

# YLENIA VIMERCATI, M. Sc.

E-mail vimercatimolanoylenia@gmail.com  
Website www.vimercatiart.com  
Cell. +39 3291864810  
Linkedin ylenia vimercati molano, msc

## PROFILE

Ylenia Vimercati is a dedicated and multidisciplinary professional with a strong academic foundation in biodiversity and evolutionary biology (MSc), complemented by a Master's in Digital Scientific Illustration. An award-winning visual communicator, she is passionate about combining scientific inquiry with creative expression to foster curiosity and deepen public understanding of the natural world through research, illustration, and writing.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2024 **Scientific Illustrator**  
*Quandt Mycology Lab, University of Colorado at Boulder (USA)*

2019 – 2023 **Science News Translator (English - Italian)**  
*Mongabay (Italy)*

2018 – 2023 **Science and Travel Writer**  
*La Rivista della Natura (Italy)*

2021 – 2022 **Science Writer, Editor and Illustrator**  
*Skua Nature Group (Italy)*

2019 **Microbiology Lab Assistant**  
*Schimdt Lab, University of Colorado at Boulder (USA)*

2016 **Marine Biology Intern**  
*Bottlenose Dolphin Research Institute (Spain)*

2011 **Paleontology Research Associate**  
*Museum of Natural History, University of Colorado at Boulder (USA)*

## EDUCATION

2024 **Master in Scientific Illustration**  
*Escuela Trazos (Spain)*

2017 **M. Sc. in Biology**  
*University of Milan (Italy) and Bottlenose Dolphin Research Institute (Spain)*  
Thesis: A comparative study of whistle characteristics between Atlantic and Mediterranean populations of wild bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*)

2013 **B. Sc. in Natural Sciences**  
*University of Milan (Italy) and University of Colorado at Boulder (USA)*

Thesis: Hypothetical theropod coprolites from the Late Maastrichtian Hell Creek Formation of North America: analysis, paleobiological significance and interpretation on the identity of the animal source

### Additional Coursework

2025 - Ongoing      **Data Science with Python**, Code Signal  
2025                    **Illustrate Infographics and Microscopy**, Academia Illustraciencia  
2023                    **Statistics and R**, HarvardX

### SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

#### Peer-Reviewed Articles

Bueno de Mesquita, C. P., **Vimercati Molano, Y.**, Vimercati, L., & de Mesquita, P. J. B. (2024). Using evidence-based scientific research to influence dietary behavioral change: taking a look in the mirror. **NEW SOLUTIONS: A Journal of Environmental and Occupational Health Policy**, 34(1), 10-21.

Vimercati, L., Bueno de Mesquita, C. P., Johnson, B. W., Mineart, D., DeForce, E., **Vimercati Molano, Y.**, ... & Schmidt, S. K. (2022). Dynamic trophic shifts in bacterial and eukaryotic communities during the first 30 years of microbial succession following retreat of an Antarctic glacier. **FEMS Microbiology Ecology**, 98(12), fiac122.

#### Popular Science Writing

With *Microbe of the Month (AMO)*, University of Colorado at Boulder (USA):

"Vampire Amoebae! (Vampyrellida)"

"*Rhodofera*x bacteria in the Antarctic chronosequence"

"The microbial community of Mt. Kilimanjaro's vanishing icefields"

With *Lonely Planet (Italy)*:

"A Night to Remember: A Memorable Evening in the Heart of Malaysian Borneo"

With *La Rivista della Natura (Italy)*:

"Milk, Now Made in Labs—No Cows Needed"

"On the Slopes of Everest: A Journey in Search of Resilience"

"Jaguar Makes Its Comeback in Argentina's Iberá National Park"

[Full list of articles available upon request]

### EXPEDITIONS AND FIELD EXPERIENCE

Traveled to **over 35 countries across 5 continents** for education, research, and travel purposes

2012                    Panda Conservation Spokesperson at the **Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding (China)**

2012                    Bear Behavior Study with GORE-TEX® in **Valle de Arán – Pyrenees (Spain)**

2010 Panda Conservation Spokesperson **Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding (China)**

## AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

2025, Apr **Finalist** in the 12th International Award on Scientific and Nature Illustration by Illustraciencia for 'Life on Ice'

2024, Oct **First Prize** in the 2024 FIIN (Festival Internacional de Imagem de Natureza) Biodiversity Drawing Competition in the category of scientific illustration for '*Camponotus ligniperda*'

2024, Jun **First Prize** in the VI Scientific Illustration Contest of the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Málaga in collaboration with the Malaga Academy of Sciences for '*Coprinus comatus*'

2024, Apr **Finalist** in the 11th International Award on Scientific and Nature Illustration by Illustraciencia for 'River Crossing in Borneo'

2021, Aug **Best Translator** Q2 issued by Mongabay

2019, Jun **Best Translator** Q2 issued by Mongabay

## SKILLS

### Lab skills:

DNA extraction and quantification, bacterial/fungal culturing, microscopy, petrographic prep

### Software Proficiency:

Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, MS Office, 3D Protein Imaging, Avogadro, Chimera, Wix

### Programming and Data Analysis:

Experience using Python and R

### Visual Communication and Writing:

Science writing, editorial work, digital and scientific illustration, public outreach

### Languages:

English (fluent, TEFL certified), Italian (native), Spanish (native)

## TEACHING AND TRANSLATION EXPERIENCE

2023 – Present **ESL Instructor**  
*Happy English language school (Italy)*

2020 – Present **ESL Instructor**  
*Erremme School of English (Italy)*

2020 **Book Translator (English - Italian)**  
*How to Create a Vegan World* by Tobias Leenaert; 240 pp.  
Edizioni Sonda (Italy)

2019 – 2021      **ESL Instructor**  
*Jump In English Language School (Italy)*

## **LICENSES**

2024              **Enriched Air Diver (PADI)**  
2023              **Rescue Diver (PADI)**  
2023              **Emergency First Response Primary and Secondary Care (PADI)**  
2020              **Dry Suit Diver (PADI)**  
2020              **AWARE Coral Reef Conservation Specialty (PADI)**  
2015              **Advanced Open Water Diver (PADI)**  
2013              **Open Water Diver (PADI)**

## **REFERENCES**

*[References available upon request]*