

Moths in Moonlit Meadows

Follow the work of Duke Farms educator and artist, Meghan Martin, as she demonstrates the progress on her newest work entitled, *Moths in Moonlit Meadows*. Along the way, we will be posting guided questions aligned to the environmental and natural sciences that formulate the basis of her design decisions. Throughout the project you will:

- Be introduced to 14 native species of moths while learning fun facts about their features
- Develop a keener sense of the biodiversity exhibited in healthy meadows
- Discover the important role moths play in our environment

In preparation, please note that the project includes 25 days of posts prior to unveiling the completed work. We hope you enjoy the adventure while discovering the ecological significance of meadows and moths to our natural world.

Kate Reilly, Manager of Education, Duke Farms

Mural Progress Number 8



What's this plant? This one is from the Aster family, has individual flower heads that are ~ ½ inch across, and hairy stems and leaves.

Answer to Post 7: The flower in the post 7's closeup is wild bergamot.

Mural Progress Number 9



Can you recognize this flower? Often associated with monarch butterflies, this plant contains toxins.

Answer to Post 8: The last flower was daisy fleabane.

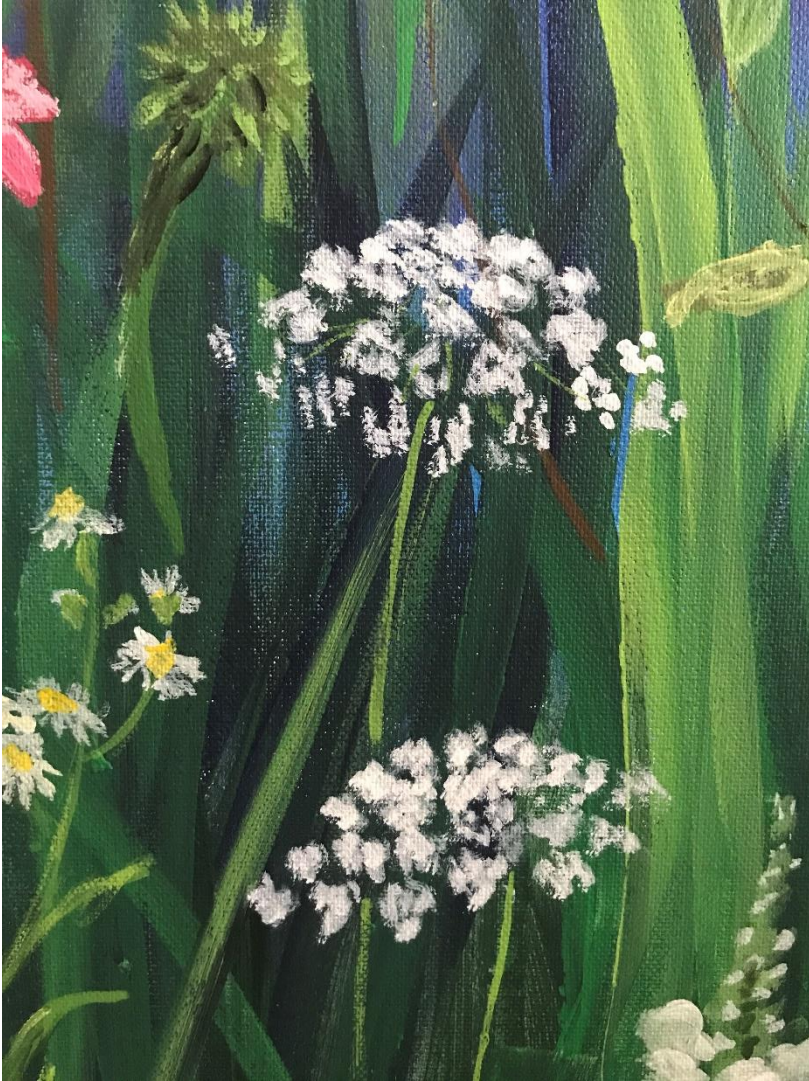
Mural Progress Number 10



Do you recognize this flower? Here's a hint: when this plant gets bent, it tends to stay in that position for a while.

Answer from Post 9: The only food source for monarch caterpillars, the last plant was common milkweed.

Mural Progress Number 11



This plant belongs in the carrot family. It's very high in sugar and the flower cluster is made up of numerous tiny, white, flowers. Do you know its name?

Answer to Post 10: Did you recognize the obedient plant?

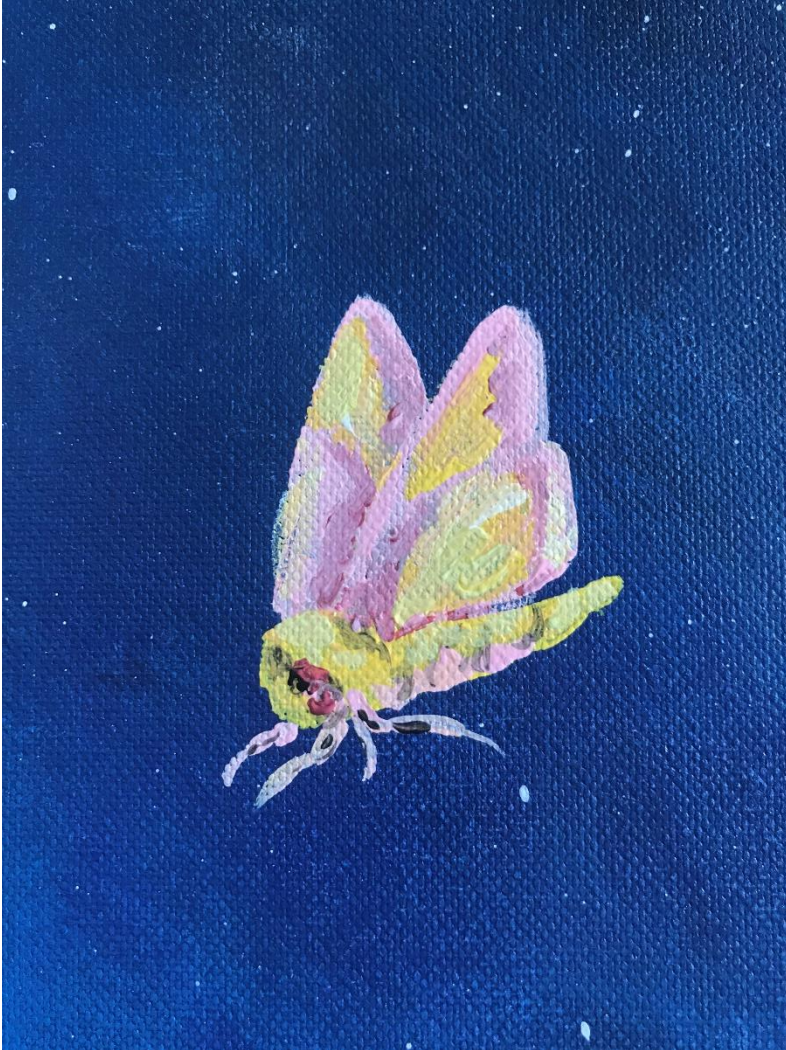
Mural Progress Number 12



Does this vibrant pink flower look familiar to you? The genus comes from the Greek *echinos*, meaning hedgehog.

Answer to Post 11: The last plant we showed off was Queen Anne's lace.

Mural Progress Number 13



We're changing it up and observing critters now. The caterpillars of this moth change color as they develop; the most prefers maple trees as a host.

Answer to Post 12: Were you able to put two and two together and associate the word, *echinos* with echinacea?

Mural Progress Number 14



Look at this moth! It looks at home under the moonlight with its otherworldly color. Do you know what this moth is called?

Answer to Post 13: The bright pink and yellow moth from post 13 is a rosy maple moth (*Dryocampa rubicunda*).