gretchen Kai	Raven	21
Hogg, Shirley.....	Black-footed Ferret.....	22
Hogg, Shirley.....	Western Lowland Gorilla	23
Hogg, Shirley.....	Cheetah.....	24
Mobley, Liisa.....	Mountain Goat (<i>Oreamnos americanus</i>).....	25
Monique, Nicole	Evening Grosbeaks in Paper Birch (<i>Coccothraustes vespertinus</i> ; <i>Betula papyrifera</i>) .	26
Nelson, Margaret.....	Leaf Dance (<i>Leiobunum sp.</i>).....	27
Nelson, Margaret.....	One Hosta, Three Flies.....	28
Sandvik, Louisa.....	Common Grackle (<i>Quiscalus Quiscalula</i>)	29

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Title: Horseshoe Crab (*Limulus polyphemus*)

Artist: Elizabeth Andrews

Medium: Aquatint and etching

Image size: 11 3/4 x 8 3/4 — Mat opening: 18 x 15*

This horseshoe crab was discovered along the beaches of Wellfleet Harbor, Cape Cod, Massachusetts. These prehistoric looking creatures have evolved little in over 400 million years! I honour this grit by creating a double intaglio portrait on copper plate; an art form that too has changed little in over 500 years!

* Art sizes throughout the catalog are in inches high x inches wide.



Title: Siberian Iris (*Iris sibirica*)

Artist: Paula DiSanto Bensadoun

Medium: Giclée print of watercolor painting

Frame size: 28 1/2 x 16 — Unframed size: 23 x 14 1/2

The Iris was named after the Greek goddess of the rainbow who trailed a rainbow of light across the sky as she carried messages from the gods to earth. Ponds and streams are good locations for these plants.



Title (above): Royal Terns (*Thalasseus maximus*)
Artist: ©2016 Paula DiSanto Bensadoun
Medium: Giclée print of pastel painting
Frame size: 13 1/4 x 21 3/4 — Unframed size: 7 1/2 x 16

Terns are sea birds and live on coastlines. Here they are shown on a sandy beach in Florida. They winter in the southern U.S. and farther south in Mexico and Panama.

Title (right): Osprey in action (*Pandion haliaetus*)
Artist: ©2016 Paula DiSanto Bensadoun
Medium: Charcoal and pastel
Frame size: 41 x 15 1/2 — Unframed: 6 1/2 x 10 1/2

Also known as the fish hawk, this bird of prey is super equipped to catch its prey, as this painting shows. A big bird, its body measures two feet head to tail and its wings span around five feet. They circle over water looking down to spot fish. When their prey has been spotted they begin their dive from heights of 30 to 100 feet and plunge into the water with their legs rotated forward and claws extended ready to grasp their prey and carry it off to land. They often build stick and sod nests at the top of telephone poles.





Title: Mushroom with “Painted Lady” Butterfly
(*Suillus americanus* with *Vanessa cardui*)

Artist: Kathleen J. Brahney

Medium: Watercolor on paper

Frame size: 14 1/2 x 14 1/2 — Unframed size: 8 1/2” x 9”

The *Suillus* genus of mushrooms is associated with trees in the pine family (Pinaceae) and is most commonly found in temperate locations in the Northern Hemisphere. *Vanessa cardui*, the “Painted Lady” butterfly, enjoys widespread distribution in North America and has a lifespan of two to four weeks.



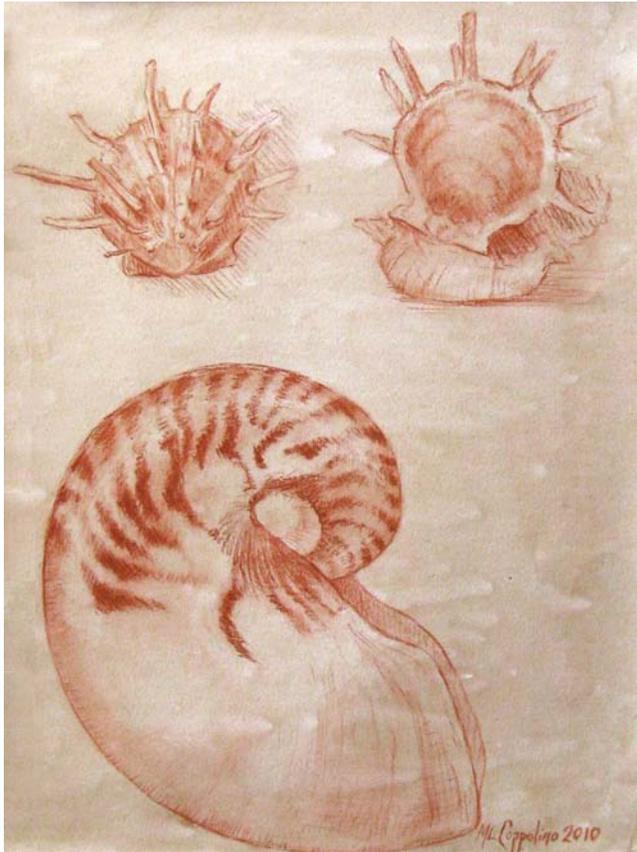
Title: Woolly Bear Caterpillar (*Pyrrharctia isabella*)

Artist: Kathleen J. Brahney

Medium: Watercolor on paper

Frame size: 15 x 11 1/2 — Unframed size: 4 1/2 x 6 1/2

The larva of the Isabella Tiger Moth (*Pyrrharctia isabella*) emerges from the egg in the fall and overwinters in its caterpillar form, the easily recognizable “woolly bear” caterpillar with bands of black and rust. The caterpillar freezes solid during the winter, and survives by producing a cryoprotectant in its tissues.



Title: Nautilus and Thorny Oyster

Artist: Marla Coppolino

Medium: Sanguine conté on prepared paper

Frame size: 20 x 16 — Unframed size: 13 1/2 x 10 1/2

Mollusk shells are an ancient subject for many drawings and paintings. Working from Nautilus and Thorny Oyster shell specimens as models, I rendered them using sanguine colored conté on prepared paper. I prepared the paper using Old Masters technique that includes layers of chalk dust with pigment and rabbit skin glue.



Title: Franklinia and Hosta

Artist: Margaret Corbit

Medium: Enhanced digital screenprint

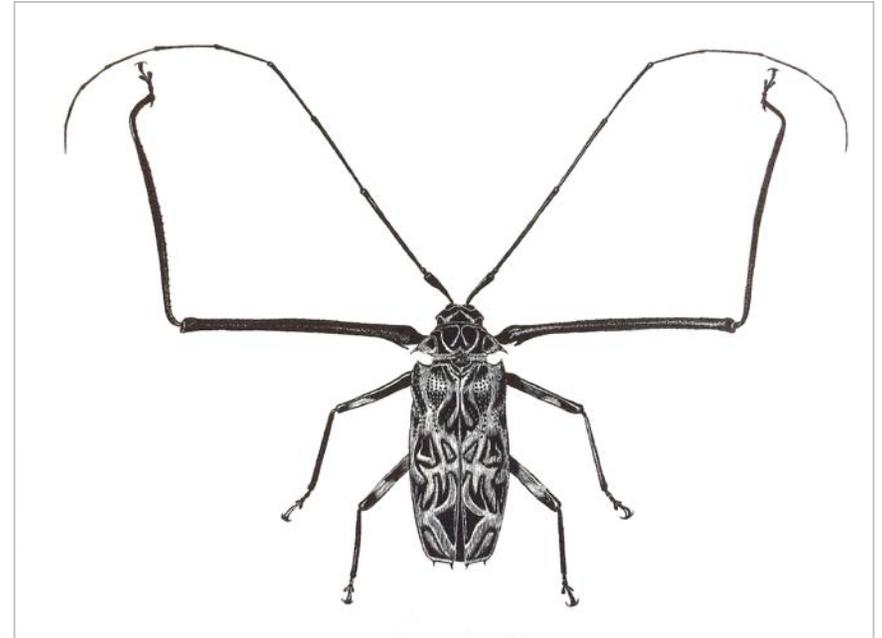
Frame size: 16 x 20 — Unframed size: 14 x 18

Hosta is a popular component of the perennial shade garden. This print captures a moment in time when a perfect blossom from the rare Franklinia tree growing along the Cornell Botanical Garden's Treman Woodland Walk plopped itself on the Hosta below. The Franklinia is a small tree native to the Altamaha River Valley in the state of Georgia.



Title: Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*)
Artist: Camille Doucet
Medium: Watercolor
Frame size: 20 x 16 — Unframed size: 14 1/2 x 10 1/2

Eastern Meadowlarks nest on the ground, each family requiring about 30 acres of open field or grassland. Their rate of decline is 72 percent in 40 years.



Title: Harlequin Beetle (*Acrocinus longimanus*)
Artist: ©2005 Lucy Gagliardo
Medium: Ink on clay coated board
Frame size: 16 x 19 3/4 — Unframed size: 12 x 15 1/2

This large orange and brown beetle can be found in rain forests from southern Mexico down through South America. They are herbivores, living on fungi, other plants and mostly sap from decaying trees. The body of an adult beetle is three inches long.



Title: Pattern

Artist: ©2001 Lucy Gagliardo

Medium: Linocut – Block printing ink on paper

Frame size: 22 1/2 x 16 — Unframed size: 18 x 12

This design was inspired by the pattern and color of the Harlequin Beetle.



Title: Skunk Cabbage (*Symplocarpus foetidus*)

Artist: ©2001 Lucy Gagliardo

Medium: Linocut- block printing ink on paper

Frame size: 13 x 14 1/2 — Artwork: 8 1/2" x 10 1/2"

The skunk cabbage blooms early in the spring, through frozen ground and snow, by generating its own heat. The unpleasant odor it produces attracts the flies and bees that act as pollinators. Skunk cabbage, a native plant, can be found in the wetlands of eastern North America, from Nova Scotia and Southern Quebec west to Minnesota and south to North Carolina and Tennessee.



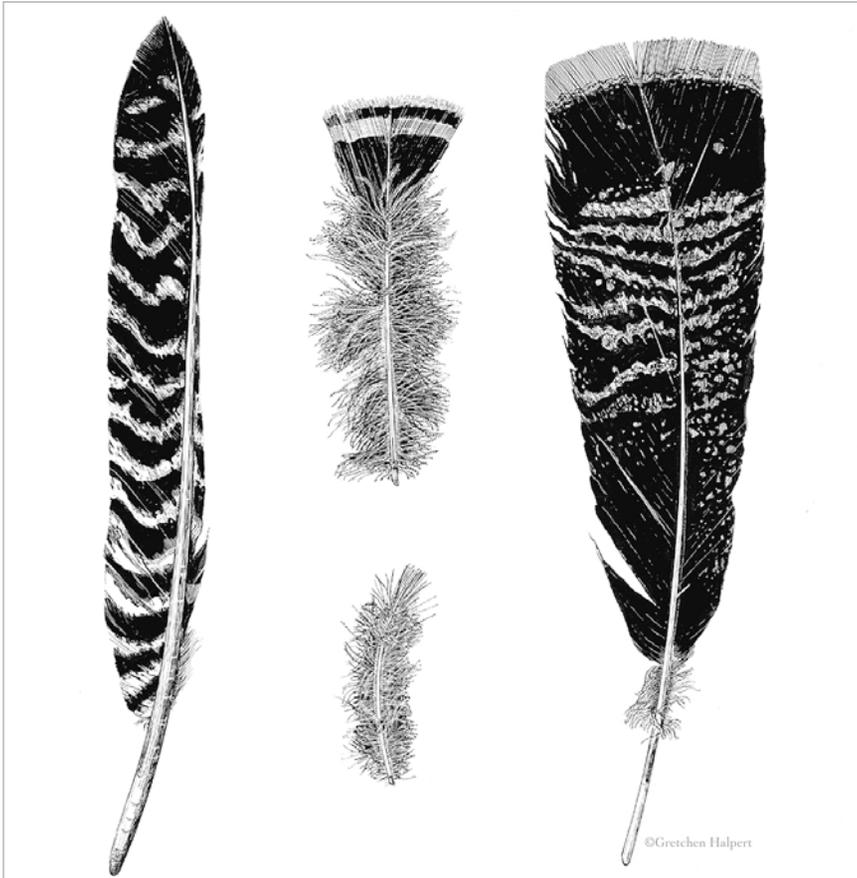
Title: Apple
Artist: Gretchen Kai Halpert
Medium: Graphite
Framed size: 11 x 11 — Unframed size: 7 x 6 1/2

Fields of wild apple varieties are as common in New York State as those of commercial growers. This fruit is from one of those fields, out of deer reach.



Title: Northern Diamondback Terrapin
Artist: Gretchen Kai Halpert
Medium: Giclée of acrylic painting
Frame size: 15 x 19 — Unframed size: 10 1/2 x 15

The diamondback is the only turtle in the world exclusively adapted to life in brackish-water coastal marshes. Its range is thousands of miles long, from New England to Texas, but just a few miles wide, along the coast. The northern diamondback is found from Massachusetts to New Jersey. In nature, a juvenile would not be found with its parent.



Title: Wild Turkey Feathers
Artist: Gretchen Kai Halpert
Medium: Pen and ink
Frame size: 18 x 14 — Unframed size: 13 x 10 1/2

This drawing examines the differences between flight, tail, and down feathers of the Wild Turkey, a bird commonly seen in the Northeast.



Title: Raven
Artist: Gretchen Kai Halpert
Medium: Oil
Frame size: 16 x 16 — Unframed size: 14 1/2 x 14 1/2

Ravens are strong fliers that can hover in place like American kestrels or soar like a hawk. They also like to pick up shiny objects.



Title: Black-footed Ferret
Artist: ©2016 Shirley Hogg
Medium: Watercolour on paper
Frame size: 22 1/2 x 14 1/2 — Unframed size: 16 1/2 x 8 1/2

Black-footed Ferrets were declared extinct in 1979. Then a very small population was found in Wyoming. These were caught and bred in captivity by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and now over 1000 individuals exist in the wild.



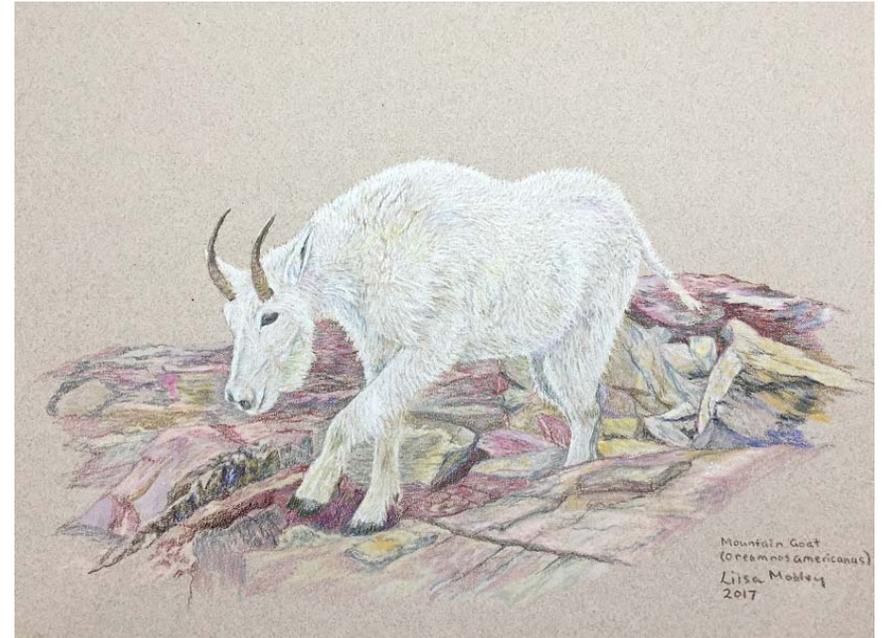
Title: Western Lowland Gorilla
Artist: ©2016 Shirley Hogg
Medium: Watercolour on paper
Frame size: 34 1/2 x 25 — Unframed size: 28 1/2 x 19

All gorillas are endangered due to human encroachment and loss of habitat but the Western Lowland Gorilla is the most plentiful.



Title: Cheetah
Artist: ©2016 Shirley Hogg
Medium: Watercolour on paper
Frame size: 35 x 54 1/2 — Unframed size: 29 x 48 1/2

Cheetahs have become endangered due to rapid shrinking of their territory through human encroachment and logging. Their smaller size makes it difficult for them to compete for prey with lions and hyenas.



Title: Mountain Goat (*Oreamnos americanus*)
Artist: ©2017 Liisa Mobley
Medium: Color pencil
Frame size: 13 x 17— Unframed size: 8 1/2 x 13

Found in the western mountainous areas of the U.S. and Canada, the mountain goat, also called the Rocky Mountain goat, has cloven hooves with grippy foot pads, well-suited for climbing rocky and dangerous mountain heights. I based this drawing on mountain goats I saw and photographed in Glacier National Park in Montana.



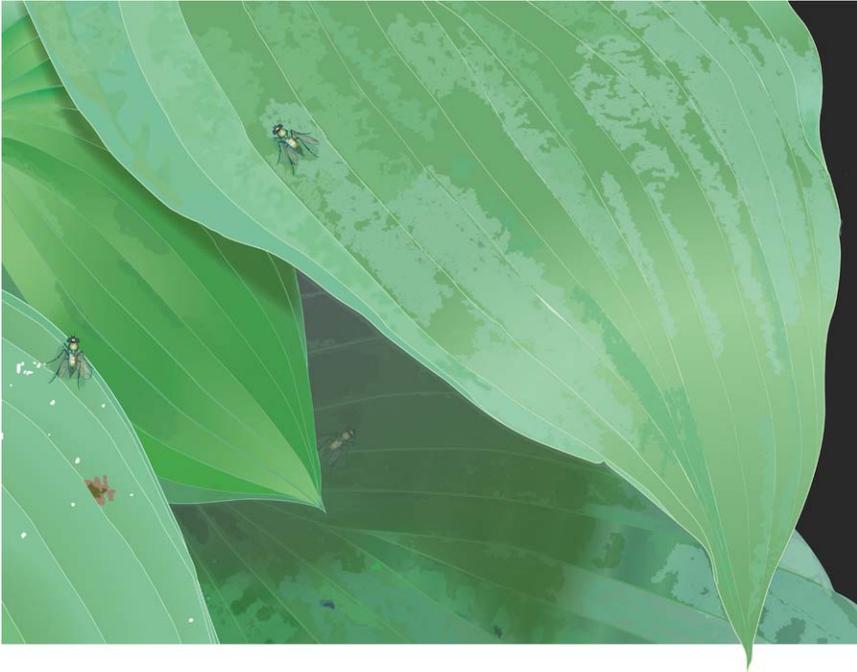
Title: Evening Grosbeaks in Paper Birch
(Coccothraustes vespertinus and Betula papyrifera)
 Artist: Nicole Monique
 Medium: Watercolor
 Framed size: 20 x 16 — Unframed size: 15 1/2 x 12

Evening Grosbeaks are social birds that forage in flocks in the winter and break off into small groups during the breeding season. Their rate of decline is 97 percent.



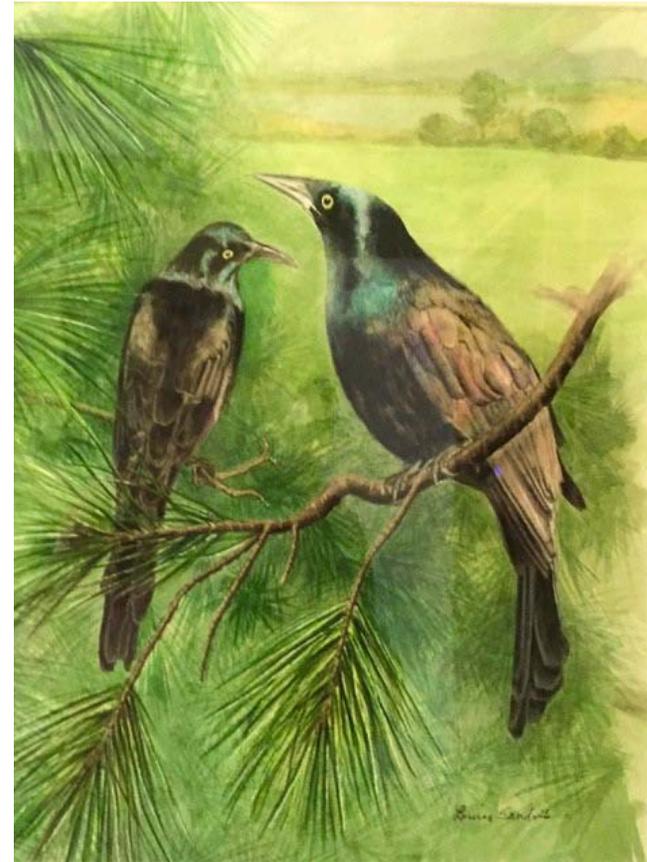
Title: Leaf Dance (*Leiobunum sp.*)
 Artist: ©2014 Margaret C. Nelson
 Medium: Archival digital print
 Frame size: 21 x 28 — Unframed size: 13 x 17

Opilions, AKA Daddy-longlegs or Harvestmen, are very common creatures in our gardens. They are distant relatives of spiders. This individual's second pair of legs, outrageously long, are used not for walking but rather like a blind person's cane, to feel its way around (its vision is very poor).



Title: One Hosta, Three Flies
Artist: ©2014 Margaret C. Nelson
Medium: Archival digital print
Frame size: 21 x 28 — Unframed size: 17 x 22

These flies are Long-legged flies (Dolichopodidae) of the species *Condylostylus*. Very commonly found on shrubbery, they have a distinctive habit of darting about on the leaf surface. They are useful predators of aphids, thrips, and other small “plant-predators”.



Title: Common Grackle (*Quiscalus Quiscalus*)
Artist: Louisa Sandvik
Medium: Watercolor
Frame size: 20 x 16

The Common Grackle, a blackbird mostly found in eastern and central North America, is quickly expanding its range west. Grackles do well in human landscapes, using scattered pine trees for nesting and open ground for foraging. You might see one hunched over on the ground, wings spread, letting ants crawl over its body and feathers. This is called “anting.” The ants secrete formic acid as they sting, and this rids the bird of parasites.

Reception / Draw-In

Cumming Nature Center, March 11, 2017

All draw-in photos courtesy of Elizabeth Andrews



Attendees sketch exhibit case specimens with guidance from GNSI members in photo: Lucille Gagliardo and Gretchen Halpert.



GNSI members (l-r): Paula DiSanto Bensadoun, Gretchen Halpert, Liisa Mobley, Elizabeth Andrews and Lucille Gagliardo.

Exhibit Committee:

Lucy Gagliardo

Liisa Mobley

Norm Frisch (catalog)

Exhibit Venues

Cumming Nature Center (RMSC); 6472 Gulick Road, Naples, NY

EXHIBIT: February 6 - May 14, 2017 — RECEPTION: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.; March 11, 2017

Thanks to:

Nathan Hayes, Director, Cummings Nature Center

William Holowka, Senior Preparator

Lois R. Shaffer, Deputy Director, Design / Exhibits Services



Elizabeth Andrews sketching from the case.



Sketch of a flying squirrel done by Elizabeth Andrews.

History of the Finger Lakes Chapter of the Guild of Natural Science Illustrators, Inc.

The Guild of Natural Science Illustrators (GNSI) was created in 1968 as a way to network among the illustrators of the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, D.C. It has rallied thousands of otherwise isolated natural science artists around the nation and around the world, through the web and through the Guild's famous week long summer conference. In 2003, out of this long and fruitful Guild collaboration, the Finger Lakes chapter was created. We meet several times a year, and enjoy our camaraderie in artistry! We "show and tell" our current work, and also share advice about art techniques and professional tips. We offer mini workshops from time to time, and, also, meet to paint at chosen locations. In recent years, we have worked with the Cornell Plantations to invite teachers of professional interest.

We strive to have group shows on a regular basis. Our shows often have themes, such as: "The Sweet-voiced Bird Has Flown: Portraits of Common Birds in Decline;" "Marsh Madness," which was a show about wetlands of upstate N.Y.; and "Weeds: Untamed Wonders." Our group has shown at various venues in New York State, including the RMSC Cumming Nature Center in Naples; the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca; Mann Library at Cornell University, Ithaca; Rockefeller State Park Preserve in Pleasantville; New York Hall of Science in Queens, and Upstate Medical Health and Science Library in Syracuse, the Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center, the Community School of Music and Art in Ithaca, and the Lime Hollow Nature Preserve in Cortland.

In 2008 we hosted the national GNSI conference in Ithaca, N.Y.

For more information about the national Guild, please visit the website:

www.gnsi.org

*If you are interested in the Finger Lakes Chapter, please contact us at
gnsi.fingerlakes@gmail.com, or visit our website at:*

<http://gnsifingerlakes.wix.com/gnsi-fingerlakes>