

## ATBC Nature Art Station

Would you like to take a quick break to let nature inspire your creativity in a different way than to write papers and grants? If you do, then come join us for some nature inspired art at ATBC's first **Nature Art Station (NAS)**. We plan to do some Ceramic mug painting and rubber stamp carving (detailed description below). **The NAS will take place daily during the ATBC annual meeting from 1 to 2 pm** (last hour of the lunch break) **in a room TBA** (please meet up by the registration table on the first day).

**This activity is open to all meeting attendees** (Only kids older than 10 and accompanied by an adult will be able to participate for safety reasons). **If you have NOT yet registered for it, please do so at the registration table, as space is very limited.** Please email Patricia D. Sampaio\* (NAS instructor) [pdsampaio2013@gmail.com](mailto:pdsampaio2013@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

- **Ceramic mug painting (THIS MIGHT BE CHANGED TO GEL PLAQUE PRINTING: CHEAPER AND MORE INTERESTING)**

We will use simple techniques such as tracing with carbon copy, dotting on stickers, free hand drawing, stenciling and etc. to apply nature inspired images (or others) to plain white ceramic mugs. We will use special oil based sharpies and ceramic paint that can later be 'baked' in a regular home oven to become water and scratch proof. We can get inspiration for the designs by going for a walk outside, remembering favorite images or looking for new ones on the computer, in a book or using imagination. You will be able to take home your final project(s).



- **Rubber stamp carving**

Carving block is traditionally a printmaking tool and is used to cut images that can be reproduced a number of times. We are going to use square pieces of soft rubber (or recycled old erasers) to carve into and produce images that can be stamped repeatedly in a variety of surfaces. You can chose to sketch your own images/motifs or copy it from any source and transferring it to the eraser/rubber base. Please note that we will use sharp tools in order to carve into the rubber surface.

*\* Full disclosure: The NAS instructor is not an artist, she has been doing pottery, collage and drawing as a hobby for the last 10 years. She is rather a biologist passionate for art and its potential as a powerful tool to influence people's perceptions and actions towards nature.*