

Joanne Schwartz is a very avid, amateur mycologist, having studied fungi since the 1960's. She has collected and photographed fungi throughout the new and old world and has participated in field studies in Japan, Peru, Ecuador and Bolivia as well as the Redwoods and islands of coastal California, the Sierra, Wyoming, Montana ... everywhere she goes! Always searching for fungi to study, photograph and identify, Joanne is often found looking down while hiking. She is also an eager mycophagist (fungi-eater) and prepares wild fungi for tasting and for the dinner table whenever possible.

Joanne is on the Board of the Fungal Diversity Survey (FunDiS) which empowers Community Scientists to study (document, voucher and sequence) fungi in their local areas. She has received funding for fungal DNA sequencing projects here in Orange County and on the Channel Islands and has discovered new species in each area.