2013 Hall of Fame Honoree

Dennis Darling Class of 1965



From his start taking photos for Vestal High's "Bear Facts" student newspaper, Mr. Darling has risen through the ranks as a worldwide freelance photographer. He earned his Bachelor's of Visual Arts at Georgia State University and a Master of Fine Arts degree at the Art Institute of Chicago. A professor in the School of Journalism at the University of Texas for over 30 years, he has also served as Chairman of Photography for the Portfolio Center and Art Institute of Atlanta and been on the advisory board for the Texas Photographers Society.

Mr. Darling's photographs have been exhibited at the Royal Photographic Society in London, the Art Institute in Chicago and the Austin Museum of Art, and are on permanent display at the High Museum in Atlanta. His work has appeared in many magazines and books, including two of his own, "Desperate Pleasures: Chameleon with a Camera" and "Book of Days," serving, as one of his nominators wrote, "to record humanity in its phenomenal variations."

Honored with the William Randolph Hearst Faculty Fellow Endowment, among his many charitable efforts is an ongoing project to photograph WW II veterans and Holocaust survivors.

Darling resides in Dripping Springs, Texas, with his wife, two young sons, his dog, Booger, and a stray cat named Chester.