

Kay Westhues

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Education

Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY, MA in Folk Studies, 2017

Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, MS in Instructional Systems Technology, 1998

Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, BS in the Individualized Major Program, 1995

Academic Positions

Department of Communication & Creative Arts, Purdue Northwest, Hammond, IN

Visiting Instructor, 2022 - present

University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, IN

Adjunct Faculty, 2020-2021

Ernestine M. Raclin School of the Arts, Indiana University South Bend, South Bend, IN

Associate Faculty, 2012-2021

Selected Exhibitions

Journey Through Indiana: The Photographs of Kay Westhues & John Bower, Midwest Museum of American Art (Elkhart, IN) 2022

The Specialness of Springs, Moreau Art Galleries, Moreau Center for the Arts, Saint Mary's College (Notre Dame, IN) 2021

Gaia Weeps: Featuring Frederica Armstrong, Isabella La Rocca González, Carolyn Monastra and Kay Westhues, Aegon Gallery, Centre College (Danville, KY) 2019

The Portage Path: Returning to Our History, Snite Museum of Art, University of Notre Dame (Notre Dame, IN) 2016

This exhibition consisted of a portfolio of twelve images and a limited edition artist book commissioned by the Snite Museum of Art to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the City of South Bend, IN.

MAN + LAND + WATER, Rutledge Gallery, Winthrop University (Rock Hill, SC) 2015

The Blue Library, Press Street's Antenna Gallery (New Orleans, LA) 2014

An exhibition of photo zines held as part of PhotoNOLA | New Orleans Festival of Photography.

Portfolio Showcase: Rural Culture, Davis Orton Gallery (Hudson, NY) 2014

Water: A Universal Human Right, Robert Morris State Street Gallery (Chicago, IL) 2014

Surface Tension: The Future of Water, Science Gallery, Trinity College (Dublin, Ireland), Eyebeam Art + Technology Center (New York, NY), and THEMUSEUM (Kitchener, Canada) 2011-2014

This traveling exhibition was organized by the Science Gallery, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland. Curated by Ralph Borland, John Gorman, Bruce Misstear, and Jane Withers.

Well Stories, South Bend Museum of Art (South Bend, IN) 2011

The Project, Woman Made Gallery (Chicago, IL) 2011

Water / Rock / Wood, 2739 Edwin (Hamtramck, MI) 2011

Two-person exhibition with artist Jake Webster

A Sense of Place: Rural Indiana Narratives, Noyes Cultural Arts Center (Evanston, IL) 2010

Fourteen Places to Eat: A Narrative, Pictura Gallery (Bloomington, IN) 2010

Fourteen Places to Eat: A Narrative, Snite Museum of Art, University of Notre Dame (Notre Dame, IN) 2009

Grand Prix Fotofestiwal 2009, Eighth International Festival of Photography, (Lodz, Poland) 2009

The Rockford Midwestern, Rockford Art Museum (Rockford, IL) 2008

Focus: Midwest, Midwest Museum of Contemporary Art (Indianapolis, IN) 2008

Joyce Elaine Grant Photography Exhibition, Texas Woman's University (Denton, TX) 2008

Mary Beth Creiger Memorial Photo Exhibition, Around the Coyote Gallery (Chicago, IL) 2007

Group Show #19, Humble Arts Foundation 2007

A national juried online exhibition: <http://humbleartsfoundation.org>

Biennial 24, South Bend Museum of Art (South Bend, IN) 2007

Grants and Awards

Indiana University South Bend's Center for a Sustainable Future Sustainability Fellow, 2019-20

Indiana Arts Commission Arts in the Parks Grant, 2019, 2020

Indiana Humanities Action Grant, 2019

Associate Faculty Merit Status, Indiana University South Bend, 2019

Kentucky Oral History Commission Project Grant, 2016

Puffin Foundation West Project Grant, 2013

Indiana Arts Commission Individual Artist Project Grant, 2013, 2010, 2007

Helen V. Surovek Memorial Award, Salon Show, South Shore Arts, Munster, IN, 2012

Past President's Award, Salon Show, South Shore Arts, Munster, IN, 2009

Best 2-D, The Rockford Midwestern, Rockford Art Museum, Rockford, IL, 2008

Professional Presentations

Communal Places and Neglected Spaces: Exploring Indiana's Roadside Springs, Indiana Humanities *Unearthed* Speakers Bureau, 2021-22

Everyone's Water: Exploring Indiana's Roadside Springs, Indiana Humanities *INseparable* Speakers Bureau, 2020

The Spring at Small Farms, a virtual presentation for the Calumet Heritage Partnership's Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, 2020

Beliefs and Practices Related to Community Water Sources: "The Specialness of Springs." Paper presented at the International Oral History Association Congress, Jyväskylä, Finland, 2018

Photography and Fieldwork: Creativity and Reciprocity in Visual Documentation. Paper presented at the annual conference of the University of Kentucky's Political Ecology Working Group, Lexington, KY, 2017

The Portage Path: Returning to Our History, artist talk, Snite Museum of Art, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN, 2016

Well Stories: Practices Related to Localized Water Knowledge, Community, and Stewardship. Paper presented at the 2016 American Folklore Society and International Society for Folk Narrative Research Annual Meeting, Miami, FL, 2016

Surface Tension: The Future of Water, artist panel, Science Gallery, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland, 2011

Visiting artist, Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, NY, 2011

Well Stories, artist talk, South Bend Museum of Art, South Bend, IN, 2011

Fourteen Places to Eat, artist talk, Snite Museum of Art, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN, 2009

Oral History Projects

The Spring at Small Farms, Schurz Library Archives & Special Collections, Indiana University South Bend, (South Bend, IN) 2022
<https://iusbarchives.omeka.net/exhibits/show/spring-at-small-farms/>

Kentucky Springs: Narratives on Localized Water Knowledge, Community and Stewardship, Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History, University of Kentucky Libraries, (Lexington, KY) 2017
<https://kentuckyoralhistory.org/ark:/16417/xt72ng4gqd7b>

Press

Westhues, Kay. *Art on The Air*, interview by Larry Brechner and Ester Golden, Lakeshore Public Radio, Valparaiso, IN, 30 October, 2020.

Westhues, Kay. "Kay Westhues | The Portage Path, Returning to Our History." *YIELD Magazine*, Issue 02, April 2016,
<http://002.yieldmagazine.org/>

O'Keefe, Peter, director. *Dreaming in Public*. *Vimeo*, produced by Grass Roots Media, 26 June, 2015, <https://vimeo.com/119558418>.

Kelly, Shaun H. "Featured Work: Family Album by Kay Westhues," *STRANT Magazine*, Volume 004, Issue 001, 19 February, 2015.

Kelly, Shaun H. "Featured Work: Fourteen Places to Eat by Kay Westhues," *STRANT Magazine*, Volume 003, Issue 005, 28 August, 2014.

Hariman, Robert. "Photographer's Showcase: A Sense of Place," *No Caption Needed*, 3 September 2010,
<http://www.nocaptionneeded.com/?p=6502>.

Eckholm, Erik. "Bubbling Up From the Earth, A Cool, Clear Gift," *New York Times*, 7 June 2010, A10,
<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/06/07/us/07indiana.html>.

Westhues, Kay. *Up All Night*, interview by Rhod Sharp, BBC Radio 5 Live, London, United Kingdom, 7 June 2010.

Professional Memberships

American Folklore Society

ecoartspace

Women's Caucus for Art