

Miles Thompson

231 E Coronado Rd • Santa Fe, NM, United States 87505

1-(505)-469-5860 • thompson13@grinnell.edu

EDUCATION

Grinnell College

August 2021-May 2025

Bachelor of Arts in Biology and Studio Art (3.75/4.00 GPA)

Grinnell, IA, USA

- **Relevant Coursework:** Studio Art Seminars, Biology Seminars, Botanical Illustration, Spanish, Linguistics, Organic Chemistry, Anthropology.

Universidad de San Francisco Quito

Quito, Galápagos Islands

Non-Degree Seeking Student

January-May 2024

- **Relevant Coursework:** Marine Ecosystem-Based Management, Freshwater Ecology, Marine Ecology, Techniques Marine Research I, Techniques of Marine Research II.

BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Student Researcher (Field)

February-May 2024

Galapagos Semester Program GALIAS, USFQ

San Cristobol Island

- Measured, sexed and tagged tens of sharks, and helped teach these skills to new project members, to estimate the population size of young blacktip reef sharks along the coast of San Cristobal.
- Utilized SCUBA diving, transect, and quadrat techniques to quantify macroinvertebrates, fish, and sessile diversity and abundance to monitor ecosystem health across popular dive sites.
- Used photography and sonar technology to assess dolphin pod size in an ongoing study monitoring cetacean populations around the archipelago.
- Lead and presented student research projects examining green sea turtle sex ratios on different beaches and assessing fish species richness using underwater videography and transects.

Student Researcher (Lab)

August-December 2023

Grinnell College Biology Department

Grinnell, IA, USA

- Collaborated with biology professor and initiated a now ongoing project investigating how heart morphology changes during aging using the giant danio fish as a model organism and mentored a fellow student in the requisite lab techniques so that the project could continue.
- Prepared and carried out anti-body staining of embryonic zebra fish heart tissue for another ongoing study investigating the source of cardiac nerve cells, and through an analysis of the fluorescent markers confirmed the presence of both vagus and trigeminal nerves in the developing fish prior to the presence of heart innervation.

Volunteer Researcher (Field)

July 2023

Division of Reptiles and Amphibians, University of New Mexico

Albuquerque, NM, USA

- Collected invasive bullfrog specimens on overnight trips to the Bosque del Apache, providing data for a graduate research project studying invasion genomics which was later presented at the 33rd Annual Research Days event at UNM.
- Learned techniques used for determining turtle size and sex, as well as blood and tissue sampling, providing samples for long term storage in the Museum of Southwestern Biology.
- Set traps, gathered and released turtle specimens, contributing to data collection for two research projects monitoring ecosystem health and trophic interactions in the Sevilleta Wildlife Refuge.

Miles Thompson

231 E Coronado Rd • Santa Fe, NM, United States 87505

1-(505)-469-5860 • thompson13@grinnell.edu

ART RESEARCH AND ILLUSTRATION EXPERIENCE

Mentored Advanced Project (MAP) Researcher

June-August 2024

Grinnell College Studio Art Department

Grinnell, IA, USA

- Led an independent research project combining analog and digital photography techniques to create body of work exhibited in the Smith Gallery at Grinnell College.
- Used Adobe Photoshop, Lightroom and other software to digitize, edit, and make largescale prints of my series of double exposure photographs juxtaposing the body and industrial forms.

Student Researcher (Field)

February-May 2024

Galápagos Semester Program GALIAS

San Cristóbal Island

- Utilized photography, digital, and traditional art media to build a portfolio of photography and art centered on biodiversity through which I have connected to researchers in Panama.
- Photographed a diverse array of wildlife in the Amazon Rainforest and Galapagos Islands by participating in fish diversity research and leading solo photo walks.

Paleo-Artist

June-August 2020

New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science

Albuquerque, NM, USA

- Worked alongside museum paleontologists, education coordinators, and resident paleo-artists to illustrate dinosaurs for an exhibit on the recently discovered “Bisti-Beast” theropod dinosaur.
- Used Procreate to design and illustrate three dinosaur species for the museum exhibit, working closely with a paleontologist to achieve utmost scientific accuracy

ART EXHIBITIONS

Artist/Curator

April 2025

Edith Renfrow Smith '37 Gallery

Grinnell, IA, USA

- Created a series of original sculptures, photographs, and drawings for installation in a 3-week solo exhibition exploring the human relationship to nature and industrialization in rural Iowa.
- Designed the show layout, lighting, and promotional material to create a unique and inviting aesthetic and hosted an opening to garner attention for the show.

Exhibited Artist

- *Bachelor of Arts Exhibition*, Group Show, Grinnell Museum of Art, Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA, April 2025
- *Featherweight*, Group Show, Edith Renfrow Smith '37 Gallery, Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA, December 2024
- *Time in Our Hands*, Group Show, Grinnell College Basement Gallery, Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA, December 2024
- *Church of Craft*, Group Show, Pedal Grinnell Headquarters, Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA, November 2024

SKILLS

- Research – *Underwater/aerial surveying, handling of live specimens, tissue sampling and fixing, antibody staining, gel electrophoresis, PCR, DNA extraction*
- Software – *R, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Lightroom, Minitab, Blender, Procreate, Excel*
- Language – *Advanced Spanish*
- SCUBA – *Advanced Open Water Certified*
- Mental Health First Aid – *Certified*

AWARDS

New Mexico Scholastic Art Gold Key Award

2019