



ART WORKSHOP

Title: **AN INTRODUCTION TO BIRD ILLUSTRATION**

Location: **Queen's University Biological Station (QUBS)**
 280 Queen's University Road

Date: **August 20 12pm to 21st, 2018**

Cost: **Includes workshop instruction, supplies, meals and accommodations**
 (\$175 meals & accommodation; \$155 meals only)

Instructor: **Evaristo Hernandez-Fernandez, Biologist**

Workshop Goals:

- ! Learn the basic and necessary steps for a successful and accurate representation of birds, based on knowledge of the external and internal bird anatomy and careful observation of your subject
- ! Develop skills to develop an original bird illustration(s) rather than relying on copying photographs.

The workshop includes theory sessions accompanied by demos from the instructor, followed by hands-on activities where the participants apply the basic knowledge and methods taught and discover the application of electronic and bibliographical resources and use of dissected and mounted specimens from the QUBS bird specimen teaching collection.

Participants from all levels of expertise welcome, a basic knowledge in drawing and/or birding is helpful but not necessary for this workshop.

The instructor

Evaristo Hernandez-Fernandez, has been working with birds for the last 15 years, with a BSc in Biology by the Benemerita Universidad of Puebla, studying the molting patterns of two species of warblers in the mountains of Western Mexico; and a MSc in Natural Resources Management by the University of Guadalajara, CUCSUR, studying the cavity nesting bird community in the mountain forests of Western Mexico.

A self-trained painter, he has been painting birds, plants, dinosaurs and landscapes for almost 15 years. Learn more about Evaristo from this Trail & Landscape [article](#) from the Oct-Dec 2017 issue.

His experience as a bird illustrator includes an Artist in Residence position at the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology in Ithaca New York, from 2010 to 2012; and Artist in Residence during the summer of 2016 at Queen's University Biological Station.

Evaristo's participation in the Bartels Science Illustration Intern program at the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology: <http://www.birds.cornell.edu/Page.aspx?pid=2237>.

List of tools & materials provided to participants:

1. A sketch book, medium size (~ 9 x 12 inches)
2. Pencils for drawing (HB and/or B)
3. Art erasers for drawing
4. Black ink ball pens
5. Quality pencil sharpener or cutter
6. Geometry or drawing compass.

Optional materials

Personal computer or tablet, WIFI capable to explore the available online resources about birds.

Binoculars and bird field guides available if participants are interested in bird watching during their visit to QUBS.

Location

Queen's University Biological Station, located near the village of Chaffey's Lock. Driving time from downtown Kingston is just under an hour. <https://qubs.ca/contact>

Meals and accommodations

Meals included as part of the workshop fee (Day 1, Lunch & Dinner, Day 2, Breakfast & Lunch). Accommodations optional. Special diets/restrictions are accommodated to the best of the cooking staff's abilities. Accommodation at QUBS is a mix of building types including cottages, cabins or dormitories.

Items to bring

The Queen's University Biological Station does not provide bedding or bath items. Participants will need to bring their own bedding (or a sleeping bag) for a single bed, a pillow, towel and facecloth, and personal toiletries. A flashlight and indoor shoes are recommended.

HOW TO REGISTER

Email the QUBS senior manager, Sonia Nobrega (Sonia.Nobrega@queensu.ca)

PROGRAM

AUGUST 20TH: DAY 1

Lunch at QUBS (12pm-1pm)

Introduction (1pm-2pm)

- ! Discussion on birds in art and science
- ! Scientific illustration of birds

Basics about birds (2pm-5pm)



- ! Bird anatomy for illustrators
- ! Basic review of internal and external structure of birds.
- ! Feather structure and common feather types
- ! Variation in wing and tail structure
- ! Eyes, bill, feet and other structural characters in some of the most common bird families of Canada (raptors, ducks, woodpeckers, songbirds)
- ! Use of different resources for bird illustration: field guides, specialized books, photographs, video and dissected bird specimens.

Dinner (5:30pm-6:30pm)

Hands-on activity: (7pm-9pm)

- ! Independent time with guidance to practice drawing bird form and structure from pictures, video and QUBS specimen collection.

AUGUST 21ST: DAY 2

Breakfast (7:30am-8:30am)

Demos and hands-on activity (9am-12pm)

Drawing different postures and angles of two or more common local bird species (for example: Pileated Woodpecker, Mourning Dove, Blue Jay, Common Loon, Canada Geese, Mallard, Red-tailed Hawk and others) using the elements taught in Day 1:

1. Tracing the general shape and size of a bird using basic shapes and guide lines.
2. Capturing and representing the character or “personality” of birds.
3. Adding bill, feet, wings and tail.
4. Refining posture and proportions
5. Final details

Lunch (12pm-1pm)

Wrap-up (1pm to 4 pm)

Final session for questions, tips and feedback from participants.