



DRAWING AND PAINTING BIRDS

Instructor: Dorie Petrochko

When: August 10 - August 16, 2025



2025 EAGLE HILL
NATURAL HISTORY
SCIENCE SEMINARS
ON THE COAST OF
EASTERN MAINE



This one-week seminar will introduce students to the fascinating world of drawing and painting birds. To better understand how birds behave and how to draw them, a basic foundation of avian anatomy will be introduced using taxidermy mounts from the College of the Atlantic's natural history collection. We will learn how to observe the structure and form of various bird species by field sketching birds and drawing from live video cams. A pair of binoculars, a small field painting kit with graphite pencils, micron pens, a small watercolor set and colored pencils, is all you will need to render successful bird studies. Hands-on demonstrations and field trips will be included, (We will venture out to Birdsacre, a sanctuary in Ellsworth, or locally in Steuben, Maine to sketch live birds) as well as individual guided instruction and critiques. Each participant will produce a finished portrait of his/her bird of choice in its habitat.

[GENERAL INFO](#)

[CALENDAR](#)

[APPLY](#)



about the instructor

Dorie Petrochko (doripbird1@gmail.com) is an accomplished painter and illustrator who has been teaching art for three decades. Her interest in traveling and painting birds is a lifelong passion. She currently lectures and teaches natural science illustration at the Yale Peabody Museum, where she is a founder of the Yale Peabody Museum- Natural Science Illustration Program, a Scientific Illustration Certificate Program at the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History in New Haven, CT. Dorie is the recipient of numerous awards and fellowships, including the Roger Tory Peterson residency, the Don Eckelberry Fellowship for wildlife painting from The Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences and the Julia and David White artist fellowship in Costa Rica. She has exhibited nationally and internationally in the Art of the Animal Kingdom Exhibition at the Bennington Gallery in Vermont, Focus on Nature at the State Museum of Albany, and All Things Birds and Beautiful, on Orcas Island, WA to benefit bird conservation. Her avian illustrations have appeared in many publications such as the CT Ornithological Association, New Haven Magazine, CT DEEP, Project Limulus and The Why's of Bird Names. Dorie is currently a member of the New England and National chapters of the Guild of Natural Science Illustrators.