



2026 "Life on a Leaf: Celebrating Caterpillars and Host Plants" Poster Job Advertisement

Pollinator Partnership (P2) is seeking an artist to render the 2026 Pollinator Poster, this year focusing on "Life on a Leaf: Celebrating Caterpillars and Host Plants". Compensation: \$2,000 USD. To apply, please send a one-page narrative concept idea with a draft sketch to Shannon Farmer at nappc@pollinator.org by Wednesday, December 10, 2025.

Background

Birds, bees, butterflies, moths, beetles, bats, and other small mammals that pollinate plants are responsible for bringing us one out of every three bites of food. Pollinators also sustain our ecosystems and contribute to natural resources by helping plants reproduce. Unfortunately, many pollinating species are in decline. Without the actions of pollinators, agricultural economies, our food supply, and the surrounding landscapes would suffer.

Our Solution for Sustainability

Pollinator Partnership and its signature initiative the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (NAPPC), address issues of pollinator health and decline using many resources and projects. Sustainable pollination and declines in pollinator health are complex issues that do not have simple solutions, but by addressing each area where pollinators interface with people, we can make a significant impact on pollinator, ecosystem, and human health. One way we address this issue is through outreach, education, and action.

Purpose

Each year, P2 and NAPPC, along with a wide range of partners (including federal agencies, non-profits, for-profits, individuals, etc.), design and distribute an educational pollinator poster. About 20,000 posters are distributed throughout the United States each year. They are one of the most popular outreach material items offered and are distributed for the cost of shipping and handling.

Use

Each year's poster is unique in size and content, and the posters are enjoyed and used in a wide variety of venues from classrooms, fairs, conferences, and offices, to homes, and educational trainings.

Poster Image – Vision

This year's "Life on a Leaf: Celebrating Caterpillars and Host Plants" (working title, can be changed) poster will focus on showcasing the vital host plants that support Lepidoptera (butterfly and moth) larvae. This theme serves as an opportunity to highlight the many plants that support moths and butterflies and the amazing diversity of caterpillars, but also could include the Lepidoptera life cycle, with an emphasis on caterpillar growth and development. We hope to highlight the complexity of biological interactions within host plant and pollinator communities.

POLLINATOR PARTNERSHIP

Healthy habitat and host plant availability are critical to the life cycle of many of our vulnerable pollinator populations. Our goal is to showcase the impact that individuals can have on the life cycles of many of our pollinators just by planting native host plants in their native habitat. Hundreds of species of Lepidoptera in North America rely on one or two specific plants for reproduction. Whether a home garden, roadside habitat, a municipality, farmland, or a corporate garden, we can all make a difference by creating important habitat or food sources through host plants for our pollinators.

We envisioned this poster to showcase the diversity of caterpillars, with all of their vibrant colors and features, similar to the past [“Conversation About Native Bees” Poster](#). Including a few examples of the pupae and adult forms of the species would be striking as well. Artists can view more information about host plants and species examples on the [Host Plant Garden Cards](#). Both plant and Lepidoptera species should be native to North America.

Here are some examples of host plants and larvae that depend on them. Please note these are only examples to give the artist an idea:

- Monarch (*Danaus plexipus*) and Milkweed (*Asclepias* spp.)
- Atala (*Eumaeus atala*) and Coontie (*Zamia integrifolia*)
- Baltimore Checkerspot (*Euphydryas phaeton*) and White Turtlehead (*Chelone glabra*)
- White-lined sphinx moth (*Hyles lineata*) and California evening primrose (*Oenothera californica*)
- Yucca Moth (*Tegeticula yuccasella*) and Yucca (*Yucca* spp.)

Artists are encouraged to look at our previous [posters](#) to gain an idea of styles and themes for our posters over the years. Let this proposed vision spark creativity, but do not feel limited to these ideas. The poster is a visual story meant to attract attention and inspire action around sustainability, equity, and collaboration within pollinator conservation. The most important part of creating any poster is to make it a beautiful work of art. A scientific/naturalistic style is preferred. P2 staff will work with the artist on scientific accuracy and detail.

Submittal Details

If interested in submitting a poster concept idea for consideration to render the 2026 “*Life on a Leaf: Celebrating Caterpillars and Host Plants*” poster, please submit the below information as one PDF to nappc@pollinator.org:

- Contact information (name, email, physical mailing address)
- Background
 - Resume or CV
 - Examples of past artwork- website/online portfolio, social media, etc.
 - 2 pages maximum
- Narrative about the poster concept
 - Method used (digital, traditional, etc.)
 - 1 page maximum
- Sketch of the proposed poster as digital art submitted as a pdf or .jpg. (300 ppi at 8.5 x11)



Timeline

A poster concept idea with a draft sketch is due to Shannon Farmer at nappc@pollinator.org by **Wednesday, December 10, 2025**. Once an artist has been chosen, the final illustration will be due by Friday, March 6, 2026.

Poster Size

There is flexibility with the size of the poster, but past posters have ranged from 30 in x 12 in to 30 in x 32 in (including a gallery at the bottom of the poster for partner logos). We suggest using a standard poster size so that the poster may easily be framed.

Compensation

Pollinator Partnership does not make any profit from the poster and distributes them for free (not including shipping and handling). P2 works to create the poster each year to help educate the public about the importance of pollinators. The chosen artist will receive \$2,000 USD upon completion of the agreement and delivery of the product of contracted work for the 2026 poster.

Legal

Pollinator Partnership and the artist will co-own the rights to the final submitted digital artwork.

Questions? Contact Shannon Farmer at nappc@pollinator.org.