

LORI TAYLOR RESUME

Lori Taylor Art, LLC

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PROFILE

I am a professional full-time Michigan author/illustrator, artist, and sole proprietor of Lori Taylor Art, LLC and Pine Owl Press. I have presented my mixed media collage art in juried Michigan art fairs, artist-in-residence programs, and workshops for over 35 years. I have written, illustrated, designed, and independently published children's books featuring Michigan parks and wild places to inspire outdoor adventure in children since 2012.

My layered, collaged, mixed media art pieces convey the spirit of place to inspire others. My textural art portrays experiences and insight from my observations and field sketches. As a school presenter and author/illustrator of middle-grade realistic fiction books, my goal is to connect kids (and families) to place. I often blend word and art to teach an area's flora/fauna, science, geology, and history in an understandable and humorous way. 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 and layered mixed media collage for full color interior art and covers.

I present school and library programs, freelance book illustration, and have books and art in state and national parks, and galleries. I illustrated for the Historical Society of Michigan's *Michigan History for Kids* magazine, was commissioned to illustrate a children's book on historic Fort Michilimackinac for the State of Michigan in 2017 and have created trail guides/posters and educational exhibits and murals for Michigan nature centers. I was selected as a Michigan Artist-in-Residence: Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore in 2007, Porcupine Mountains State Wilderness Park in 2008, and Literacy Legacy Fund of Michigan, Gwinn, MI 2015. My public program presentations are designed to connect visitors to find the wonder in a place, use personal experience and observations in their own drawing and writing.

EXPERIENCE

- **AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR, ARTIST**, 2009-2024, Bear Track Studios LLC/Bear Track Press, Bitely, MI. Author/illustrator of middle-grade books and picture books. Produced nature-themed mural art, workshops, and freelance illustration, exhibiting at juried art fairs with my books
- **GRAPHIC ARTIST**, 2008-2013, Oakland County Parks & Recreation, Clarkston, MI. Research, design and produce educational materials and portable exhibits for the OCPR Natural Resources; 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 materials illustrator

RESIDENCIES

ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE—Literacy Legacy Fund of Michigan, Gwinn, MI 2015, presented, "*Questpeditor 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*," 2016.

ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE—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.

ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE—Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, Empire, MI, Sept. 9-29, 2007
Created and donated original art, “*Sleeping Bear: The Legend*”. Public presentation included A.I.R. highlights, a reading of a poem to go with the donated artwork and its unveiling.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Michigan Alliance for Environmental Outdoor Educators (MAEOE)
AuSable Artisan Gallery – Grayling, MI
Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI)
Michigan Reading Association – (MRA)

WORKSHOPS, CLASSES & PRESENTATIONS

- **Michigan schools and libraries**, 2012-2024, author/illustrator program presenter
- **Michigan Reading Association**, 2015, Detroit/Grand Rapids, 2016, Bellaire. Keynote Speaker: Spring and Summer Literature Conferences promoting literacy/art for young citizen scientists
- **Grand Valley State University**, 2016, 2017, literacy panelist and presenter, for MRA
- **Michigan State Fair**, 2016, Novi, MI, featured author/illustrator
- **Michigan Rural & Small School Conference**, Oct. 2016, art and artifacts presentation
- **Library of Michigan Rural & Small Library Conference**, 2016, Mackinaw Island, author presentation
- **Rockford Rocks 2016, 2017**, Rockford, MI, celebration of literacy event as author/illustrator
- **Celebrate Urban Birds**, 2016, UM Dearborn, Nat. Federation of the Blind Michigan, sensory art presentation for blind teens/adults
- **Bellaire Schools, Young Authors**, Bellaire, MI, 2015, author/illustrator presenter
- **Cranbrook Academy**, 2014, Summer Camp Workshop, *Drawing on the Outdoors*

REFERENCES

Bonnie Povilaitis, Pathfinder Community Librarian, ph. 231-745-4010
Lisa Rivard, Ph.D, K-12 Language Arts Consultant for Macomb Intermediate School District,
email: lrivard@misd.net
Nancy Seminoff, Literacy Legacy Fund of Michigan, board member,
<https://www.facebook.com/LiteracyLegacyFundOfMichigan>

OTHER PUBLISHED WORKS

Elanora and the Salt Marsh Mystery, Kathleen Jae, Twenty Paw Publishing, 2021
Moving North, Mary Grant, 2020
Fairies and the Global Tree to the Rescue, Carol Trembath, Lakeside Publishing, 2020
The Gift of Summer Rain, An Arch Rock Legend, Doris Kelly, Bear Track Press, 2017
Henny & Benny Bunyan, Maple Syrup Adventure, Illustrator, Gypsy Bird Press, 2016