

FIELD JOURNALING/NATURE DRAWING SESSIONS

Have you ever wanted to draw something you saw outside, but didn't know where to begin? Then this one's for you!

[VIEW ONLINE](#)

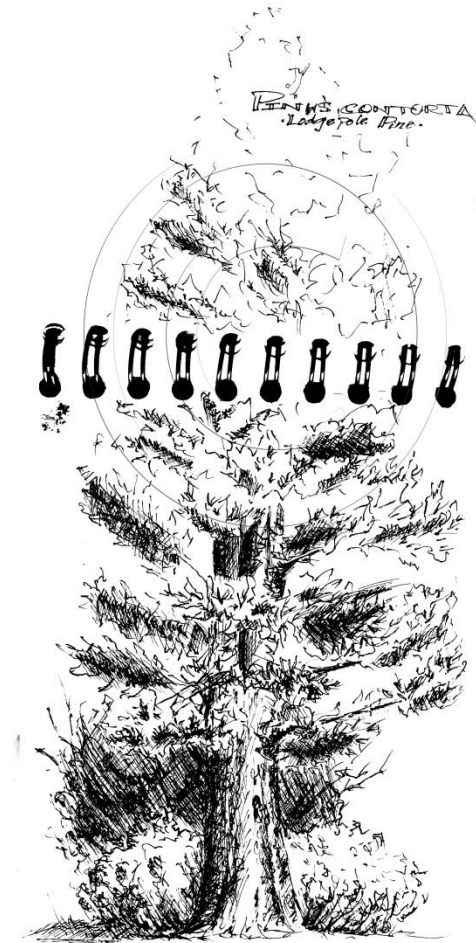
DESCRIPTION IN BRIEF

Following a centuries-old tradition, this series offers a casual environment in which to try your hand at nature drawing and journaling. As session coordinator/instructor Bethann G. Merkle says, "ANYONE CAN DRAW. It is like paddling a canoe or dancing the tango – it helps if someone shows you the basics first, and then it's all about practice."

In this series, Bethann will work with the group to develop confidence in recording what you see *en plein air*, outdoors. You will use words and images to reflect your observations, and don't worry; it's not *just* about nature. After all, we live in a city, so we will be drawing the things that interest us during any given session. For example, see samples from [Bethann's sketchbooks online](#).

THE FACTS

- **SCHEDULE:** See details at bottom of sheet.
- **PRICE:** \$5 if using materials*; free if you bring your own.
- **PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE:**
 - **No prior drawing experience** or other artistic training is **required!**
 - More experienced amateurs (naturalists and artists) are also welcome.
- **LANGUAGE:** Offered in English
- **PARTICIPATION:**
 - 10-participant max. per session
 - Open to adults (16+)
 - RSVP requested at least 24 hrs. prior to session.
 - RSVP to fruit.root.leaf@gmail.com or call 581-981-3669.
 - You need not come to *every session*, although it is encouraged if you want to enhance your drawing skills or natural history awareness.
- **MATERIALS***
 - Basic materials will be available (\$5/per session; pens, pencils, colored pencils & paper).
 - A list of suggested materials will be provided to all new participants, and is [available online here](#).
 - You are welcome to bring your own materials if you prefer, such as a camp chair, drawing and painting supplies, binoculars, and identification guides.



SESSION TOPICS WILL INCLUDE:

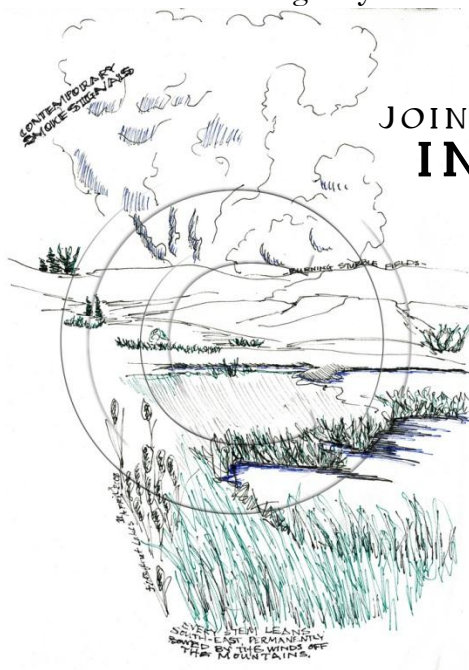
- Engaging in natural history through field sketching
- Fundamentals of field journal organization
- Basic techniques for sketching plants and animals
- Tips for accurately recording characteristics of plants and animals, to enable accurate identification later
- Additional topics may be arranged, based on group interest.

A LITTLE BIT MORE

The history of science and art are closely intertwined. Think of the drawings and paintings of [Leonardo da Vinci](#), [Maria Sybilla Merian](#), [John James Audubon](#), or the maps drawn by explorers such as [Samuel Champlain](#) and [Lewis & Clark](#). Prior to the advent of cameras, scientific inquiry required drawing. Additionally, most people with an interest in the natural world were trained to make basic drawings of what they observed. Their illustrated journals and drawings persist as tangible records of myriad discoveries, adventures and personal experiences.

Today this ability has lapsed as a public tradition, but it persists as a profession – scientific illustration – and as an avocation for many naturalists and enthusiasts of the natural world. And yet, these hand-rendered reflections of the natural world still possess the power to transfix us, and make us long for the ability to do something like it.

Certainly, professionals like [Val Webb](#), [Clare Walker Leslie](#), [David Allen Sibley](#) make it look easy. However, while fine art may not be what you're after, it is possible to render what you see in a way that satisfies and delights you.



JOIN US TO HOLD THIS ABILITY
IN YOUR HANDS.
SIGN UP TODAY!



14 Sept '06

PARTICIPATION DETAILS

| DATE | TIME | LOCATION |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monthly, final Tuesdays | 1-hour sessions | Meet at Jeffery Hale Pavilion |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">February 28March 27April 24May 29June 26Possibility of extension, based on interest. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Winter (Feb-Mar.): start at 7:00 PMSpring (April-June): start at 6:00 PM | <ul style="list-style-type: none">February & March: inside JHPApril-June: outside, weather permitting. |