

# Lori Taylor *author/illustrator 810.877.8680*

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## PROFILE

As a professional full-time Michigan author/illustrator and artist I have written, illustrated, designed and independently published children's books through our small business, Bear Track Press. I feature Michigan parks and wild places to inspire outdoor adventure in children. I investigate the unique science, history, flora/fauna, and geology of place and blending humor with fact to teach and create educational materials. I enjoy creating a variety of characters to convey the energy, feel, spirit, and unique voice for each story I illustrate. I have an interest in nature/animal stories, myth, and legend to connect kids (and families) to place to gain a deeper appreciation and understanding of the area.

My process with my art and books is to observe and experience an area, take field notes, research, then begin drafts and edits. I design the book theme, illustrate covers and interior art, and set up files for publication. For black and white interior illustrations I use pencil and pen. I use Copic pens, color pencil and ink on vellum, then layer the art as a mixed media collage technique for full color interior art and covers in photoshop. Then I compile the files and design the complete book in InDesign for publication.

## EXPERIENCE

### ***AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR/ARTIST***

2009-present Bear Track Studios LLC and Bear Track Press, Bitely, MI. Write, illustrate, design, layout children's mid-grade chapter books and picture books using Photoshop and InDesign. Books are realistic fiction with educational content, Michigan nature-themes, and activities/games. I present workshops, school and library programs, freelance illustrate and exhibit at juried fine art fairs.

### ***GRAPHIC ARTIST***

2008-2013 Oakland County Parks & Recreation, Clarkston, MI  
Research, design, and produce educational materials, games, posters, brochures, and portable exhibits for the OCPR Natural Resources Division; produce wayside exhibits for the OCPR Lewis Wint Nature Center.

### **SEASONAL PROGRAM SPECIALIST II**

2006-2008 Lewis Wint Nature Center, Oakland County Parks & Recreation, Clarkston, MI.  
Seasonal naturalist/program facilitator, animal care provider, trail guide, exhibit preparator, muralist, public interpretive and educational programming and materials illustrator.

### **OUTDOOR EDUCATOR**

2006 Camp Tamarack, Ortonville, MI

Educator: Native American Arts, Craft, & Lore, Michigan Wildlife, Animal Tracking, and Michigan Bats.

Trained in survival, camping and environmental education, presented outdoor educational programs.

### **PUBLISHED WORKS**

- The Legend of the Sleeping Bear, Author/illustrator, Bear Track Press, 2018
- The Gift of Summer Rain: An Arch Rock Legend, Illustrator, Bear Track Press, 2018
- The Young GeEK's Guide to Getting Outside, Author/illustrator, Bear Track Press, 2018
- HOLLY WILD: Motor City Mayhem, Urban Wild (Book 5) Author/illustrator, Bear Track Press, 2018
- HOLLY WILD: Questpedition for da Yooper Stone (Book 4) Author/illustrator, Bear Track Press, 2015
- HOLLY WILD: Packing for the Porkies (Book 3) Author/illustrator, Bear Track Press, 2013
- HOLLY WILD: Let Sleeping Bear Dunes Line (Book 2) Author/illustrator, Bear Track Press, 2012
- HOLLY WILD: Bamboozled on Beaver Island (Book 1) Author/illustrator, Bear Track Press, 2011
- Henny & Benny Bunyan, Maple Syrup Adventure, Illustrator, Gypsy Bird Press, 2016
- Lissy-Lost! Author/illustrator, (second edition) Bear Track Press, 2011
- The Funny Farm (MeeGenius, 2013) Illustrator
- Wise Sydney (MeeGenius, 2013) Illustrator
- There Was An Old Woman (MeeGenius, 2013) Illustrator
- *Michigan History for Kids Magazine*, Historical Society of Michigan, Illustrator, 2015-6
- *Crone* (Issue 5, b&w illus.) *SageWoman* Magazines (issue 82, b&w) 2013

### **ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCES**

**Literacy Legacy Fund of Michigan**, Gwinn, MI 2015, presented, "*Questpedition for Story: The Power of the Pencil*," a KI Sawyer program presentation for children and Northern MI University program. Donated a mixed media book art piece, "*Quest for Story*," in 2016.

**Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park**, Silver City, MI, Aug. 24 - Sept. 6, 2008

Presented the program “The Wonder of Wilderness” with audience participation on the meaning of wilderness. Their responses became part of the original donated art piece to preserve their words and feelings. The mixed media piece: “Wilderness: The Preservation of the World”, was donated to the Friends of the Porkies in 2009.

**Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore**, Empire, MI, Sept. 9-29, 2007

Created and donated original art, “Sleeping Bear: The Legend”. Public presentation included in unveiling of artwork and reading of poem corresponding with the donated art and A.I.R. highlights.

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI-MI) 13 years member

Michigan Alliance for Environmental Outdoor Educators (MAEOE)

Michigan Reading Association – (MRA)

Artworks Cultural Center, Painted Turtle Gift Shop/Gallery, Big Rapids, MI—member

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & EDUCATION**

2016 Wild, Wild Midwest S.C.B.W.I. Spring Conference

2013 Wild, Wild Midwest S.C.B.W.I. Spring Conference

Matt Faulkner’s Illustration Boot Camp, SCBWI Annual Fall Conference, MI, Sept. 2011

Rapid Field Assessment Training, Huron River Watershed Council, Aug. 2007

Leopold Project, MAEOE, Ray, MI, May 2007

Nita Leland Color Workshop - Fenton, MI 2004

“Writing For Children & Teenagers”, Institute of Children’s Literature: Completed 2001

**SKILLS & INTERESTS**

Painting, drawing, reading, writing, Adobe Photoshop & InDesign, Microsoft Word, photography, bird and wildlife watching, tracking, hiking, camping, backcountry camping, kayaking/canoeing, hunting, fishing.

**REFERENCES**

**Nancy Feldbush**, Historical Society of Michigan, editor, email: [feldbush@hsmichigan.org](mailto:feldbush@hsmichigan.org)

**Kathleen Dougherty**, educator/naturalist, email: [kad8186@msn.com](mailto:kad8186@msn.com)