

“Nature Photography: A Collection of Images to Engage our Emotions” by Don Crumb
Written by Gallery Coordinator Karen Jean Smith

When photographer Don Crumb takes a photograph, it is with the intention that the final image will evoke a sense of passion for and appreciation of the beauty that is all around us. Results of these efforts here in New York State will be shared with us in the new nature-themed exhibit at Baltimore Woods Nature Center.

The exhibit, titled “Nature Photography,” will be on view in the art gallery of the John A. Weeks Interpretive Center through October 27. The public is invited to attend the artist reception on Sunday, September 7 from 2:30pm until 4pm, when the show opens. This is an informal event when visitors can meet the artist, ask questions and enjoy refreshments. The exhibit may also be viewed Monday through Friday 9am - 4pm and Saturdays 10am - 4pm. There are no admission or parking fees, and all of the art work is for sale.

A self-taught photographer, Don Crumb started with film and now works exclusively with digital imaging. When asked what makes a great photograph, he states that it is one that engages the viewer’s emotions through effective composition, leaving a lasting impression. No doubt, those who view this show, will take away many lasting impressions.

Visitors to the art gallery will enjoy several photographs that Crumb has taken locally. It is a common sight to see him with his camera, photographing flowers, songbirds, whitetail deer and fox in his Camillus neighborhood. Sometimes, he even gets help from a neighbor! “Time to Fly,” one of the images on view in the art gallery, is that of a hummingbird nest with two tiny birds within.

Crumb tells this story: “My neighbor was pruning his tree when he abruptly stopped cutting a branch because he had noticed something moving. Closer inspection revealed a hummingbird nest with two nestlings just about ready to leave their nest! When he asked if I would be interested in taking a photograph, I replied ‘YES’ enthusiastically. Thank you neighbor!”

The combination of the photographer’s skill and knowledge of his equipment allowed him to capture the fine textures of the feathers and the rougher textures of the nest.

Other photographs in the show illustrate the beauty of New York State landscapes and the magnificence of the Adirondacks. One such image is titled “Sunrise on Sagamore Lake” in which Crumb captured the serene beauty of the early morning over a still body of water.

After practicing dentistry for 45 years, Dr. Crumb has retired and now has his own business printing and selling his photographs and note cards. His award winning photographs have been shown at the New York State Fair. In 2017, he won the Grand Prize in the Nikon and Princess Cruises International Photo Contest for his photograph “Polychrome Pass” taken in Denali National Park.

Connecting communities and nature in wisdom and wonder.

Baltimore Woods Nature Center is a leader in facilitating opportunities for people to build personal connections to nature. Through engaging experiences and place-based exploration, we envision communities united in stewardship and love of the natural world.

A portion of the proceeds raised from the sale of the artwork goes to support the mission of
Baltimore Woods Nature Center.

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