

# JACKI WHISENANT

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## Education

2018 - present: MS in Entomology, University of Wisconsin - Madison

Dr. Dan Young's lab: Survey and Taxonomy of the family Tetratomidae

2016-2017: Science Illustration Graduate Certificate - California State University

– Monterey Bay: internship at UW - Madison Zoological Museum and WIRC

2013-2016: Post-baccalaureate studies in zoology, entomology, UW – Madison

2011: BFA Art and Music Performance (harp), University of Wisconsin – Madison

## Teaching Experience

**Insects and Human Culture - Survey: Entomology 201** UW-Madison, Spring 2021 (online)

Assist with course delivery, create "Virtual Insect Hunt" activity to encourage observation

**Insect Ambassadors Coordinator** UW-Madison, 2019, 2020

Coordinate and give presentations and booth events for insect education in k12 settings

**Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy: Zoology 430** UW-Madison, Fall 2018, 2019, 2020

Lead the lab for rabbit/pigeon/shark dissection, compile and illustrate new lab manual

**Vignettes in Scientific Illustration/Sketchbook Series** UW-Madison Continuing Education/VASAL - recurring course

A overview of illustration practices, emphasizing natural history observation

**Comparative & Evolutionary Physiology: Zool 611, 612** UW-Madison, Spring 2019, 2020

Lead discussion sections (2019) coordinate lab (2020), assist with grading

**Intro to Scientific Illustration:** UW-Madison, Summer 2018, [2020 cancelled for Covid], 2021

Art Department 8-week course on learning traditional and digital techniques of contemporary scientific illustration, co-taught with Scott Hartman in 2018.

**Zoology 101 TA:** UW-Madison, Spring 2018

## Work Experience

**Museum Assistant: UW-Madison Zoological Museum**

Summer 2015 - present

Prep vertebrate specimens (skins and skeletons; manage Dermesarium; Label bones; Assist with educational poster store; Inventory, reorganize, and move Herp and Fish collections; Inventory, and relocate the Historical Instrument collection.

**Wisconsin Insect Research Collection: Volunteer**

Summer 2016 - present

Reorganize the carabid collection according to the most current taxonomy (89 drawers total); Update taxonomy and inventory select lepidopteran groups; InvertNet drawer image databasing. Focus-stacked imaging of individual specimens.

**Insect Ambassadors Coordinator**

Summer 2018 - Dec 2020 (still volunteer as needed)

Coordinate outreach presentations for grade school insect education, & booth events

**Scientific Illustrator: Morgridge Institute for Research**

October 2017 - Dec 2019

Work with the Huisken Lab to create conceptual illustrations demonstrating their novel research designs in light sheet microscopy technology.

**Student Assistant: Wisconsin State Herbarium**

Spring 2015 - Summer 2016 (still volunteer periodically)

Mount dried plant specimens, database, georeference, and scan specimens.

**Painter, Body Shop Fabricator/Repair: Motorcycle Performance**

Summer 2006 - Summer 2017 (still on call for select projects & custom paint commissions)

Body shop work, from cosmetic repairs to major damage corrections, as well as new custom body panel construction in fiberglass and metal. Custom vinyl graphics.

**Harpist and Music Instructor** 2005 - present

Perform for pit orchestras, weddings, harp & piano lessons emphasizing personal enthusiasm for music.



## Skills

Curatorial:

Pinning and point-mounting delicate insect specimens  
Accurate, careful data entry and inventory  
Skeletal and study skin preparation  
Tiny handwritten labels  
Reading old cursive

Digital media:

Adobe Photoshop  
Adobe Illustrator  
Adobe InDesign  
Adobe AfterEffects  
Adobe Premiere  
Microsoft Office Suite

Traditional media:

Graphite/Carbon Dust  
Watercolor, Gouache  
Ink, Acrylic  
Inking and clayboard  
Ceramics, Sculpture  
Moldmaking, Casting

Subject areas:

Entomology  
Comparative Anatomy

Throughout my work I cultivate an affectionate enthusiasm for all aspects of the natural world, and seek to inspire the same in others.

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### Talks/Outreach

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- 2021 February "Spotlight on Black Entomologists, past and present"  
Video presentation for Insect Ambassadors contribution to February Science Nights at the WID emphasizing Black scientists - coordinated by Jerrod Buckner.
- 2020 February "Fecal Shields: When Poop is Protection"  
Nerd Night - High Noon Saloon, Madison, WI
- 2019 November "Tales from the Field: A Mystery in the Dermestarium"  
ECN Conference, St. Louis, MO
- 2019 August "Entomophiles: Conversations with Insect People."  
Host a panel talk with entomologists - Overture Center, Madison, WI
- 2019 May "Specimen Spotlight: A Curious Cardinal"  
SPNHC Conference, Chicago, IL
- 2019 May "Scientific Illustration"  
Wednesday Night at the Lab, UW-Madison, WI
- 2018 November "Illustrating for Entomological Research."  
Lunch-and-Learn presentation - Joint meeting of the Entomological Society of America, Canadian Entomological Society, Entomological Society of British Columbia - Vancouver, BC
- 2018 October "Science on Paper: A brief history of scientific illustration."  
Madison Book Festival, Downtown Madison Public Library, WI.
- 2018 October "Scientific Illustration: historical practice and current directions"  
Plant Pathology lunch sessions, Russell Labs, UW-Madison, WI
- 2018 March "Spot the Imposter: Beyond the Surface of Insect Mimicry."  
Color Symposium, Wisconsin Institute of Discovery, Madison WI
- 2017 Oct "Scientific Illustration: What when where why how?" Undergraduate Zoological Society, UW-Madison, WI

### Workshops

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- 2018-present: Outreach presentations with Insect Ambassadors, a UW graduate group dedicated to insect education for younger audiences and future entomologists, ranging from classroom presentations to science festival booth events.
- 2019 October 16: "Science on the Square: DIY Insect Illustration" Anthology storefront, as part of the annual Wisconsin Science Festival
- 2019 July 26: "Drawing Insects." Wisconsin Insect Fest, Kemp Station, Vilas County WI
- 2019 May 4: "Drawing Insects" Monona Street Public Library, Madison, WI
- 2018 October-November Artist in Residence: through the Bubbler Artist residency program of the Madison Public Library and Institute of Museum and Library Services). Held 2-hr nature art workshops nearly every weekend.
- 2017 November 11-12 – The Nature of Clay, A Workshop in Surface Solutions: Adamah Clay Studio, Dodgeville, WI  
Incorporating nature imagery into ceramic work using various surfacing techniques.
- 2011-2020 Communing with Clay: Adamah Clay Studio WI, ceramics teaching assistant to Geof Herman
- 2016 Workshop on Fiberglass Mold-making and Fabrication: for Niki Johnson's studio, Milwaukee WI
- 2012 Haystack TA Scholarship – Plaster Moldmaking and Slipcasting, teaching assistant to Paul Sacaridiz
- 2011 National Emerging Artists Residency, Grinnell IA

### Professional Society Memberships

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- 2021-present: Association of Medical Illustrators
- 2020-present: American Anatomical Association
- 2018-present: Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology
- 2017-present: Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections (SPNHC)
- 2017-present: Coleopterist's Society
- 2016-present: Entomological Collections Network (ECN)
- 2016-present: Entomological Society of America (EntSoc)
- 2016-present: Wisconsin Entomological Society
- 2016-present: Guild of Natural Science Illustrators - Great Lakes Chapter (GNSI)
- 2010-present: American Harp Society (AHS)

## Select Project Experience

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### Head & Neck Radiology teaching resources (2020, 2021)

Dr. Tabassum Kennedy (UW–Madison School of Medicine, Department of Radiology)

Create icons and stylized radiology images (~200 individual images) to be used in a variety of teaching applications for educating medical students on the intricacies of interpreting radiology images of the head and neck.

### Yosemite Butterfly App (2019)

Jeffrey Blatt (Coyote Tracks), Dr. Sean Schoville (UW-Madison Entomology)

Create an icon, store header, and button images for an app that is used to identify butterflies by checking visual attributes and correlating user choices with a database of regional butterfly species.

### Sandhill Crane Siblings Learn to Find Food (2018)

Joy Zedler, author

Create illustrations for a children's book about sandhill crane colts growing up in the Waubesa wetlands of southern Wisconsin, published privately and distributed for fundraising efforts to aid wetland conservation.

### Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy Handout Packet & Madtown Anatomy contributor (2018, 2019, 2020)

University of Wisconsin: Zoo 430 - Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy Lab

Overhaul the handout illustrations for Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy – Integrated Biology 430, UW-Madison to reflect new material (rabbit dissection instead of cat) and update existing material with additional illustrations. Total of 30 new illustrations and reformatting of 120p packet. Madtown Anatomy is a new instructional channel for the course Comparative Anatomy of Vertebrates: Zoo 430 at UW-Madison.

### Insects of Wisconsin Mural (to be completed 2021 - delay for construction and then for Covid)

Wisconsin Insect Research Collection - Russell Labs, 3rd floor

A 40 foot mural depicting a phylogenetic tree of the most commonly encountered insect families of Wisconsin, referencing papers on current morphological and molecular analyses of each order of insects to reflect the most recent understanding of insect phylogeny. To be completed winter/spring 2021.

### Amphibians of Wisconsin Poster (in progress, to be completed Summer 2021)

University of Wisconsin Zoological Museum

Life-sized drawings of the frogs and salamanders of Wisconsin, with larval forms and eggs, to be used as an educational poster for sale through the University of Wisconsin Zoological Museum store, with species descriptions and range distributions of each animal. Herpetological experts from the DNR were consulted for accuracy.

### Cancer Health Disparity Initiative Brochure Illustrations (2016)

University of Wisconsin Carbone Cancer Center

Illustrate anatomical diagrams of areas significant to prostate and breast cancer diagnosis and treatment in a variety of black and brown skin tones to create a more relatable set of explanatory materials for patients from communities that are traditionally underrepresented in medical illustration, matching the style of previous project material.

### Bats of Wisconsin Poster (2015)

University of Wisconsin Zoological Museum

As part of an independent study with Kandis Elliot (senior artist emeritis), I designed and painted the seven species of Wisconsin bats, to be included in the poster store of the UW Zoology Museum. Bat experts from the DNR were consulted for accuracy in depiction and description; the 44" x 24" poster features life-size bats, a description of each species, and range maps. Updated in 2017 to include a newly observed southern species.

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### Select Solo/Duo Shows

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2019 June 11 - Sept 1 *Not to Scale (with Robert Lundberg)*, Overture Center Gallery III, Madison, WI  
2019 March - April *Tiny Wonders: (with Alix Lucas)*, Steinhauer Trush Gallery: Arboretum Visitor Center, Madison, WI  
2018 Feb 9 - May 31 *Pathways*, Crescendo Coffee House, Madison WI  
2017 May 15 - June 25 *Oft-Unnoticed*, Lakeside Coffee House, Madison WI  
2013 October *Notation*, Hyart Gallery, Madison WI  
2012 July 26-31 *Step Around* Commonwealth Gallery, Madison, WI  
2011 November *In This Time*, Grinnell Art Council Gallery Space, Grinnell, IA

### Select Group Exhibitions/Shows

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2021 Feb-March *Bugs Aplenty* Elisabeth Jones Art Center, Portland, OR  
2020 May *Crust Bucket Fridge Door Show* Crust Bucket Collective, Fayetteville, AK  
2020 April 17 *Chroma* Fundraising Art Experience, Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Madison, WI [cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic]  
2020 March 10-June 1 *Earthly Kin* Overture Center Playhouse Gallery, Madison WI  
2019 Sept 21-Nov 4 *Wildlife Biennial XIX*, Miller Art Museum, Sturgeon Bay, WI  
2019 Aug 24-Oct 27 *2019 Phoenix from the Ashes*, Overture Center Playhouse Gallery, Madison, WI  
2019 GNSI the Art of Science - Digital exhibition during the GNSI annual meeting - Brisbane, Australia  
2019 April 20 - May 29 *Luck of the Draw: Vol. 2* Central Library, Madison WI  
2018 July 15 - Oct 15 *Art Revealing Science: 50th Anniversary Guild of Natural Science Illustrators Juried Exhibition*, AAAS Gallery, Washington D.C.  
2017 May 6 - June 18 *Illustrating Nature*, Pacific Grove Natural History Museum, Pacific Grove, CA  
2016 Saturday December 10 *Municipal*, Madison Municipal Building, Madison WI  
2016 MARINE *Converging Currents: Art and Science*, Monterey Bay, CA  
2015 March *Tiny Show*: Miniature gallery in NCECA conference, KS. Appearances in Portland, OR and Seattle, WA.  
2012 April *Influx*, Art Lofts, Madison, WI  
2010 Fall BFA Showcase, 7th Floor Gallery, Humanties, Madison WI  
2009 April *Art Lofts Opening show*, Art Lofts, Madison WI

### Pit Orchestra shows: Harp

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**Four Seasons Theatre:** 1776, A Light in the Piazza, A Grand Night for Singing, Kiss Me Kate, Follies  
**Verona Area Community Theater:** Wizard of Oz, Peter Pan  
**Music Theatre of Madison:** Sound of Music  
**Middleton Players Theater:** Sweeney Todd, Ragtime, Sunday in the Park with George, Carousel  
**Oregon Straw Hat Players:** Gypsy  
Local high school productions: Peter Pan, Ragtime, Sound of Music, How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, Guys and Dolls (clarinet/saxophone), Kiss me Kate (clarinet/saxophone), 42nd Street (clarinet/saxophone)