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CONDORS AND KESTRELS FLOCK TO ROGER TORY PETERSON INSTITUTE

Jamestown, NY – The Roger Tory Peterson Institute (RTPI) is delighted to announce the opening of its newest art exhibition, *Enduring Beauty: Portraits of the California Condor and American Kestrel* by artist-in-residence Jennifer L. Anderson, on display from February 14, 2026 to June 21, 2026.

Visitors will enjoy viewing 28 artworks created in watercolor, drypoint and ink which bring to life portrait-like images of the endangered California Condor and American Kestrel. Also available for viewing are some of her printing and drawing tools. Anderson was RTPI's 2025 artist-in-residence, an annual program offered at RTPI since 2022. Herself a resident of Monterey, CA and rural Vermont, she came for one week to RTPI to study Roger Tory Peterson's work and archives, in part to gain his perspective of the health of Condor and Kestrel populations in his time.

Curator Rachael Kosinski said, "Anderson's concern for the decline of both kestrels and condors mirrors Roger Tory Peterson's observations of the ospreys' decline from human DDT usage. By closely studying Peterson's own watercolor and gouache works, as well as utilizing his personal library and correspondence collection, it reinforced her hope for a world in which endangered species are no longer in danger and can thrive."

Anderson's artistic practice has been shaped by a lifelong relationship with birds and the naturalists who taught her to see them. Working in watercolors and printmaking, she aims to balance anatomical accuracy with emotional resonance, allowing areas to remain loose or unfinished so the essence of the bird takes precedence over complete description.

Anderson said, "Art-making is my key to the secret garden, my journey through the looking glass; it provides never-ending possibilities of exploration and connection. Some imagery seems to be hard-wired into my soul, especially birds. I am captivated by their movements, their forms and the space they create with their actions."

Jennifer L. Anderson is a painter and printmaker working in many disciplines. She splits her time between Monterey and her family home in Vermont, both places offering her a connection to the flora and fauna of the natural world. Anderson's works are held in public and private collections internationally.

Anderson will be presenting a virtual talk soon and her show is a featured part of RTPI's Art After 5 program on the evening of February 27th. Additional programming will be scheduled soon and will include current information about the restoration of California Condor populations. Those details and other programs are listed on their website at <http://bit.ly/4kLQmiG>

Home to the largest collection of Peterson's original artwork, the Roger Tory Peterson Institute is the living embodiment of the Peterson Field Guide. Through art exhibitions and programs, RTPI illuminates the beauty of nature, challenges us to confront the critical conservation challenges of our time, and inspires us to preserve the earth's biodiversity. For more information, visit <https://rtpi.org/>.

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Exhibition Dates: February 14, 2026, on view through June 21, 2026

For image files, please send a request to rkosinski@rtpi.org



Jennifer L. Anderson, watercolor, *Holding the Weight of Time*



Jennifer L Anderson, watercolor, *Held in Her Own Keeping*