

## **Bees, Bugs and Butterflies: How Pollinators Help the Cuyahoga Region Bloom** ***Traveling Exhibit, Programming and Pollinator Gardens***

### **Artists in Exhibit**

After **Jerry Cannon** retired from his career in the telecommunications industry in Akron, he turned his interests toward photography, a long-time area of fascination. Over the last decade, this self-taught photographer has pursued his passion non-stop as a second career, working primarily in Summit Metro Parks. His captivating and diverse images soon came to the attention of Summit Metro Parks staff, who frequently features Jerry's work on the Park's social media pages and other communications.

Jerry's wide collection of images of native insects, birds, landscapes and other flora and fauna delight and help people discover the wonders waiting to be explored in their own parks, backyards and other green spaces. His work helps Summit Metro Parks connect with its audiences and uncover a world that is often difficult to see.

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**Jim Roetzel** is an Ohio native who has lived in Summit County his entire life. Growing up near Cuyahoga Valley National Park and Summit Metro Parks, Jim has photographed all over the U.S. and Canada, following nature's rhythms, migrations, and seasons. His work regularly appears in national and local publications, including Audubon, Yahoo, Nature Conservancy, Birder's World, Ducks Unlimited, Little Brown, National Parks, Ohio, Smithsonian and Time-Life.

Jim's first book in 2005 was Cuyahoga Valley National Park: A Photographic Portrait with longtime friend and renowned photographer Ian Adams. In 2007, Birds of North America was produced using nearly 250 of Jim's avian images. In 2008 he teamed with fellow bird photographer Jim Zipp to produce Birds of New England. Jim is also an avid photography teacher, leading workshops and tours for 20+ years, and tours from Alaska to Florida. He is a retired photography teacher of 30 years from Hudson City Schools. His work formed the traveling exhibit Wings and Voices of the Cuyahoga: How Birds Connect Us in 2021-23. [jimroetzel.com](http://jimroetzel.com)

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**Danae Wolfe** is a macro photographer and conservation educator. She launched her organization, Chasing Bugs, in 2015. She began photographing nature as a young girl, but it wasn't until her first environmental studies course in college when she fell in love with the natural world and environmental education. Through photography, public speaking and writing, Danae teaches others about the beauty, diversity and importance of insects and spiders, while sharing ways to support these animals in the home landscape. Her career includes serving as a naturalist at Cuyahoga Valley National Park, Cleveland Metroparks and currently with the Ohio Nature Conservancy as Digital Marketing Manager.

Through Chasing Bugs ([chasingbugs.com](http://chasingbugs.com)), Danae offers programs on "Homegrown Conservation," including Lessen Your Lawn, Eliminate Invasives, Plant Native and Reduce Pesticides. She provides workshops on snowflake, insect and macro photography and extends outreach through her blog. Her talks include macro photography on a budget, backyard stewardship for beginners and storytelling through photography.

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**Anthony Rodgers** was born and raised in Cuyahoga County and has a life-long interest in the natural world. He earned BS in Zoology from The Ohio State University and a Master's in Education from Cleveland State University. Anthony has expertise in assessing wetlands, surveying snakes and studying beetles around the Cleveland area. Currently he is a high school science teacher in Cleveland where he teaches Conservation Biology.

As a photographer, Anthony's favorite subjects include insects, birds, wildflowers, reptiles and amphibians and fungi. His work highlights native species with a focus on the flora and fauna of Northeast Ohio. Whether it is macro photography, wide-angle, experimenting with light and composition, or freezing birds in flight, Anthony enjoys adding to his "tool-belt" and challenges himself to continuously grow in his photography. His images help inspire and educate his students about the ecology of the world around them. His first published print image was in The Nature Conservancy's fall 2021 issue. His work can be found on his Instagram page: **@Platydracus**.

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**Denny Reiser** is a science and math educator turned renowned nature photographer of Northeast Ohio's many environmental faces. He taught math and science for 30 years in Bay Village and Aurora, and was a seasonal Ranger for Cuyahoga Valley National Park for 6 years, frequently leading school groups. He has spent more than a decade as a Volunteer Photographer for CVNP, and his work can be viewed throughout the park, in the gift shops, in many publications and online.

Denny also volunteers for Summit Metro Parks, is an Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist, and is a member of the Ohio Bee Survey. He is a certified Volunteer Pollinator Specialist through The Ohio State University. Denny provides talks on a wide range of historical and nature topics, and uses his storytelling and photographic skills to engage and inspire. His work was included in Crooked River Contrasts, the first exhibit devoted to making connections to the Cuyahoga River and discovering its beauty and challenges.

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**Jeffrey Gibson** is a retired biology teacher from Revere High School and has photographed extensively in the Cuyahoga River watershed, parks and green spaces. He earned First Place in the Ansel Adams International Photo Contest, and his images have been displayed in the Cleveland Institute of Music, University Hospitals and Cleveland Hopkins Airport. His images were selected by the Akron Symphony Orchestra for a musical tribute to Cuyahoga Valley National Park, and he has published 41 of them in the Park calendar over the last 10 years.

Jeff's work is seen in community spaces around Northeast Ohio. Two murals are displayed in the Summa Cardiac Rehabilitation Center in Akron, in the law offices of Kastner, Westman and Wilkens in Montrose, and on signage for new trailhead displays in CVNP, among others. Seven murals of his images are displayed in the new Woodridge Elementary school in Peninsula. His work appeared in National Geographic and, under Crooked River Images, is easily accessible at many regional arts events. **crookedriverimages.com**

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