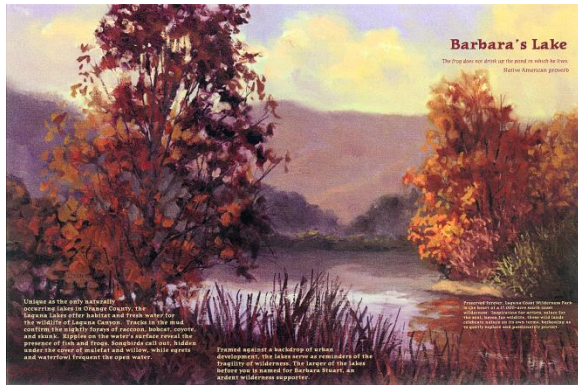
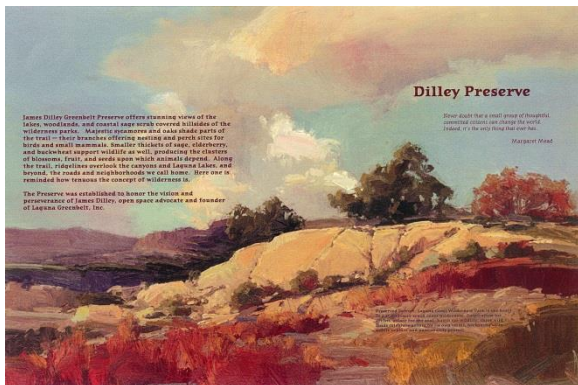


Laguna Coast Wilderness Park Laguna Canyon, California



The Acorn Group developed the orientation signage used throughout Laguna Coast Wilderness Park, a tract of 6,600 acres of coastal sage scrub adjoining an additional 10,000 protected acres in the heart of coastal Orange County.

Nearby Laguna Beach hosts a century-old, vibrant artist community that today forms the basis for a thriving tourism economy. Recognizing the interests of the audience and the role of the arts in deepening appreciation for the region's beauty, The Acorn Group and Laguna Canyon Foundation commissioned six Plein Air artists to create Laguna Canyon oil paintings as tone-setting backgrounds for trailhead panels.



Each framed panel rests on an easel, making it appear as though an artist is busy at work. The project earned the community's title, "spirit painters of the canyon." It also earned the honor of receiving NAI's 2002 Interpretive Media Award.



In 2008, we designed the panels for a 1/2-mile loop trail in the park that takes visitors through scent-rich coastal sage scrub, a laurel sumac forest, and sycamore woodland. Made of corten steel and porcelain enamel, the panels feature scent pods, flip lids, and other interactive media designed to pique interest and encourage readers to take a second look (or second sniff) to discover the canyon's secrets.

