

## W. Andrew Recher

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## Illustration and Design

Experienced illustrator/designer adept at handling large and complex projects often under strict deadlines. Strong practical knowledge of print and online publishing standards. Photo research and skilled photo manipulation as dictated by design. Collaborate with authors, editors, and art team members to provide consistent and unified results throughout an individual book's art program or series of books. Create illustrations for complex scientific subject matter both as a freelance illustrator and as a senior staff illustrator.

**Core competencies:** Adept in the use of Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, and Acrobat for illustration and creative page design. Also skilled in cartography applications, and Microsoft Office. Communication and collaboration with clients from initial stages (determining needs and formulating plan of action) to completion of projects (press ready deliverables).

## Professional experience

### **Precision Graphics** • Champaign, IL • (2005-2015)

Recognized as the top illustration and composition house for higher learning textbooks, Precision Graphics had a 30 year history of being the preferred source for quality art program development, art production, design, and composition of higher learning textbooks. Precision Graphics was acquired in late 2014 by Lachina Publishing Services.

**Senior Illustrator:** Began work at P.G. as a production illustrator and within the first year became a lead artist and senior illustrator. At the request of clients, I began work as an Art Developmental Editor which comprised much of my last 6 years at P.G. In my tenure there, I led art programs for several large educational publishers, including Pearson, Addison Wesley & Benjamin Cummings, John Wiley and sons, W. H. Freeman, McGraw Hill, W. W. Norton, Oxford University Press, Cengage, Sinauer, and several smaller firms and periodicals publishers.

- **Lead artist duties:** Create bid estimates for incoming work, coordinate with art director and project managers to ensure adherence to schedules, create illustrations and oversee preparation of all final art files to meet quality control standards. Troubleshoot art and adjust art files based on printer press reports. Strengthened existing relationships with clients which led to a new revenue source for the company and my role as an art developmental editor.
- **Art Developmental Editor:** Worked directly with authors and editors to develop overarching book styles and style sheets for use by production. Also worked at the level of the individual art figure to aid in pedagogical accuracy and accessibility. Collaborate/advise on photo research options to ensure that photos will work with design. Create feature page spreads utilizing either collage of photos, multiple part illustrations, or large background images. In conjunction with basal text and art labels, these layouts often describe complex scientific material. Create art manuscript (instructions) to hand over to the appropriate lead artist for art production.

### **Freelance Illustration** • Currently located in Port Townsend, WA • (2000-2015)

As a freelance illustrator I have completed a wide variety of projects including children's book illustration, medical & anatomical, entomological, archaeology illustration, cartography, science and natural history periodical illustration. Co-founded "Pens and Beetles Illustration Studios" in 2003.

**Clients include:** Researchers at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History, the U.S.D.A., Smithsonian Institution Press, National Parks Magazine, Scientific American Magazine, Human Kinetics, NorthWord Press, Subcontract work for other illustrators. Began freelance work for Precision Graphics in 2004 which led to acquiring a staff illustrator position at P.G. in 2005.

My illustration/design work is almost entirely digitally created but I also have a very strong background in art fundamentals and traditional media rendering (paint, watercolor, pencil, ink, etc.)

## Education

**Graduate certificate in Science Illustration** • University of California, Santa Cruz, CA • May 2003

**Bachelor of Arts degree in Scientific Illustration** • Arcadia University, Glenside, PA, • May 2000

**Associate of Arts degree in Illustration** • Montgomery College, Rockville, MD, • May 1995

## Internships

**American Museum of Natural History** • New York, NY • October–December 2003 • Digital renderings of fossil turtle skull specimens.

**Ruth Bancroft Garden** • Walnut Creek, CA • July–September 2003 • Pen and ink illustrations of plant species, illustrations for educational and promotional materials.

**Amazonia Science Gallery** • National Zoo, Washington, D.C. • June–August 1999 • "Field guide" to the Amazonia exhibit and children's activity/coloring book.