

EXPERIENCE

Since 1973, Richard McWherter's activities have included the learning, creating, exhibiting and teaching of photography as a Visual Art. McWherter's photographs have appeared in several regional publications and have also been reproduced in national magazines for fine art photography. In 1990 he received the top award for black and white photography from *Photographer's Forum* magazine and his work appeared in the book *The Best of Photography* as a first place winner. His self-published "How to" books were first sold on the Internet, with customers as far away as Greenland and Japan.

As an educator, McWherter is dedicated to the continued artistic growth of all learners. He earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 1993 from Seton Hill University with a major in Studio Arts and a minor in Art Education. In 1996 he became the current Visual Arts Instructor at the high school in his hometown in Western Pennsylvania and now serves as the Art Department Chair. He has also taught photography and digital imaging at the University and other local art centers. He has received many awards for his photographic art, as well as for his innovations in teaching, and in 2007 he was named the Art Educator of the Year by the Greensburg Area Cultural Council. It is his belief that creative thinking and inventive problem solving skills are extremely important to the success of both individuals and society as a whole.

McWherter was one of the first contemporary artists in the country to exhibit their work on-line through a self-designed personal Web page. The page was featured in a story in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* in March of 1996 and appeared in syndication in newspapers across the nation. In December of 2000, he was included in the inaugural edition of the *International Who's Who in the 21st Century*, published in Cambridge, England.

His commercial clients have included both regional and national corporations and institutions, as well as freelance assignments for family portraiture and groups. Currently he works exclusively on self-assignments for gallery and book projects and is represented by his entrepreneurial venture, Walkwood Publishing. For more information, please visit his webpage at Walkwood.net, where you can also view an online gallery of his work.



RICHARD S. McWHERTER



EDUCATION

Bachelor of Fine Arts

Seton Hill College, Greensburg, Pennsylvania. With a major in Photography and a minor in Art Education. *Magna Cum Laude*. December 1993

Palm Beach Photographic Workshops

Deerfield Beach, Florida. Individualized study under Mary Ellen Mark. February 1990

Eastman Kodak Company

Rochester, New York. Certificate of Achievement, Commercial Lab Seminar. March 1981

Westmoreland County Community College

Youngwood, Pennsylvania. Continuing Education Certificate, Entrepreneurialship. April 1981

Derry Area Senior High School

Derry Area School District, Derry, Pennsylvania. 1975

Governor's School for the Arts

Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. Scholarship recipient for photographic studies. 1973

SELECTED AWARDS

2007 **Art Educator of the Year**

Selected by the Greensburg Area Cultural Council and sponsored by Westmoreland Cultural Trust in recognition for excellence in arts education in Westmoreland County high schools. Spring 2007

2005 **Who's Who Award**

Among America's Teachers. Select 5% of the nation's outstanding teachers. Teacher nominations are by former students. Spring 2005

2005 **Keystones Technology Integrator**

District Level Nominee, Derry Area School District, Derry, Pennsylvania. Spring 2005.

2003 **Excellence in Education Award**

Latrobe Area Chamber of Commerce Education Foundation, Latrobe, Pennsylvania. Teacher nominations are by former students. Spring 1999 and 2003.

2001 **21st Century Who's Who**

Selected as a person of note, inclusive of all fields of endeavors from around the world. Who's Who in the 21st Century, International Biographical Centre, Cambridge, England. December 2000.

1993 **Who's Who Award**

Among Students in American Universities & Colleges. Elected in recognition of outstanding merit and accomplishment as a student at Seton Hill College, 1992-1993.

1992 **Merit Award**

for Westmoreland County, PA. Westmoreland Arts Nationals, Youngwood Pennsylvania. Juried Photography Exhibition.

1991 **Sonafelt Award**

for Tenure of Clay. Westmoreland Art Nationals, Greensburg, Pennsylvania. Juried Photography Exhibition.

1990 **Salon Award**

for Holocaust Memorial. Annual Triangle Photographer's Association Print Competition, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

"My observation is that (Richard) is highly self-motivated, talented and has a keen mind."

-Maureen Vissat
Associate Professor
of Art History
Seton Hill University



1990 First Place

in black and white photography for Holocaust Memorial. *Photographer's Forum* magazine, Santa Barbara, California. 10th Annual Spring Photography Contest.

1990 National Photograph of the Year

for Bingo Night. Westmoreland Art Nationals, Greensburg, Pennsylvania. Juried Photography Exhibition.

1988 Merit Award

for Rachel and Ivan. Westmoreland Art Nationals, Greensburg, Pennsylvania. Juried Photography Exhibition.

1973 Scholarship

Governor's School for the Arts, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. Scholarship recipient for photographic studies.

EXPERIENCE

Fine Art Photographer

From 1973 to the present. Richard McWherter has received national recognition and awards for his photography. His work has been exhibited in many regional shows and gallery exhibitions.

Visual Arts Instructor

for Derry Area School District, Derry, Pennsylvania. High school courses taught include Ceramics, Commercial Art, Sculpture, Basic Design, Jewelry, Freehand Drawing, Intro to Visual Arts, Yearbook, 3D Animation & Intro to Crafts. From Fall 1996 to present.

“Thank you for sharing your “Sheltered Passions” (project) with me. I certainly hope you can continue. It should make a most interesting book.”

-Terry J. Deglau
Eastman Kodak Co.
(retired)

Inaugural Board Member

Education Foundation, Derry Area School District. Non-profit organization to enhance efforts within the community to support education. Derry, Pennsylvania. Fall 2004 to present.

Cooperating Teacher

and mentor for student art teachers from Seton Hill University and Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Spring & Fall 2000, Spring 2003, Fall 2005, Spring 2006 and Spring 2009.

Freelance Photographer

From 1989 to 1996. Group and location photography, including motion picture stills. Clients include both private and corporate accounts. Assignments covered work for both regional and national corporations as well as commissions for family portraiture and groups.

Adjunct Instructor

for Seton Hill College, Greensburg, Pennsylvania. Basic Photography & Colour Photography. Part time, Fall 1996 to Fall 1998, Spring 2006.

Instructor

for Pittsburgh Center for the Arts, Art Camp 1995, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. July 1995.

Entrepreneur

Founder and proprietor of Hour Glass Photo, Latrobe, Pennsylvania. Hour Glass Photo was a retail on-site photo finishing laboratory. September 1984 to June 1989.

Instructor

Westmoreland County Community College, Public Libraries Project, 35mm Photography. Part time, Fall 1981, Spring/Fall 1982 and Spring 1983.

Department Head

for The Darkroom, Inc., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Managerial and quality control responsibilities of all reproduction copy systems in preparation of a photograph for print media separations or for exhibition. January 1979 to September 1984.

Lab Technician

for The Darkroom, Inc., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. June 1977 to January 1979.

Staff Photographer

for the Latrobe Bulletin, Latrobe Printing and Publishing Company, Latrobe, Pennsylvania. July 1975 to November 1976.

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

Southwestern Pennsylvania Juried Exhibition

Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art,
Ligonier, PA Winter 2009-10.

Westmoreland Art Nationals

Greensburg, Pennsylvania
Juried Photography Exhibitions
July 1988, 1990, 1991, 1992,
1993, 1994, 1995, 2008 and 2009.

Greensburg Art Club

Greensburg, Pennsylvania
Juried Shows
1982, 1987, 1989, 1991, 1992,
1993 and 1994.

Silver Eye Center for Photography

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Juried Member Show
1991 and 1994.

Harlan Gallery

Seton Hill College, Greensburg,
Pennsylvania. Ensemble Exhibition.
November 1993.

Three Rivers Arts Festival

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Photography Division
June 1978, 1980 and 1991.

Artisan's Loft

Ligonier, Pennsylvania
Featured Artist Exhibition
December 1990.

Carnegie Museum of Natural History

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Natural World Photographic
Competition
1987.

“Rick is an extremely capable person who
applies himself diligently to whatever task lies
before him. He is extremely talented.”

-Dr. Terrance DePasquale
Education Department
Seton Hill University

“Mr. McWherter is an artist of vision, one who
goes well beyond the technical mastery of his
medium. His photographs have a spirit, a
dimension of the art which is reserved to those
who truly have something to say.”

-Ray DeFazio
Artist

“Thank you Richard for sending me your outline.
I can only tell you what Joseph Campbell might
have said, which is to ‘follow you bliss’.”

-Bill Moyers
PBS Commentator,
author, former
White House Press
Secretary



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