



Juneau Arts and Humanities Council – Juneau School District  
**PARTNERS IN EDUCATION**

## 2009-10 TEACHING ARTIST PROFILE and APPLICATION

Name **Katherine (Kathy) Hocker**  
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**Preferred Method for contact:** email or phone

### I am available to work/teach

in 1 - 2 week residency period only  I am flexible, could work different times  
 can work 1 day/week for a month or more  could work part days, different times

### 1. Arts Education and/or arts background

I am a freelance science illustrator, with a graduate certificate from UC Santa Cruz in Science Communication.

### 2. ART FORM(s) and AGE OF STUDENTS you are interested in working with

My lessons **integrate science and art**, addressing in particular the inquiry aspect of science.

- Science illustration: taking students through the process of creating illustrations of science subjects. (I particularly enjoy working with small groups of students to create publications such as books or brochures).
- Nature journals/science journals: Establishing and keeping journals of observation and reflection.

I prefer to work with grades 3-12, but am also willing to work with K-2.

### 3. What themes, concepts, experiences do you want to share with students?

Careful observation is a crucial skill for critical thinking, as well as a fundamental building block for creating art. My primary goal is to help students get into the habit of observing carefully, and of thinking about what they have observed, as they draw. This approach applies not only to dedicated "nature journals" but also science notebooks--and the skills can be integrated into other content areas as well.

I also hope to give students tools to strengthen their life drawing skills, and to inspire excitement and interest in making drawing from observation a lifelong habit.

### 4. Prior teaching experiences (apart from residencies)

- Taught full time for three semesters at Whiskeytown Environmental School, Redding, CA (1991-1992).
- Half-time instructional aide in Gastineau preschool (fall 1992)
- Taught nature studies classes for Discovery Southeast (Mendenhall River School 1994-1996, Juneau Community Charter School, 1998-2004)
- Taught a summer course at University of Alaska: "Field Sketching and Nature Drawing" (2004-2014)



**5. Why do you want to teach the arts in Juneau schools?**

I enjoy the chance to show how art can be integrated with science, and have always enjoyed working with Juneau teachers and students. I always learn from these experiences, and am humbled by the work the students do, and by their quick minds and often-surprising observations.

**6. Past Experience with Artist in the Schools residencies:**

This is a (fairly) complete list:

Date	School/ Grades	School Location	Length of Residency	Art Form(s)
2003	Auke Bay/3-5	Juneau	3 weeks (?)	All have focused on nature journals, field sketching, science illustration
2003	Riverbend/1-5	Juneau	3 weeks (?)	
2005	Mendenhall River/K-5	Juneau	3 weeks	
2007	Gustavus School/K-12	Gustavus	2 weeks(?)	
2008	Adults (teachers)	Floyd Dryden	3 classes	
2009	Harborview/1-5	Juneau	3 weeks	
2009	Gastineau/3-5	Juneau	3 weeks	
2009	Lower Kuskokwim SD	Bethel etc	2 weeks	
2010	Bering Straits SD	Unalakleet	2 weeks	
2010	Kenai Peninsula SD	Seldovia	2 weeks	
2012	Gustavus School/K-12	Gustavus	2 weeks	
2012	Kenai Peninsula SD	Nikiski	2 weeks	
2012	Charter School	Juneau	2 weeks	
2012	Gastineau	Juneau	2 weeks	
2013	Wrangell elementary	Wrangell	2 weeks	
2013	Yakoosge daKahidi	Juneau	2 weeks	
2013-14	Hoonah school	Hoonah	3 weeks	
2013	Mendenhall River	Juneau	2 weeks	
2013	Gastneau	Juneau	2 weeks	
2014-15	Hoonah school	Hoonah	3 weeks	
2014, 2016	Floyd Dryden	Juneau	2 weeks	
2015	Kaleidoscope School	Kenai	2 weeks	
2016	Keet Gooshi Heen	Sitka	2 weeks	
2017	Harvborview	Juneau	2 weeks	
2017	Glacier Valley	Juneau	2 weeks	
2018	Harborview	Juneau	3 weeks	



7. Have you been part of the **Juneau Teaching Artist workshop series**?  
 Yes, whole series     Yes, some of the workshops     No, not yet

**8. 3 REFERENCES**

Kim Frangos (kim.frangos@juneauschools.org)

Cinda Stanek (cinda.stanek@juneauschools.org)

Nancy Lenhart (nancy.lenhart@juneauschools.org)

9. **Other Comments** that help illuminate your work or life as an artist???

I grew up in a family of teachers, and used to swear that I'd never be a teacher. I always loved art, but didn't think I'd ever really be an artist. And I loved science but never felt like I fit in to the "traditional" science career path. Now I find myself being a little bit of all three, and rather enjoying it.