

Leif Carlson

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Education

2016	SCAD, Savannah, GA	MFA in Photography
2005	Earlham School of Religion, Richmond, IN	MA in Religious Studies / Peace and Justice
2000	Concordia College, Moorhead, MN	BA in Scandinavian Studies

Professional Experience

- 2013 – 2024 LEIF CARLSON PHOTOGRAPHY – Savannah, GA
Social Practice Artist
*Served on the Press Corps to document The Dalai Lama's City of Compassion Charter visit to Louisville, KY
*Documented Kunga Norbu's (nephew of The Dalai Lama) march from Washington, DC to the United Nations building in New York City, to protest China's occupation of Tibet
*Created portfolio to raise awareness of suicide-prevention programs on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, South Dakota
*Created art portfolio and video series on guns in America, specifically focused on the death of Trayvon Martin, school shootings, and police violence
- 2020 – 2021 Georgia Southern University – Statesboro, GA
Visiting Assistant Professor of Art
*Taught Digital Art Foundations, Art in Life (Art Appreciation), and New Media Design
*Created lectures and tutorials in Cinemagraphs, Video Art, Digital Painting, Vanishing Point Animation, Character CC Animation, and Motion Tracking, and Art History
*Taught using virtual synchronous modality
- 2018 – 2020 Georgia Southern University – Statesboro, GA
Part-Time Professor
*Taught Intro Digital Photography, New Media Design, Senior Capstone in Studio Art, Digital Art Foundations, and Art in Life (Art Appreciation)
*Created lectures and tutorials in Cinemagraphs, Video Art, Digital Painting, Conceptual Development, Art Marketing, Portfolio Design, Art History, Digital Photography, Digital Compositing, Printing, Light Painting, and Projection Mapping
*Taught using Face-to-Face, virtual synchronous, and virtual asynchronous modalities
- 2018 SAVANNAH COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN – Savannah, GA
Photography Instructor: Summer
*Taught 10 sections of Intro Digital Photography
*Created lectures, workshops, and field trips on Art & Photography
*Critiqued student work and provided feedback for future studies
*Taught using Face-to-Face modality

- 2016 SAVANNAH COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN – Savannah, GA
Teaching Intern
 *Assisted with Digital Printing Methodology course
 *Taught demonstrations on alternative processes such as wood transfers, printing on metal, gold leafing, and using resins
 *Led study sessions for exams and student workbooks
 *Critiqued and graded student portfolios
 *Taught using Face-to-Face modality
- 2015 – 2016 SAINT VINCENT’S ACADEMY – Savannah, GA
Art Intern
 *Assisted and co-taught Intro Black & White photography course, Intro Digital Photography Course, and two sections of Advanced Placement Photography courses
 *Created lectures, workshops, and assignments on photography
 *Critiqued and graded student portfolios
 *Helped students prepare submissions for state and national competitions
 *Taught using Face-to-Face modality
- 2010 – 2013 ORDER OF MALTA – FEDERAL ASSOCIATION – Washington, DC
Program Director
 *Performed site visits to evaluate programs and conducted compliance interviews
 *Evaluated grant applications and managed grant materials (~\$750,000 per year)
 *Coordinated annual, international pilgrimage to France
 *Provided reports, created budgets, and supplied grants compliance materials to the board
- 2010 NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY – Mindanao, Philippines (PYL Program)
Consultant / Facilitator
 *Developed and taught creative training sessions focused on conflict resolution; inter-faith initiatives for Muslim, Christian, and Indigenous youth; team building; and the use of art in social justice for the Philippine Youth Leadership Program
 *Conducted site visits to evaluate youth-led community development projects
 *Managed strategic planning sessions to assess challenges and strategies for improvement
- 2009 – 2010 FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION – Washington, DC
Program Assistant
 *Designed and led training sessions for Annual Quaker Lobby Day
 *Authored articles for newsletters and blogs, reaching over 1000 constituents
 *Organized reception to introduce field organizers to Congressional staff
 *Assisted in securing grants to fund field organizers in seven states
- 2005 – 2009 PEACE LEARNING CENTER – Indianapolis, IN
Team Leader / Youth Development Facilitator
 *Taught classes on conflict resolution, communication skills, and character education to over 6,000 students per year, which resulted in a reduction of school violence by 15%
 *Developed program curricula (pre-K to 12th) and increased client base by over 900%
 *Supervised first-year AmeriCorps members in daily programs
 *Developed programs for youth from Philippines Youth Leadership Program (4 years)

- 2008 HOLY LAND TRUST (PALESTINE SUMMER ENCOUNTER) – Bethlehem, Palestine
Program Coordinator
 *Managed program logistics of international program in the West Bank
 *Supervised and taught training sessions and travel experiences in the Holy Land
 *Coordinated internships focused on social justice, youth development, religion, and the arts
 *Performed site visits to internship sites to assess participant success
- 2005 WI'AM – PALESTINIAN CONFLICT RESOLUTION CENTER – Bethlehem, Palestine
Intern
 *Developed and taught conflict resolution classes to youth in the Gaza Strip
 *Performed site visits and grant-compliance evaluations on programs funded by Norwegian's People's Aid in the Gaza Strip
 *Researched grants that increased organization's funding for dispute resolution program
 *Authored a series of articles and photographed for an American newspaper

Scholarships

2002-2005 Cooper Scholar – Earlham School of Religion, Richmond, IN

Theses

- 2016 *Simunition: Gun Culture in America* – SCAD, Savannah, GA
 2005 *Nonviolent Action Versus Temptation to Leave the Holy Land: A Palestinian Christian Perspective* – Earlham School of Religion, Richmond, IN

Exhibition History

- 2018 RI Center for Photographic Arts, Providence, RI *One Gun Gone*
 2018 A Smith Gallery, Johnson City, TX *Chair*
 2016 Darkroom Gallery, Essex Junction, VT *In Stillness*
 2016 Welmont Gallery, Savannah, GA *Simunition: Gun Culture in America (solo)*
 2016 Welmont Gallery, Savannah, GA *Look Here*
 2015 Darkroom Gallery, Essex Junction, VT *Semblance*
 2015 Gutstein Gallery, SCAD, Savannah, GA *Silver & Ink*
 2014 Darkroom Gallery, Essex Junction, VT *Mirror, Mirror*
 2014 Lenscratch Digital Exhibition *Shut Eye*
 2014 Lenscratch Digital Exhibition *Road Trip*
 2014 Photo Review Digital Exhibition *On the Water*
 2014 Gutstein Gallery, SCAD, Savannah, GA *Silver & Ink*

Presentations and Lectures

- 2023 *The War in Gaza, 100 Days Later*– Words Make People Radio Program, Indianapolis, IN (Nationally Syndicated)
- 2023 *Life in Gaza* - Words Make People Radio Program, Indianapolis, IN (Nationally Syndicated)
- 2017 *Creative Methods for Addressing Violence in America* – Peace and Justice Studies Association (PJSA) Annual Conference, Birmingham, AL
- 2010 *What is a Lobbyist? Reflections on My Year at FCNL* – Philippine Youth Leadership Program, Washington, DC
- 2008 *Hope in the Holy Land: The Role of Children in the Middle East* – Franklin College, Franklin, IN
- 2007 *Hope in the Holy Land: The Role of Children in the Middle East* – Franklin College, Franklin, IN
- 2007 *The Palestinian/Israeli Conflict: What Does it Look Like Today?* – Nokesville Church of the Brethren, Nokesville, VA
- 2007 *The Palestinian/Israeli Conflict: What Does it Look Like Today?* – Franklin College, Franklin, IN
- 2006 *The Palestinian/Israeli Conflict: What Does it Look Like Today?* – Indianapolis Peace House, Indianapolis, IN
- 2006 *The Palestinian/Israeli Conflict: What Does it Look Like Today?* – Earlham School of Religion, Richmond, IN
- 2006 *What is Your Service Ethic? (Keynote Speech)* – Americorps Annual Conference, Bloomington, IN
- 2006 *Non-Violent Action Versus Temptation to Leave the Holy Land: A Palestinian Christian Perspective (Thesis Presentation)* - Earlham School of Religion, Richmond, IN
- 2005 *Modern Bethlehem: Reflections on my Summer in Palestine* – Resurrection Lutheran Church, Indianapolis, IN

Language Skills

Arabic – 4 years

Norwegian – 4 years

Swedish – 10 years

Latin – 6 years

Software Knowledge

- Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop, Premiere, Lightroom, After Effects, Character Animator)
- Microsoft Suite
- Blackboard
- Google Classroom