

Vivian C. Olsen

2022 Artist Biography



Vivian C. Olsen says,

“Throughout my life I’ve loved animals and they’ve inspired me to portray them as the primary subjects in my artwork. I grew up with animals as playmates and their beauty and pleasant natures led me to express my intense interest in wild animals in paintings of quail, wolves, bison, birds, and many others. Wild or tame, I paint what I love—birds and animals of all kinds, captured with watercolor, pastel, or oil paints. I study each subject carefully with many photographs in order to portray their individual personalities and postures— showing that each animal is unique and no two ever look exactly alike, even quail!”



Vivian C Olsen - Wildlife Artist

Vivian C. Olsen grew up knowing she wanted to be an artist and majored in art at a Junior College near Monterey Bay where she received an excellent background in painting. After marrying, and having 3 young daughters at home, Vivian began her art career as a freelance artist designing wildlife art for government agencies. She later attended New Mexico Tech University where she received two degrees, a Bachelor of Arts and a Master’s in Biology. She was then employed as an art teacher at Socorro High School in New Mexico.

Painting with watercolors is her preference, but she also uses oils, pastels, and mixed media to paint wildlife subjects such as birds and various animals. While she was an art teacher she spent her summers immersed in creating art while travelling to artists’ workshops in Europe, China, and several states. At the end of her teaching career she moved to Oregon and focused on painting her most endearing subjects— wild animals, and has been well-known as a Wildlife Artist for years.



Vivian has held memberships in, and exhibited with, Oil Painters of America, Watercolor Societies in both New Mexico and Oregon, and has been affiliated with many art galleries in the West. In 2021 Vivian published a children’s book, “The Good, the Bad, and the Goofy”, which she wrote and illustrated with 15 watercolor paintings of animals in action .

Vivian C Olsen - Redmond, Oregon