

About Irene Brady



Irene Brady lives in a home she built in the Oregon woods surrounded by wildlife – hawks, bobcats, cougars, hummingbirds, woodrats, deer, bears, jays and more – the subjects and inspiration for her many books and workshops.

Over a period of several years as an instructor of college-level Scientific Illustration at Southern Oregon University, Brady wrote and illustrated **Illustrating Nature ~ Right-brain Art in a Left-brain World** to use as a textbook in her highly specialized classes. Excerpts from this textbook are now an integral part of her workshops.

Drawing and writing about animals and wildlife since childhood, Irene Brady began her first book, **America's Horses & Ponies**, at age nineteen. It was published by Houghton Mifflin five years later, and she never looked back (see **Publications** list at right). She recently completed **The Southern Swamp Explorer**, the second book of her Explorer nature series, which began with **The Redrock Canyon Explorer**.

Irene Brady's award-winning works lovingly unveil the marvelous complexity of nature, instilling and encouraging in her readers a respect and love for the earth.

She is currently engaged in teaching and developing workshops on Nature Sketching, Sketch/Journaling, Field Sketching for Naturalists, and variations on those themes throughout the United States and Costa Rica.

Credentials

Free-lance author/illustrator/instructor, 1965 to present, engaged in:

- **workshops** on nature sketching, nature journaling and sketching, watercolor pencil painting, and field sketching ~ nationwide and in Costa Rica, 1999 through the present.
- **author lecture circuit, illustration and nature themes** from 1978 through 1988.
- **instructing** courses on scientific illustration at Southern Oregon University, 1985 - 2005; book illustration at Oregon College of Art, 1985 and at Pacific College of Art & Design, 1987.
- **writing and illustrating books and articles** for several publishing companies, including Houghton Mifflin, Scribners, and Coward-McCann, and for magazines: Audubon, Ranger Rick, etc.
- **interpretive displays and signs for government and public organizations, including:** U.S. Forest Service reclamation sites, Redstone Arsenal Nature Trail, North Mountain Park Nature Center, Rookery Bay National Estuarine Reserve, and others.
- **scientific illustrator and head of Graphics Unit at the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Forensics Lab, 1988-1992 doing:** design, layout and production of lab logo, signage, brochures and visual displays in the laboratory; major displays for conferences and Washington D.C. offices; product design for containers, bumper stickers, etc.; media presentations for Fish & Wildlife officials; ID manuals and pamphlets for undercover agents; and courtroom displays and slide presentations for the Exxon Valdez prosecution and numerous other trials.

Publications

books written and illustrated:

The Southern Swamp Explorer.....	2008
Illustrating Nature ~ Right-brain Art in a Left Brain World...	2004
The Redrock Canyon Explorer.....	1999
Wild Babies, A Nature Sketchbook.....	1979
Elephants on the Beach.....	1979
Doodlebug.....	1977
Wild Mouse.....	1976
Beaver Year.....	1976
Owlet, the Great Horned Owl.....	1974
A Mouse Named Mus.....	1972
America's Horses and Ponies.....	1969

books illustrated for others:

25 Hikes Along the Pacific Crest Trail – D. & L. Skillman.....	1994
Living Treasure – Laurence Pringle.....	1991
Lili, a Giant Panda of Sichuan – Robert McClung.....	1988
Summer Bird Feeding – John Dennis.....	1988
Whitetail – Robert McClung.....	1987
Peeping in the Shell – Faith McNulty.....	1986
Gorilla – Robert McClung.....	1984
Rajpur, Last of the Bengal Tigers – Robert McClung.....	1982
Animal Babysitters – Frances Zweifel.....	1981
Five Fat Raccoons – Berniece Freschet.....	1980
Forest Log – James Newton.....	1980
Have You Ever Heard of a Kangaroo Bird? – B. Brenner.....	1980

magazine illustrations and articles in:

Audubon Magazine, Ranger Rick Nature Magazine, Cricket, Plow & Hearth, Your Big Backyard, Wildfowl Carving and Collecting, The Pacific Explorer, Mushroom - the Journal of Wild Mushrooming, R.V. Journal, and others.

Awards & Honors

• **Outstanding Science Books for Children Awards (for several books)**, from the National Science Teachers Association/ Children's Book Council Joint Committee.

• **New York Academy of Sciences Seventh Annual Children's Science Book Award** for "the best science book for children," for the book **Wild Mouse**

• **The Evelyn Sibley Lampman Award** from the Oregon Library Association, awarded for "Significant Contribution to the Children of Oregon in The Field of Literature."

• **Superior Performance Award** from U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, for art and graphic works produced at the U.S.F.W.S. Forensics Lab in Ashland, OR, for the Tokyo C.I.T.E.S. Conference, the Exxon Valdez trial, and for other work produced over a period of five years.