An Introduction to Botanical Illustration.
A workshop presented by Iara Lacher, Botanical Illustrator and Ph.D. candidate at UC Davis
Saturday & Sunday, May 17 & 18, 2014: 10 am-5 pm at the McLaughlin Reserve.

Registration is limited to 20 people. Please email Cathy Koehler at koehler@ucdavis.edu or call (707) 995 9005 to register. While there is no fee for this workshop, a $15 donation to the artist is appreciated.

Historically, science and art have been intricately intertwined. Scientists of centuries past needed to develop their artistic skills in order to document and understand the natural world, and the keen observation needed for patient and thorough scientific study mirrored that practiced by artists to interpret their world. The commonalities of art and science are often overlooked in the modern era, but many modern scientists are also artists and use their artistic skills to help them better understand the intricate details of their study subjects. One such scientist, Iara Lacher, is conducting research at the McLaughlin Reserve, and is offering a two-day workshop on Botanical Illustration at the Reserve.

This workshop will focus on creating watercolor botanical illustrations. The workshop will begin with a morning lecture/presentation on illustration techniques, materials used, specimen selection, and important plant characteristics. Thereafter, students will spend time outdoors considering botanical subjects and indoors focused on studio work. The second day will close with a short discussion about finishing and one-on-one tips for completion of a piece of artwork.

This class will be tailored to the experience of attendees, so novice and seasoned artists are encouraged to sign up. A syllabus will be provided to registrants.

About the Instructor – Dr. Iara Lacher is an ecologist, soon to be working in Brazil, as well as an artist, with a certification in Scientific Illustration.

WHAT TO BRING:
Students need bring their own materials (see below), as well as their own lunch, beverages, and snacks.

Materials you need:

- Travel watercolor tray (if not included in above)
- Watercolor brushes: size #0 rigger or liner brush, 1/8” diam round brush, 1/4” diameter round brush, 1.5” flat brush
- Smooth watercolor paper (high weight) (8x11” size)
- Watercolor masking fluid & low quality brush/brushes for application of fluid.
- Sketch Pad – any size
- Small water bottle (3 oz)
- Dry, clean cloth
- Pencil set, including 4D pencil or fine mechanical pencil
- White eraser
- Camera

PLEASE WEAR STURDY CLOSE-TOED FOOTWEAR, BRING SUN PROTECTION, AND A DRINKING-WATER BOTTLE FOR THE OUTDOOR COMPONENT OF THE CLASS

As an aside, some students in the past have teamed up to share watercolors and the costs of these supplies. Several weeks before the class, coordinating emails will be sent out to registrants, allowing all to coordinate such cost-sharing.