

KAREN KIRCHHOFF

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PHOTOGRAPHER / SUPERVISOR

I have over 30 years of experience working in various aspects of the photo industry in Philadelphia and San Francisco. I currently work as a university photographer, department supervisor, and adjunct professor. I have also worked extensively as a freelance and fine art photographer, photography instructor, fine art printer, and photo equipment technician. I am a lifelong humanitarian and naturalist.

EDUCATION

MFA (photography), Tyler School of Art, Philadelphia, 2008
Bachelor of Arts (photography), San Francisco State University, 1999

AWARDS

- Second Place Award, 2021, Delaware County Community College, 2151610 Contemporary, Curated by Christina Vassallo of the Fabric Workshop and Museum
- Webb Cam Award, Tyler School of Art, 2008, Faculty choice awarded to one graduating MFA photography candidate
- Project Completion Grant, Temple University, 2007, Proposal based, school-wide, juried competition
- Outstanding Student Achievement Award, San Francisco State University Alumni Association, 1998, Certificate awarded to students that incorporate social justice work into their education
- Jules Strauss Scholarship for Photography, San Francisco State University, 1997, Proposal based, juried photography competition to award funding to accomplished student

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Supervisor, Photography Services, Thomas Jefferson University and Hospital, Philadelphia, PA, 2012 to present

- As Photography Supervisor I perform and oversee the production of photographic material for teaching, research, promotion, and other University and Hospital related purposes, as well as, update equipment, maintain our image archives, create annual reports, do budgeting and implement staff performance evaluations.

Adjunct Photography Faculty, Drexel University, Pennsylvania College of Art and Design, Tyler School of Art, Delaware County Community College, Project Basho, Moore College of Art, 2007 to present

- As an adjunct photo professor, I was involved in many aspects of photography instruction. I developed and implemented level I and II courses in traditional black and white 35mm camera

- and darkroom practices, as well as beginning and advanced courses in digital photography. I frequently lectured in advanced DSLR use, Photoshop, and lighting techniques for photography. I designed the first Tyler class in studio and location lighting techniques for both graduate and undergraduate students and I aided the Tyler photography department in the design of their new lighting studio.

Freelance Photography and Assisting, Philadelphia, PA and San Francisco, CA, 1999 to current

- As a freelance photographer I produced studio and location photography for various clients. I managed all aspects of Karen Kirchhoff Photography, including advertising, scheduling, hiring, and finances. I also worked as an assistant to various commercial and wedding photographers on both studio and location shoots.

Custom Color Printer, In Color 2, San Francisco, CA, 2003-2004

- I produced fine art and traditional color photo prints and provided customer service.

Assistant Supervisor/Photo Technician, Pro Camera Rental and Supply, San Francisco, CA, 1999-2003

- I provided customer service and technical support for clients renting camera and lighting equipment. I inspected and prepared rental photography equipment, performing minor repairs as needed.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Skillful with all digital and film camera systems.
- Practiced in use and maintenance of strobe and continuous lighting equipment.
- Capable in studio or on location.
- Experienced with Mac using Adobe CC (Photoshop, Lightroom and Illustrator), iMovie, Leaf Capture, Phase One, PowerPoint, FileMaker, and Word.
- Familiar with Epson, Nikon, and Imacon image scanning systems.
- Capable with digital printing and printer maintenance.
- Capable with all traditional B&W and color darkroom processes.

VOLUNTEER

Patient Escort, Planned Parenthood of Southeastern PA, Philadelphia, 2021-2023

Instructor, First Exposures Youth Program, Cameraworks in conjunction with In Color 2, San Francisco, CA, 2004, Fine art traditional color printing workshop for teens.

Instructor, Dolores Street Day Laborer Community Services, San Francisco, CA, 2002
Beginning photo workshop for day laborer workers in the Mission District of SF.

Artist's Assistant, Mission Voices Youth Program, Southern Exposure Gallery, San Francisco, CA, 1999
Assistant to instructor in a program for immigrant and first-generation teens. Responsibilities included aiding teens with art projects, and lecturing.

Lab Assistant, Sixth Street Photography Workshop, San Francisco, CA, 1995
Aided individuals marginalized because of homelessness or HIV status with traditional B&W photography process.

Lab Assistant, Homeplace Community Center, Oakland, CA, 1992
Aided adults with traditional darkroom printing as part of a drug rehabilitation program.

FEATURED EXHIBITIONS, PROJECTS and PUBLICATIONS

Adobe Books, Undercommon Archive, curated by Ivy Jeanne, SF, CA, 2023
Stockton University Art Gallery, Shortest, Fastest, Loudest, group exhibition, NJ, 2023
In the Basement, Punk Music Spaces, Brown Owl Press book publication, UK, 2022
Philadelphia Photographic Arts Center, Annual Member Exhibition, PA, 2021
Delaware County Community College, 2151610 Contemporary, Curated by Christina Vassallo of the Fabric Workshop and Museum, Second Place Award, PA, 2021
Grey Cube Gallery, Nature, online exhibit, 2021
Ethics, Politics and Anarcho Punk Identifications by Edward Avery-Natale, contributing photographer, Lexington Books, 2016
FUTURE FACES, collaborative photography project in conjunction with Thomas Jefferson University Human Resources featuring youth aspiring to work in the medical professions, PA, 2015-2017
LOUD! FAST! PHILLY!, documentation of Philadelphia punk music makers, 2014-2016
Wolf Gallery, Group Exhibition, Philadelphia, PA, 2015
Grindcore House, Solo Exhibition, Philadelphia, PA, 2014
Bucks County Community College, New Philadelphia Photographers, PA, 2013
University at Buffalo, Center for the Arts, Group Exhibition, Buffalo, NY, 2011
Borrowed Time Gallery, Solo Exhibition, Philadelphia, PA, 2009
Temple Gallery, In the Basement, Tyler M.F.A. thesis exhibition, Philadelphia, PA, 2008
Circle of Hope, Solo Exhibition, Philadelphia, PA, 2008
Tyler Gallery, 1st Year Juried M.F.A. Exhibit, Philadelphia, PA, 2007
The Charles Adams Gallery, UPenn, Juried Student Snapshot Exhibition, curated by Zoe Strauss, 2006
Providence Art Club, Voice, curated by Kara Walker, Providence, RI, 2006
Needles and Pens Gallery, This is the World as We See It, Group Exhibition, SF, CA, 2005

GUEST LECTURER

Bucks County Community College, 2013
Tyler School of Art, Photographing Your Artwork, sculpture department, 2008
Tyler School of Art, Using Your DSLR, and Simple Lighting Techniques, photography department, 2008