

CHRISTINE LEIGH ELDER

Visual Artist & Science Educator

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TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Guide and Program Leader—Paradise Birding Tour Company; Bend, OR, 2014–2017.

Taught bird sketching workshops in Jamaica and Mexico, and led week-long retreat in Honduras.
Co-leader of birdwatching tours in North and Central America.

Teaching Artist—Art Station/Arts Central Oregon; Bend, OR, 2012–2016.

Taught adult classes in drawing and watercolor painting with a focus on nature subjects.
Taught youth classes and summer camps, integrating visual and performing arts.

Teaching Artist—Youth in Arts; Marin County, CA, 2006–2012.

Developed and taught art residencies in various middle schools correlating art and science curricula.

Science Teacher and Science Department Chair—Notre Dame High School; Salinas, CA, 2000–2004.

Taught courses in marine biology, general biology, health and earth sciences.
Designed and led field trips throughout Monterey County and in Yosemite National Park.

Scientific Illustration Instructor—Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory; Crested Butte, CO, 2002, 2004.

Developed a college biology majors program teaching drawing skills for laboratory classes.

Adjunct Professor—Hartnell Community College; Salinas, CA, 1997–2000.

Taught day and evening classes which included giving lectures, designing lab activities and leading field trips.
Courses taught included ecology, environmental science, human anatomy, human biology and general biology.

Artist in the Schools—Spectra Arts program / Cultural Council of Santa Cruz County; CA, 1997–1998.

Taught 8-week art residencies with 3rd–6th grade science classrooms at county schools.

Winter Break Art Instructor—Pajaro Valley Unified School District; Aptos, CA, 1999.

Created and taught a week-long, six-hour daily program of activities, including origami, painting and drawing.

Graduate Teaching Associate—Humboldt State University; Arcata, CA, 1990–1993.

Taught field and lab sections of undergraduate courses in biology, zoology, ecology and plant taxonomy.

Seasonal Naturalist—Sierra National Forest, Mono Hot Springs Ranger Station; CA, Summers 1989, 1990.

Developed program of nature hikes, kids' environmental art activities, campfire talks and interpretive displays.

VOLUNTEER and INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE

Membership Secretary—Guild of Natural Science Illustrators' Northern California Chapter; 2004–2006.

Attended conferences and gave presentations in Maine, Wisconsin, Washington.

Docent—The Nature Conservancy's Fairfield Osborn and Lanphere-Christensen Dunes Preserves; CA, 1986–1990.

Led children's and adult's nature hikes, developed and led environmental education activities.

Internship—Monterey Bay Aquarium Education Department; Monterey, CA, 1989.

Conducted public tours focused on ecology, and developed educational materials for volunteer docents.

EDUCATION

Graduate Certificate in Scientific Illustration. University of California, Santa Cruz, CA, 2006.

Graduate-level field biology course work. Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory, Crested Butte, CO, 2000–2004.

Master of Arts Degree in Biology. Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA, 1997.

Bachelor of Arts Degree in Biology. Sonoma State University, Petaluma, CA, 1990.