

# Kay Westhues

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216 W. Madison St., South Bend, IN 46601 | [kwesthues@gmail.com](mailto:kwesthues@gmail.com) | [instagram.com/kaywesthues](https://www.instagram.com/kaywesthues) | [www.kaywesthues.com](http://www.kaywesthues.com)

## Education

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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

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

Visiting Instructor, 2022 - 2023

### **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

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**American Portraits: Identity, Persona, & Power**, Midwest Museum of American Art (Elkhart, IN) 2023

**Mark My Words**, Chesterton Art Center (Chesterton, IN) 2022

**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

**Elkhart Juried Regional**, Midwest Museum of American Art (Elkhart, IN) 2021-23, 2019, 2018, 2006-04

**Politics and Religion**, Midwest Museum of American Art (Elkhart, IN) 2020

**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 150<sup>th</sup> 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

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Merit Award - Photography, 45th Elkhart Juried Regional Exhibition, Midwest Museum of American Art, Elkhart, IN, 2023

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

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**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

## Permanent Collections

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Snite Museum of Art, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN

Midwest Museum of American Art, Elkhart, IN

City of Bloomington, Bloomington, IN

Press Street's Antenna Gallery Reading Room, New Orleans, LA

Indie Photobook Library, Washington, DC

## Press

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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

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American Folklore Society

ecoartspace

Women's Caucus for Art