

Maine Flora & Fauna through Art and Literacy

July 11-15 2016

Highlights of the Course

Join us for a week of exploration and creativity complete with spectacular views, intimate moments with life under-foot, and wholesome home-cooked food. Spend time in the rocking chairs, which overlook the flower gardens while the sounds of the sea rejuvenate your soul.

While on Burnt Island, teachers will be introduced to a variety of methods that encourage observation, creativity, writing, and appreciation for nature. Throughout the week we will explore different environments through the lenses of art, literacy, and science.



Nature journaling is a creative approach that integrates several disciplines into a single activity with minimal expense, knowledge or training. The act of nature journaling allows one to become part of nature—a dragonfly may land on your pencil or you may witness tadpoles hatching. The course is designed for the beginner or advanced nature journalist and we incorporate new and different approaches and techniques from previous courses. **Quick drawing tricks and simple watercolor techniques** will make your “stick figures” turn into works of art.

With the rocky shore as our inspiration we will create our own **block carvings and print on silk, clay or any substrate**. Block printing on fabric is an easy way to add texture and interest to textiles. We will experiment with different paints to ink-pads that make this project a snap for any age or ability. Simply stamp, iron when dry, and you are ready to go.





We will use **polymer clay** (Sculpey or Fimo Clay) to create spectacular designs that can be used to make jewelry, cover boxes, glass, and pens. This process requires **no artistic talent** and is wonderful for all ages. Polymer clay is an inexpensive medium that can be molded, printed, stamped, embossed, painted and embellished. We will be learning the process of mokume gane which is a form of incorporating layers of colors and abstract design.

Join us for a week of unparalleled learning and discover ways to integrate nature journaling and other creative techniques into your own curriculum. Share the joy of discovering and documenting nature with your students.

- 1) Prepare educators to feel comfortable in using the outdoors for nature-related observations and using journals as tools for learning.
- 2) Explore the rocky shore, tide pools, sand beach, meadow and forest to record the flora and fauna of each habitat for artistic inspiration.
- 3) Facilitate the development of school-based, curriculum strategies for integrating art, science, and literacy through nature journaling and creativity.
- 4) Create an awareness and understanding of the natural world that will lead to its appreciation and preservation.
- 5) Literacy strategies and approaches to writing will also be modeled while being seamlessly integrated into the nature journal.
- 6) Integrate a creative, easy, and fun animation app into your curriculum.



Tuition

\$500 for 3 recertification credits from UMO

\$50 Course Supplies

Free transportation to and from the island is included, along with free housing in the island's Education Center or tent sites. For additional information or photographs of the site, visit www.maine.gov/dmr/burntisland/courses/index.htm

Primary Instructors

Elaine Jones (Education Director, Department of Marine Resources)

Carolyn Nichols (Science Teacher, Artist & Science Literacy Specialist – Morse High School)

Field Trip

Spend an evening exploring the town of Boothbay Harbor

Class Schedule

This week-long, residential workshop will be based at the Burnt Island Light Station in Boothbay Harbor, Maine. Instruction will begin at 8:00 AM with activities continuing into the evening hours. Participants will be expected to complete assignments; participate in all classroom and field activities; and engage in discussions and critiques.

Supplies

We have folding chairs and stadium seats for your comfort. Bring a hat, water bottle, and sunscreen for your comfort and sturdy shoes for scampering among the rocks (sneakers or Keens are ideal). You can participate with minimal expense or go nutty at the art supply store. Go online and get coupons from Joann Fabrics and Michaels. Feel free to bring your own art supplies, however don't go overboard since we have to carry them onboard our boat. A day bag to carry your treasures around the island is a must. Recyclable shopping bags are ideal.



Nature journaling

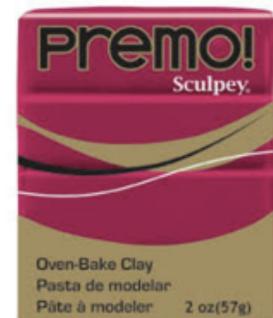
We will provide hard covered journals for you to use. You are welcome to bring your own if you prefer a particular brand or paper type.



- We have sets of color pencils (Prismacolor) and watercolors (pan sets) available for you to use. Don't bring oil or acrylic paints. If you have a watercolor pan set please bring it.
- **Sharpie fine point-black** (they also come in color sets)
- Color Pencil set (Prismacolor) (optional)
- Watercolors (Pan set for travel is ideal) (optional)
- Drawing pencils HB and eraser

Polymer Clay

- **Primo Polymer Clay** and/or Primo Accents-
- Bring at least 6+ colors as well as (black & white) Once you learn the technique it is a little addicting and you will want to experiment in the evening.
 - Sculpey III is student grade and stiffer.
 - Primo is preferred by artist's and easy to work with.
 - Fimo is the original brand and is similar to Primo.



- Soufflé is very soft- great for the winter, arthritic hands or to make molds with- too soft for humid summers.
- **Xacto Knife** and blades
- **Flat SMOOTH surface** to work on about 9 x 12 (piece of plexi glass, silicone matt, glass is too dangerous to lug, tile, wax paper, cutting board..)
- **Ziplock bags** for your clay and treasures- sandwich size is perfect.
- Box of **wet wipes** with ALCOHOL. (to clean tools and yourself after using clay)



- **Polymer clay blade**- 6 inches long and available at Joann Fabrics (the straight one in the middle of image)
- **Clay tools** if you have them- anything that makes a design- toothpicks, small cookie cutters, molds, buttons, shells, dental tools..

- **Embroidery floss** in assorted colors (2 minimum) that go with your clay



IF you all ready own the following feel free to bring them:

- Pasta mill-clay use only
- Pattern or texture plates
- Waterproof inks, embossing mediums, powder pigments, and/or alcohol inks are also welcome
- **Jewelry pliers** flat nosed and round as well as wire cutters
- Glass beads for embellishing and a handful of findings (jump rings/ear wires)
- Clear plexi glass sheet about 4 x 4 inches (larger clear stamp blocks are ideal)

Block Printing on Silk

- **Carving tool set**, either type
- If you have handmade or commercial stamps or ink pads -feel free to bring them otherwise we will make our own.



Books

We will have a medley of books available to view on the island. We recommend that you look through the island's collection and then purchase the ones that best suits your needs.

Into the Field, A Guide to Locally Focused Teaching by Leslie, Tallmadge & Wessels
Keeping a Nature Journal by Clare Walker Leslie & Charles E. Roth

For More Information: E-mail Elaine Jones (elaine.jones@maine.gov) or call (207) 592-1839

If I had influence with the good fairy who is supposed to preside over the christening of all children, I should ask that her gift to each child in the world be a sense of wonder so indestructible that it would last throughout life. Rachel Carlson



Course Topics and Objectives

Day 1 – July 11, 2016 (Low tide – 10:58AM)

9:00 AM Arrive at the Department of Marine Resources Laboratory in W. Boothbay Harbor, Maine.

Load the boat, and travel out to Burnt Island.

Settle into Education Center & Review Housekeeping needs

Introduction

Housekeeping

Developing a Community (nametags)

Island Orientation

Nature Journaling Basics

How to set-up your Nature Journal

Discover the connections between science, art, and writing while exploring a range of media.

Pen and ink, colored pencils, and watercolors will be used to record observations of Burnt Island's plants, animals, and landscape. The week's activities will be comprised of creative, hands-on lessons that you can do with your students in any environment. They will include art activities, imaginative writing exercises, and scientific exploration. The course is not designed to make you into an artist or a scientist, but it is designed to sharpen your observational and recording skills, thus deepening your connection to nature through experience.

Drawing and Painting Tips and Tricks

We will spend time setting up our nature journals and get to know our mediums. From there we will use nature's templates to warm up our drawing skills. With a few techniques and tricks we will transform stick figures into works of art. The simple act of drawing with pen and ink and adding color is like matting a picture and bringing it all together. The use of layers of color will add shadows, highlights, and depth to our drawings.

Evening

-The evening will conclude at the dock where teachers will learn about bioluminescence by observing it in the water and viewing it as a glow in their hand.

Day 2 – July 12, 2016 (Low tide – 11:47AM)

Beach Studies

Beaches are constantly in motion with their shape and size continuously shifting due to wind, waves, and weather. Teachers will beach-comb for various curiosities that have been washed in from the tides. They will also examine and compare the beach sand found on Burnt Island to sands from around the world. A survey of life in and around the beach will be taken with its inhabitants observed, identified, and recorded in the nature journal.

Mokume gane with polymer clay

Mokume gane is a traditional Japanese method for laminating metals together of different colors and then manipulating the metal to create abstract patterns. We will be layering different colors of clay, which is then manipulated with texture sheets, stamps, needle tools and other found or human made items. The results are sheets of abstract color that can be used to cover pens, boxes, book covers, tools as well as be made into jewelry. Experiment with making molds of shells and cast them in clay.

Evening

- Free time to explore, record the setting sun, view constellations and/or relax.

Day 3 – July 13, 2016 (Low tide – 12:38PM)

Rocky Shore

The rocky shore is an environment that is battered by surf, wind, and weather. Yet, organisms in the intertidal zone withstand tidal fluctuations, frigid temperatures, extreme heat, precipitation, and predation. Teachers will roam the zones to observe, draw, describe, and identify flora and fauna that live in various regions of the intertidal zone. Search for patterns and shapes that may inspire a design for your block print.

Creating Block Stamps and Printing on Silk

Carve your personalized design into a printing block and stamp it onto a silk scarf. We will use Dyna-Flo silk paints, which are water soluble and heat-set with an iron. Feel free to bring any commercial or hand made stamps or inks that you own. Your stamps can also be used on polymer clay and paper.

Evening

- Fellowship, tour of the lighthouse and keeper's house and maybe a ghost story or two.

Day 4 – July 14, 2016 (Low tide – 1:29PM)

Animation in the classroom

Stop Motion App is a painless and creative way to integrate technology into the classroom. Students love to use this easy app and it is free! Please download the app to your iPhone or iPad before you arrive on the island. **Download Stop Motion (blue icon) and iMovie** and if you don't have it, please don't fret. We can share, demo, and play with what we have. Note there is no internet access on the island, however cell phones work well.



Personal Discovery

Spend the day enjoying the delights of Burnt Island; nature Journal on your own or with a friend, take a swim and/or continue to create through writing, printing or polymer clay.

Dinner on your own in Boothbay Harbor

Day 5 – July 15, 2016 (Low tide – 2:19PM)

A Fond Farewell...

This will be the last opportunity to complete an unfinished entry, make a new entry, or just say “good-bye” to your favorite spot. Create some last minute works of art or simply walk on the beach.

Collaborative Slide Show

Evaluation of Course

Pack-up and clean Education Center

Depart for the Mainland at 4:00 PM

