
For more details, stay tuned to www.spenational.org

Nate Larson, 2014 conference chair and a native to Baltimore is eager to show SPE all that Baltimore has to offer. He and the conference team are already well into planning an exciting lineup of programs and events. If you are interested in being a part of the general session programing be sure to submit your proposal by June 1, 2013.

Click here for complete conference proposal details.

The 2014 theme, “Collaborative Exchanges: Photography in Dialogue,” has already sparked a lot of interest and conversations. Photographers are reaching outside of themselves more than any point in history, to collaborate with other artists and writers, expand international relationships, engage with and empower communities, and build online resource groups and communities to facilitate their ideas. The conference will illuminate this new paradigm and celebrate the spirit of cooperation and social linkages. Be sure to join us and participate in the power of community and social exchange to propel new thinking in photographic practice!

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IMPORTANT: SPE’s eNewsletter is best viewed in Safari.

When Firefox v19 was released earlier this year, Firefox introduced its own PDF Viewer as the default. Regrettably, this viewer has problems with everything from how a PDF is displayed to how it is printed. Linkable images and navigation is missing when viewed through Firefox’s PDF viewer. Unfortunately, this is not something that can be controlled from SPE’s website. The good news is that Firefox now releases updates on a regular basis (versus every six months or annually), so hopefully, we will all be able to download an update that fixes the issue sooner than later! If you do choose to view SPE’s eNewsletter in Firefox, please go into Firefox’s preferences, select the Applications panel, search PDF, and change the action to “Use Adobe Acrobat.” The eNewsletter will then open in Acrobat and all linkable images will be present.
I am thrilled with every aspect of SPE’s 50th Anniversary Conference. The energy throughout all the programming was positive, active, engaged. A special thank you to all conference and national office staff, as well as the brave volunteers, who made things come together so brilliantly on the ground at the shiny Palmer House in Chicago, a perfect venue for a golden anniversary. The success and joy we experienced in Chicago symbolizes how well-situated SPE is to take on its next 50 years. I’d like to thank Francine Weiss of the Photographic Resource Center at Boston University for posting in the Boston Photography Focus blog words that perfectly describe the value of SPE conferences:

Entitled, “Conferring Significance: Celebrating Photography's Continuum,” this year’s conference encouraged debate and discussion while providing ample opportunities for sharing work, networking, socializing, and giving one another advice and support. The Society for Photographic Education (or SPE) fulfills a lot of concrete professional needs. Intangible and yet equally vital, SPE fulfills an emotional one: the need for inspiration.”

SPE is in a great position to continue its good work of providing inspiration, connection, advice and professional development. We have strong leadership engaged in the fulfillment of SPE’s strategic plan and we are actively building the resources to support the initiatives of that plan. We have a talented national office staff implementing the vision of the leadership, and collaborating on ways to maximize SPE’s effectiveness. We are about a third of the way towards reaching the goal of Future Focus, SPE’s 50th Anniversary Fundraising Campaign. The national office has moved (same address) into a space that will support added programming such as member exhibitions, workshops, lectures, and portfolio reviews. SPE’s journal, Exposure, is being gradually redesigned to make it more congruent with its content and with the organization’s priorities. Membership and conference attendance have increased, but SPE still holds on to the intimate flavor and feel that makes sharing work so valuable within its community. We have added new recognitions and opportunities for members, and are focused on increasing the scope of our membership to include high school and community colleges, international professionals and academics and other types of lens-based artists.

I ask our members to actively join us in this exciting time of forward momentum for SPE. Use SPE’s website, load your work into your online member gallery, look at other member work there and provide feedback in the conversations area. The more activity we can ignite in the conversations area of the website, the better we will be able to recreate the dynamic of SPE’s conferences throughout the entire year. Make a donation or a pledge to SPE 50th Anniversary Campaign to help us build the necessary resources to support our plans for new programming. Nominate colleagues or mentors for SPE’s Honored Educator and Insight Awards (see pg.3). Submit proposals by June 1 for next year’s exciting Conference, “Collaborative Exchanges: Photography in Dialogue.” Let the national office or the national programming was positive, active, engaged. A special thank you to all conference and national office staff, as well as the brave volunteers, who made things come together so brilliantly on the ground at the shiny Palmer House in Chicago, a perfect venue for a golden anniversary. The success and joy we experienced in Chicago symbolizes how well-situated SPE is to take on its next 50 years. I’d like to thank Francine Weiss of the Photographic Resource Center at Boston University for posting in the Boston Photography Focus blog words that perfectly describe the value of SPE conferences:

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Thanks for your participation and support of SPE!

With appreciation,
Virginia “Ginny” Morrison
SPE Executive Director

CALL FOR PROPOSALS BALTIMORE 2014
Submission Deadline: June 1, 2013 11:59 pm EST

How to Submit
• Confirm or renew your SPE membership.
• Create an account at http://spenational.slideroom.com and follow the instructions provided. For technical support, contact support@slideroom.com.
• Submit proposal (there will be a $10 fee per submission) in one of the five possible formats.
• Include name, address, phone, email, title of submission, additional speakers/panelists. All additional speakers must be confirmed at time of submission.
• A 500-word abstract detailing the presentation
• A 250-word biographical summary for each intended participant
• Up to 20 images around 1280 x 1280 px at 72 ppi.

Please direct any inquiries to the SPE national office at 216.622.2733 or events@spenational.org.
SPE CONFERENCE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN HISTORICAL, CRITICAL AND THEORETICAL WRITING

This award seeks to recognize excellence in writing in the field of photography among the Society’s members. Finalists will be selected from top-ranked applicants to SPE’s national conference proposal “lecture” category and the winner will be juried from completed papers submitted at a later date. The award carries a stipend of $1,000 and the winning paper will be considered for publication in a future issue of the Society’s journal Exposure. Deadline: June 1, 2013.

SPE’S INSIGHT AWARD

SPE’s Insight Award symbolizes the realization of a national or international career or the launching of future endeavors to new challenges, ideas, and horizons. Photographers, scholars, curators, writers, and visionaries—be their achievements rapid fire or accumulated over time—are eligible for the Society’s mark of recognition and distinction. The Insight Award recipient shall demonstrate excellence in two or more of the following ways:

- Innovative teaching
- Sustained mentoring of colleagues or students
- Broad contribution to technical, critical, pedagogical, or visual aspects of the field
- Breadth or depth of exhibition or publication
- Sustained presence in the field.

Submit your work here. Deadline: July 1, 2013.

SPE NATIONAL BOARD ELECTION

Thank you to those who submitted recommendations for SPE’s National Board of Directors election for the 2014 – 2016 term of office. The SPE Nominating Committee is preparing a slate of candidates that will be posted on SPE’s website on August 1, 2013. The SPE bylaws provide members with a period of thirty days to add to the slate. In the event that 2 percent of the membership recommends the addition of any Society member to the preliminary slate, the committee shall add up to four additional nominees (SPE bylaws, Article IV, Section 3).

Up to five winners will be selected each year. Full submission guidelines here. Deadline: July 1, 2013.

2014 SPE HONORED EDUCATOR

SPE seeks nominations for the Honored Educator Award given annually at the SPE National Conference. Candidates should have made a significant contribution to the field of photographic education either through classroom teaching, writing, publishing, museum education, or other areas of professional practice in the field of photography; be a full-career educator and while there is no specific requirement for the number of years in the field, but 15 years would generally be seen as a minimum; have been a member of SPE.

To be considered for the award, the educator must be nominated by a member of SPE. For full nomination guidelines please click here.

Deadline: July 1, 2013

SPE FUTURE FOCUS PROJECT SUPPORT GRANT

The SPE Future Focus Project Support Grant recognizes professional members’ exceptional creative photographic work and support their efforts. The award of $5,000 will be granted to one member in 2013.

Current professional level (non-student) members of SPE are eligible to apply. The grant was created to support a new project, or to continue an existing project in traditional still photography, digital video/film, multimedia, installation, or work created for the web. Full guidelines available here.

Deadline: July 1, 2013.

FUTURE FOCUS: SPE’S 50TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Many thanks to the 50cc committee (Mark Klett, Gary Kolb, Steven Benson, Richard Gray, Joann Brennan, Nate Larson, Michael Marshall, Tom Fischer, committee chair, Nancy Stuart and honorary co-chairs Joan and Nathan Lyons) whose work prepared us for the Future Focus Campaign launch at the National Conference in Chicago.

The conference was a terrific success, and we saw a lot of excitement and interest generated about the Future Focus Campaign at the event. People are invited to make a pledge that will provide support over the next several years, or make a single gift contribution to the campaign.

“This is the first time that SPE has reached out beyond membership drives and silent auctions to secure its future and expand its programming. At the same time we hope to build a culture of philanthropy within the organization to help us sustain added programming in the years to come. Many of us have experienced great support and inspiration for our careers in photographic education through SPE conferences and publications. The organization’s 50th anniversary is a great opportunity to honor SPE’s founders and give back,” said campaign chair Nancy Stuart.

SPE’s national board met in Chicago to prioritize the initiatives that will be funded by the campaign including online delivery of SPE content, new opportunities for member exhibitions, enhanced publications and international outreach.

Please visit www.spenational.org/support-us/donate to make your pledge today to make a difference for SPE’s tomorrow.
CONGRATULATIONS TO SPE’S 2013 STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS
Be sure to check out their member galleries on the SPE website!

SPE Award for Innovations in Imaging
in Honor of Jeannie Pearce
Malina Chavez, Duke University, Graduate Student

SPE Student Awards
Graduate Students
Malena Barnhart, Arizona State University
Clare Benson, University of Arizona
Anne Brye, Arizona State University
Meri Page, Mills College
Maggie Pinke, Rochester Institute of Technology
Jeremy Underwood, University of Houston
Keith Yahrmling, Rhode Island School of Design
Hyounsang Yoo, School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Undergraduate Students
Marcie Hancock, Savannah College of Art and Design
Whitten Sabbatini, Mississippi State University

2013 RAFFLE WINNERS
Print:
Lili Almog, Winner: James Horton
Print:
Justyna Badach, Winner: Sylvia de Swaan
Print:
Roger Ballen, Winner: Jason Reblando
Print:
Steven Benson, Winner: Sara Lowthian
Print:
Paul Berger, Winner: Nicholas Gialanella
Print:
Nancy Burson, Winner: Jim Stone
Print:
Vincent Giannini, Winner: Jamie Allen
Print:
Barbara Crane, Winner: John Willis
Print:
Sylvia de Swaan, Winner: Liz Allen
Print:
Robert Fichter, Winner: Ann Simmons Myers
Print:
John Ganis, Winner: Liz Wells
Print:
Susan Kae Grant, Winner: Heather Stratton
Print:
Alexander Heiler, Winner: Jeannie Pearce
Print:
Jessica Hines, Winner: Samantha Johnstone
Print:
Stephen Marc, Winner: Michael Terses
Print:
Richard Misrach, Winner: Mark Lee
Print:
Lori Nix, Winner: Bradly Dornback
Print:
Deborah Orloff, Winner: Brandy Save
Print:
Maggie Taylor, Winner: Jeannie Pearce
Print:
Hiroshi Watanabe, Winner: Miriam Romais

Item:
Tamron Lens
Winner:
Shannon Larrue

Item:
$400 Certificate to LensProToGo
Winner:
Alyssa Miserendino

Item:
Santa Fe Photographic Workshop Tuition Credit
Winner:
Joann O’Hare

Item:
$600 Certificate for DriveSavers Data Recovery
Winner:
Sylvia de Swaan

2013 SILENT AUCTION & RAFFLE DONORS
Thank you for your generous donations!

Lili Almog: Amherst Media; Amilus Inc; Archival Methods; Justyna Badach; Roger Ballen; Steven Benson; Paul Berger; Bostick & Sullivan, Inc; Brooks Institute; Nancy Burson; The Center for Fine Art Photography; Vicent Giannini; Clarellen; collect.give; Countryman Press; Barbara Crane; Datacolor; Davis Museum / distributed through ACTAR D (Wellesley College); Sylvia de Swaan; DECODE Books; Delmar Cangage Learning; Digital Silver Imaging; DriveSavers Data Recovery, Inc; Eilot Duduk; En Foco; Inc; Robert Fichter; Tom Fischer; FujiFilm; John Ganis; Getty Publications; Susan Kae Grant; Hahnemuhle; Harman Technology; Alexander Heiler; Hen Laying Egg; Henry Horenstein; Herron School of Art & Design; Jessica Hines; Houston Center for Photography; Imaging Spectrum, Inc; InkjetMall; Jeff Curto Photography; Katie Stern; Lensbaby; LensProToGo; LumiQuest; M.V. Swanson & Associates; MAC Group; Stephen Marc; Michael G Prais; Midwest Photo Exchange; Richard Misrach; Nancy Floyd; Nations Photo Lab / Artley Couture; Richard Newman; Lori Nix; Oriental Photo USA; Deborah Orloff; PDN/Nielsen Photo Group; The Photo Review; photo-eye; Plymouth University; Print File, Inc; Red River Paper; Santa Fe Photographic Workshops; Schiffer Publishing; SmugMug; Tamron USA Inc; Maggie Taylor; Think Tank Photo; University of Wisconsin Press; Wacom Technology Services, Inc; Hiroshi Watanabe; Western Digital; John Willis; Z Photo

UPCOMING 2013 REGIONAL CONFERENCES

NORTHEAST
November 8-9, 2013, Portland, ME
Conference Chair: Justin Kirchoff
northeast.spenational.org

MID-ATLANTIC

This is Not Photography
October 18-20, 2013, Asbury Park, NJ
Conference Co-Chairs: Anne Massoni, Geanna Menola, John Vigiano
Keynote Speakers: Jerry Uelmann and Maggie Taylor
Invited Speakers: Nate Larson and Marni Shindelman
Honored Educator: Wendel White
midatlantic.spenational.org

SOUTHEAST

Mad Hatters to Pixel Pushers
October 18-20, 2013, Charlotte, NC
Conference Co-Chairs: Laurie Schorr and Aspen Hochhalter
southeast.spenational.org

NORTH CENTRAL

Refining Humanity: Photography and Empathy
October 17-20, 2013, Houston and Galveston, TX
Conference Co-Chairs: Kristy Peek and Juliana Forero
Honored Educator: Keith Carter
southcentral.spenational.org

NORTHWEST

re:search
October 24-27, 2013, Lincoln, NE
Conference Co-Chairs: Larry Gawel and Dana Fritz
Keynote Speaker: Christian Patterson
Honored Educator: Jeff Curto
midwest.spenational.org

SOUTHWEST

On the Brink: Photography as Witness
October 11-13, 2013, Humboldt County, CA
Conference Chair: Nicole Jean Hill
Keynote Speaker: Brian Ulrich
Featured Speaker: Youngsuk Suh
southwest.spenational.org

MIDWEST

Community: Connecting Through Photography
November 7-10, 2013, Seattle, WA
northwest.spenational.org
2013 national conference review

Conferring Significance: Celebrating Photography’s Continuum
SPE’s 50th Anniversary National Conference
March 7 – 10, 2013, in Chicago, IL
at the Palmer House Hilton

By Claude Baillargeon, Michelle Bogre, Robin Germany, and Amy Holmes George, newly elected board members.

SPE’s 50th anniversary conference was truly a celebration! Taking place at the historic Palmer House in Chicago, the meeting attracted a record attendance of 1,600 and sold out for the second consecutive year. Chicago, a vibrant city with scores of great eats and exhibitions, offered the perfect venue for SPE’s golden anniversary. Conference Chair Jeff Curto’s vision helped shape this memorable event—complete with a complimentary theater box of Lemonheads for all attendees. Along with his fellow National Conference Committee members Nate Larson, Rod Slemmons, and Suzanne Szucs, Curto worked with the Local Committee chaired by Dirk Fletcher to plan three days of multi-track programming and festivities designed to mark the 50-year milestone.

Thursday’s popular Industry Seminars opened the proceedings with an exciting array of offerings ranging from Richard Newman’s Video Boot Camp to Jill Enfield’s Alternative Photography and How it Relates to the Digital Age. Martin Parr, the first of three spectacular keynote speakers, set the tone for the conference on Thursday evening with his Photobiography. As nondescript as a small town postmaster, Parr was well rehearsed, a bit brash and bold, and very funny, much like his images, which are intended to show “how we live, how we present ourselves, and what we value.” Parr’s main interest lies in the fictional aspect of photography and the medium’s ability to revel in ambiguity. An inveterate world traveler, Parr quipped that what he misses most at the end of the day is “a good cup of tea and the strong sense of irony” that one only finds in England.

In contrast, Richard Misrach, Friday’s keynote speaker, is as quintessentially American as Parr is British. Noting that he has “gone to the darkside” for not shooting film in seven years, Misrach admitted that he is “terrified” of photographing people. Attempts to overcome this fear led to striking images of ocean swimmers made from a hotel in Hawaii. “I am getting closer to taking portraits,” he said with intended irony.

The South African Zwelethu Mthethwa delivered the Saturday keynote address Who is Watching. Known for his large format portraits of black South Africans, Mthethwa spoke not so much of his images, but of the stories behind them. His presentation was part postcolonial history, part contemporary cultural analysis. He spoke deliberately and thoughtfully, arguing that it is up to viewers to delve into his images. “You can only understand a photograph,” he noted, “by bringing in your baggage, your education, and your background.”

The conference attendees were also treated to three high-profile invited speakers: Mona Kuhn, who presented a riveting survey of her intimate studies of the nude taken in France and Brazil; John Upton, who shared his recollections of the teaching contributions of Ansel Adams, Minor White, and Edward Weston at the California School of Fine Arts; and Olivia Parker, who discussed her exquisite body of still-life photographs.

In keeping with the conference theme, the rich programming of the general sessions was beautifully balanced between imagemakers, teaching sessions, lectures, panels, and demonstrations. As in other SPE conferences, the challenge was to choose from as many as five simultaneous offerings. For instance, Friday morning included a session with Dana Fritz, the 2013 SPE Imagemaker Award Winner, a presentation about teaching photography at San Quentin Prison, and talks on the influence of digitally networked images on politics, queer photography in the public sphere, service-learning curricula, teaching evaluations, and the
photographer portrayed as a conjurer. The afternoon speakers made for even more difficult choices, as did Saturday when one could choose between Julieanne Kost’s ever-popular Adobe Demo Session and eighteen other speakers scheduled between 10 am and 2:45 pm.

As always, the Exhibits Fair proved widely popular with more than 70 vendors on the floor, which was bustling with activity for the duration of the conference. SPE’s journal Exposure debuted its first booth this year, accompanied by the industry’s best in analog, digital, equipment, supplies, publications, education, and everything in between. Numerous book signings as well as the annual silent auction and print raffle also took place on the premises. The list of contributing donors for this year’s raffle was absolutely stellar, banking the largest sum in the history of this popular fundraising initiative!

An impressive and steady flow of students and professionals availed themselves of the Portfolio Reviews on Friday and Saturday. The Curator Portfolio Walkthrough, an always lively and crowded affair, boasted a fabulous variety of work with folks lingering long after the official closing time.

Another highlight of the conference, surely one of the quiet gems, was the in-room Film Festival Showcase. What better way to enjoy the conference offerings than in our pajamas! The festival, on view in a convenient 24-hour loop, was perfect for those who prefer the comfort of the covers. The Women’s Caucus showed thirteen short films curated by Lynn Estomin with topics ranging from Iranian politics to Southeast Asian cultural erasure. Representing the Multicultural Caucus were seventeen works curated by Neil Chowdhury. These engaging videos explored in often surprising ways a diversity of issues relevant to childhood, culture, race, and conflict.

For this year’s member exhibition, held at the Harrington College of Design, the LGBTQ Caucus, the Women’s Caucus, and the Multicultural Caucus jointly sponsored a thoughtfully curated and well-attended show juried by Barbara DeGenevieve and Deborah Bright. Conference attendees also marveled at the monumental SPE “Map of Influence,” a work-in-progress designed by Jonathan Gitelson to chart the vast network of educational relationships linking the SPE membership over the past 50 years.

Saturday’s Awards and Honored Educator Ceremony recognized the significant achievements of long-time SPE supporters Ken Josephson, Nathan Lyons, Elaine Mayes, Jerry Uelsmann, Jack Wilgus, and Cheryl Younger, who were presented with SPE Insight Awards. Elaine Mayes was further recognized as the 2013 Honored Educator for her influential teaching and exhibiting career. Also present were Sylvia de Swaan, recipient of the SPE Art Sinsabaugh Creative Artist Project Support Grant, and Kate Palmer Albers, winner of the SPE Conference Award for Excellence in Historical, Critical, and Theoretical Writing.

The SPE Members’ Meeting held on Friday also deserves mention for the large number of participants who attended the meeting for the very first time, a sure sign of the membership’s growing interest in SPE’s governance.

Closing the conference was the perennial dance party, which featured a great line-up of vintage hits and two photo booths for recording the craziness of it all. The dance floor was jammed with SPE members of all stripes, jumping, twirling, and stepping to the beat of the music under the luxurious chandeliers of the Palmer’s Red Lacquer room. While dancing was fun, watching the photo booths was fascinating. Photographers don’t usually like being subjected to the camera, but these folks were definitely ready for their close-ups. We hope to do it all over again in Baltimore, March 6-9, 2014.
thank you 2013 conference sponsors!

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Department of Photography
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Lunch and Daily Refreshments Will Be Served!

For Information & To View the Full Speakers Line-Up
VISIT ONTHEROADPHOTOSHOW.COM

Saturday evening dance party, sponsored by MAC Group. Image by Erin Rademacher
SPE's website features member news. Celebrate the accomplishments of your colleagues and list your own!

Bruce Myren Project, “The Fortieth Parallel” is complete

Colleen Mullins Awarded a 2013 Minnesota State Arts Board Grant

Gary Cialdella Workshop at Maine Media Workshops: Enhancing Your Creative Potential. Explore new possibilities in the work you create.

Congratulations to 2013 John Simon Guggenheim Fellow in Photography Sharon Harper

SPE Members Work Showcased in, “Photography’s Back to the Future”

SPE's website features photographic calls for entry. Find opportunities to submit your work and upload your organization's calls directly.

2013 Individual Photographer’s Fellowship, Aaron Siskind Foundation—offering a limited number of Individual Photographer’s Fellowship grants of up to $10,000 each, for artists working in photography and photo-based art.
Deadline: 05/24/13

The Kiernan Gallery in Lexington, VA, seeks self-portraits that provide insight into the “second self” that appears when artist becomes subject. Exhibition is titled “Alter Ego.”
Deadline: 06/20/13

17th Annual New Works Photography Fellowship Awards, En Foco
Deadline: 06/30/13

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ASMP Fundamentals is a curriculum that covers business essentials for professional visual communicators. Topics include how to start a business, pricing, copyright, releases, trademarks, video business basics and digital best practices. Through in-person presentations, written tutorials, video lectures and books, ASMP offers these resources to academic institutions, chapters and community arts organizations.

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