



Debra Lynn Ireland

Artist Debra Lynn Ireland, born in Scarborough, Ontario, has always been compelled by her love of wildlife.

Mainly a self-taught artist, Debra found herself developing her own style and painting wildlife in her free time, focusing her passion and commitment to wildlife by concentrating on their physical details and capturing the emotion of the moment.

Debra finds inspiration from her own experiences with wildlife from around her home in Northern Ontario and during her many adventures to Australia, Africa, Costa Rica and throughout the United States. Photographing, sketching and understanding her subject is an essential part of her work before she can create the final painting. Debra works in watercolour with gouache, acrylic and has just begun working with pastel.

Debra's painting, *Sweet Dreams*, was selected to join Ducks Unlimited Canada's 2008 National Art Portfolio. This limited edition series is only available through Ducks Unlimited Canada fundraising initiatives. The money raised through this program supports Ducks Unlimited Canada's on-the-ground wetland conservation work, scientific research and education programs.



The Inspiration for *Sweet Dreams*

The inspiration of this painting came from my two boys. Once I became a mother, with another child on the way, I began the painting of the mother polar bear and her two cubs. I wanted to capture the feeling of drifting off to sleep with the knowledge my children were safe and happy after whispering to them "*Sweet Dreams*".

Additional Work by Debra Lynn Ireland

This is not the first time Debra's gentle and touching work has received praise from Ducks Unlimited Canada. Her painting *Paws for Attention* was selected as part of a previous DUC National Art Portfolio.

