

ATBC Nature Art Stations

How about a quick break from the Conference academic presentations? What if you are given the chance to let nature inspire your creativity in a different way than to write papers and grants? Would you like to meet people that live in Kuching while having fun and creating a piece of art to take home? If you do, then come join us, for the first time at an ATBC meeting, a **Nature Art Station (NAS) on Ceramic mug painting and on Shrink film charms**.

- **Ceramic mug painting**

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).



- **Shrink film charms**

You will learn the basics of transferring images (tracing, printing directly, etc.) and/or you may sketch original designs directly onto the Shrink Film. This is a flexible polystyrene plastic sheet that when heated shrinks and then hardens approximately five eighths of its original size, resulting in an intricate design. You will decorate the pieces with colored pencils, sharpies, chalk markers and pastels and then cut into shapes. At the end, you may have charms of various sizes and shapes that can be used to make jewelry or keychains. We will use a small toaster oven for the shrinkage process and you will be able to take your final art home.

Audience: The art station is open to all Conference participants, to the Kuching community and to Kids (older than 10 yrs. old and accompanied by a responsible adult). Each day we will be able to accommodate 20-25 people. Once registration is open, it will be on a first come, first serve basis to fill up all the spots.

Schedule: The NAS will happen once a day for 1 to 2 hrs. More info on time and location to be announced soon.

Cost: We are asking for a nominal fee of \$10 to help cover the costs with material. **Registration information coming soon!**

Instructor: My name is Patricia D. Sampaio, I am a Brazilian biologist that works with higher education and administration at the Tropical Conservation and Development Program at the University of Florida. I am also the ATBC treasurer. I don't have any formal art education background but do love art and have been doing pottery, collage and "playing" with other media for the last 15 years. Besides being incredibly rewarding, relaxing and fun, I view art as a powerful 'tool' that can affect people's perception of the natural world less rationally. Environment art education is a promising field for those working with Conservation. I hope to share a bit of my experience and passion for art and nature with you as we have fun painting mugs and shrinking film. For questions, please email me at pdsampaio2013@gmail.com.

What is art Monsieur, but Nature concentrated? - Balzac