



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS
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**SUU's ART INSIGHTS TO HOST
STACEY THALDEN
ILLUSTRATOR AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATOR
ZION NATIONAL PARK ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE
FEBRUARY 19, 2015**

Southern Utah University, Cedar City, UT: Fusing together a genuine passion for the environment with her art, **Stacey Thalden** creates uniquely detailed art that celebrates all forms of nature. At her upcoming **Art Insights** appearance, this remarkable visual artist and educator will share her art and experiences as a **Zion National Park Artist-in-Residence**. The presentation will take place in SUU's **Auditorium Theatre** on **Thursday, February 19, 2015, at 7pm. Admission is free and the general public is invited to attend.**

Stacey (Zebith) Thalden is a nature illustrator, art instructor, and environmental educator. She is based in the Pacific Northwest and exhibits her work nationally. She received a BFA from the Rhode Island School of Design and an MFA in Interdisciplinary Studies, focused on Painting and Entomology, from Goddard College.

Her creative inspiration is fueled by nature. According to Thalden, "I am elated by the interacting colors, patterns and forms found in nature, which seem to create momentarily stilled compositions for me to witness. I find creative motivation when looking at the soft powdery scales of a butterfly, the mud clogged roots of a flower, or the iridescent sheen illuminating the feathers of a bird. These experiences inspire me to reach for my paintbrush or pencil. It is my hope that my artwork creates a window into the natural world, where it can be appreciated, seen anew and celebrated."

Being selected as a Zion National Park Artist-in-Residence allowed Thalden to create work that was truly the antithesis of her passions combined. "I am interested in exploring the intimate and microscopic landscape found within Zion National Park. I am excited about having visual conversations with rock

striations, aquatic invertebrates, and canyon clinging plants. I long to witness the park's diverse wildlife, and to honor it through my paintings and drawings."

Art Insights is a weekly program hosted during the fall and spring semesters by SUU's Art and Design faculty. Students and community members meet to experience presentations and discussions by visiting artists and art educators from around the nation who share their work and insights and attend gallery openings. Admission is free, and the general public is invited to attend.

The Zion National Park Artist-in-Residence program offers professional artists the opportunity to live and work in the majestic desert environment of southern Utah. The works completed under this program will contribute to the public understanding and appreciation of Zion National Park and reflect the National Park Service's mission to the preservation and protection of the park's cultural and natural resources.

ABOUT THE COLLEGE

Southern Utah University's College of Performing and Visual Arts is home to nationally-accredited departments of Art and Design, Music, Theatre Arts, and Dance. The College offers 17 degrees, including liberal arts Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science, professional Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Fine Arts in art and theatre, and Arts Administration Master of Arts and Master of Fine Arts. It houses the Center for Shakespeare Studies, which offers a degree minor. More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff teach and mentor over 550 arts majors. Over 1100 students enroll each year in more than 195 arts classes. The College presents 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions annually. Its affiliate organizations include the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery, Utah Shakespeare Festival, and the SUU Ballroom Dance Company. For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, contact the Office of the Dean (435) 865-8561, or by e-mail at cpvamktg@suu.edu.

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS: STACEY THALDEN, ILLUSTRATOR AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATOR

- WHAT:** Fusing together a genuine passion for the environment with art, Stacey Thalden creates work that celebrates all forms of nature. At her upcoming Art Insights appearance, this remarkable artist and educator will share her art and experiences as a Zion National Park Artist-in-Residence.
- WHO:** Art Insights, Southern Utah University, Department of Art and Design
- WHEN:** Thursday, February 19, 2015 @ 7pm
- WHERE:** Auditorium Theatre, Southern Utah University, Cedar City, UT
- INFORMATION:** Visit: www.suu.edu/pva/arts
- PRICES:** Free Admission and the General Public is encouraged to attend.