

Artist Statement - Eva Kearney

I have always LOVED ART – every aspect of it! Although my own work represented here is mostly photography, I also love to paint, draw, do calligraphy, and experiment with all types of media. But my main focus for almost 40 years was teaching Art with high school students. In fact one of my main goals in life has always been to share my own enthusiasm and appreciation for Art in all its forms with children, young adults, and anyone else who will listen! I believe that Art is a discipline that has the possibility of helping all students become aesthetic thinkers, creative and expressive problem-solvers, and patrons of art, beauty and expression.

In my teaching I always used a unique blend of humor, drama, emotion, discipline, study, experimentation, encouragement, mutual respect, example and guidance, to create an environment that echoes my own sentiments about Art and to promote Art as a serious subject for students to elect in high school. My goals were always to encourage students to find the artist within themselves, along with acquiring the skills and thought processes that would allow them to express themselves as that artist. I have always tried to help my students to open their eyes, their hearts and their souls to not only all forms of Art and artists of past and present, but also to the beauty, design and potential in the world around them. I tried to show them that artists are much like magicians - with the right tools, skills and ideas, they could make something from practically nothing; with simple supplies they could create something of interest, of worth, of expression and of meaning. With a little encouragement toward critical thinking, brainstorming and the harnessing of ideas, as well as experimentation, practice, courage and perseverance, there are no limits to what anyone can create or design from observation, purposeful thought, or imagination.

The mundane or ordinary can become extraordinary in an artist's eyes!

I love composing photographs as works in themselves and as inspirations for works in various other media. I carry a camera with me daily and try to find extraordinary compositions in sometimes ordinary places. Composition is key in creating extraordinary photographs as well as any other type of Art. I try to frame every photograph as an artistic composition. In the same way, I tried to teach my students to “see” - to find new and unique ways to see things, to compose, and to express their own ways of looking at the world.