

Kathy West, MS

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KathyWestStudios.com

PICCMadagascar.org

530-400-2267

Conservation Photographer

Founder and Director, Photography Inspiring Children in Conservation, 501(c)(3)

Education

- MS 1980 – 1981 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS
Graduate Group in Ecology; Thesis: "Ecology, Communication and Behavior of Siamang Apes in Sumatra (*Symphalangus syndactylus*)", IUCN Status: Endangered
- BS 1975 – 1978 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS
Major: Zoology, Animal Behavior

Relevant Awards and Recognition

- 2020 Semi-finalist image, Nature's Best Photography International Competition
- 2020 Photography images (2) honored in Showcase 2021 Top 250, North American Nature Photography Assoc.
- 2019 Photography image (1) honored in Showcase 2020 Top 250, North American Nature Photography Assoc.
- 2019 Recipient of Kyes Award for Excellence in Outreach, for Significant Contributions to Primatology Outreach, American Society of Primatologists. "Awarded to recognize a long history of excellence in primatology outreach, using best practices, creativity, and cultural sensitivity while demonstrating meaningful impact".
- 2018 American Society of Primatologists Conservation Grant – "Photography Inspiring Children in Conservation (PICC)"
- 2017 Semi-finalist image, Nature's Best Photography International Competition

Relevant Experience

CONSERVATION PHOTOGRAPHER AND OUTREACH SPECIALIST

- 2020 Developed teaching materials and directed Photography Inspiring Children in Conservation (PICC) program session (from US) in Ambodiforaha, Madagascar, June – July 2020, in collaboration with Malagasy PICC team member, Pascal Elison. See: <https://piccmadagascar.org/picc-curriculum/madagascar-2020/>
- 2020 Published "Book Two: Lemur Conservation Coloring and Activity Book: Masoala NP"; with illustrations, conservation issues, and translations customized for NE Madagascar. Co-author Pascal Elison, Malagasy guide. Donated skills and time.
- 2019 Poster presented at American Society of Primatologist Conference, 2019 Madison, WI; "Photography Inspiring Children in Conservation (PICC): A Primate Extinction Crisis Outreach Project", Aug 23, 2019
- 2018–19 PICC project progress updates: submitted 4 grant applications, produced introduction videos (w/ Dr. Jaclyn Aliperti), established Malagasy team members for Masoala Session (piccmadagascar.org/our-team)
- 2019 Invited talks – Photography Club of Davis (6/2019) and Woodland Camera Forum (3/2019). Presented select photographs from international sites, with information for each species on IUCN status and conservation issues. Introduced audiences to PICC program and efforts to be involved in conservation issues.
- 2018 Designed, illustrated, co-wrote and published hard copy and pdf of "Book One: Lemur Conservation Coloring and Activity Book: Berenty", in English and Malagasy. Provided >500 books to co-author Dr. Amber Walker-Bolton for Madagascar school programs, conservation clubs and with international primate researchers. Book is open-source online and through social media. Donated skills and time.
- 2018 Conducted PICC program with children in Suriname as part of US Fulbright "Suriname Forest Fragments Project", in collaboration with Dr. Marilyn Norconk. Donated skills and materials.

[\(https://piccmadagascar.org/2018/10/26/picc-pilot-project-successfully-launched-in-suriname-community-of-lelydorp/\)](https://piccmadagascar.org/2018/10/26/picc-pilot-project-successfully-launched-in-suriname-community-of-lelydorp/)

- 2016 Founded "Photography Inspiring Children in Conservation" (PICC) program, curriculum, website and materials (PICCmadagascar.org)
- 2004–2016 Principal photographer at California National Primate Research Center, Univ of Calif, Davis. Documented free-ranging primate behavior (rhesus macaques), events, and social interactions. Provided images for journal publications and covers, research, university outreach, websites, and news media worldwide.

PHOTOGRAPHS APPEARING ON JOURNAL COVERS

- American J of Primatology, Sep 2019, Vol 81 Issue 9
- J of Virology, August 2018, V92
- J Nature, Lab Animal, June 2017, Vol 46
- J of Hormones and Behavior, Nov 2016, Vol 86
- American J of Primatology, Mar 2016, Vol 78
- Science: Translational Medicine, Sept 2014
- NY Times, cover photo for lead story, Science section, November 6, 2014
- American J of Primatology, Oct 2012, Vol 74
- J of Medical Primatology, April 2009, Vol 38

SENIOR OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS, OUTREACH AND MEDIA RELATIONS

2000–2016. California National Primate Research Center, University of California, Davis, California

- Program Founder, Director and Educator, K–12 Education Outreach Program, 2003 – 2016
- Principal Photographer, Scientific Illustrator, and Graphic Artist, 2000 – 2016
- Chair, Founder, NIH Nonhuman Primate Consortium Outreach Working Group, National Primate Research Centers / NIH Office of the Director, 2011 – 2016
- Senior Officer, Media Relations and Social Media, 2010 – 2016
- Webmaster, Designer, and Content Editor, CNPRC.ucdavis.edu, 2009 – 2016
- Editor, Science Writer, and Production Manager, Biannual public newsletter, 2007 – 2016
- Program Representative: Marketing and Promotion, 2006 – 2016

FREELANCE SCIENTIFIC AND MEDICAL ILLUSTRATOR

1984 – present. Provide accurate and engaging scientific, natural science, and medical illustrations for a broad range of research and conservation projects from molecular to ecosystem level. Clients in government, NGOs, conservation organizations, academic institutions, and private commissions.

SELECT JOURNAL AND NEWS ILLUSTRATIONS

- Illustrations for "Behavioral responses around conspecific corpses in adult eastern gorillas (*Gorilla beringei* spp.)". Porter et al. PeerJ, Apr '19, <https://peerj.com/articles/6655/>
- Illustrations for "Use of RFID technology to characterize feeder visitations and contact network of hummingbirds in urban habitats". Bandivadekar, et al. PLoS Dec 12, 2018
- Illustration for UCD Medical School, Sept 3, 2014 news release: "Breast-fed and Bottle-fed Infant Rhesus Macaques Develop Distinct Gut Microbiotas and Immune Systems", Ardeshir et al, Science Translational Medicine, Sep 2014:Vol. 6, Issue 252.
- Illustration for "Abnormal Early Cleavage Events Predict Early Embryo Demise: Sperm Oxidative Stress and Early Abnormal Cleavage". Burrue et al, Figure 1, Nature, 2014
- See website: kathyweststudios.com/services/service-illustrations

FIELD PRIMATOLOGIST, KETAMBE, GUNUNG LEUSER, SUMATRA

1980–1981. University of California, Davis, Master's of Science fieldwork and thesis on siamang apes (*Symphalangus syndactylus*) IUCN Status: Endangered

Conservation Work and Image Services

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| Sept 2020 | Provided images for <i>Science</i> , rhesus macaque genomic sciences (Dec 2020) |
| Oct 2020 | Produced illustrations, layout, design, and text for “Book Two: Lemur Conservation Coloring and Activity Book: Masoala, West and Elison”; 52 pp., in English and local Malagasy dialect. Published PDF open source online. |
| Aug 2020 | Provided 150 images of nonhuman primates to ASP – Conservation Action Network |
| July 2020 | Provided set of photographs to SEED Madagascar conservation program |
| Aug 2019 | Donated copies of “Book One: Lemur Conservation Coloring Books: Berenty (West and Walker-Bolton)” to conservation researchers at American Society of Primatologists conference, 2019 |
| Aug 2019 | Donated photography prints and merchandise to American Society of Primatologists conservation auction. Over \$200 raised for conservation. |
| May 2019 | Founding member of #Primatweeps, an outreach Twitter group for engaging public audiences in primatology and conservation. Provided large set of photographs for online use. |
| Jul 2018–20 | Provided content and images for @PICCmadagascar (primate conservation) Twitter, FB and Instagram accounts |
| Jul 2019 | Provided photography art to Dr. Brett Frye for journal publication / cover of Am J Primatology |
| Feb 2019 | Provided photograph to American Psychological Association for Congressional briefing and poster, and leave-behind information materials |
| Jan 2019 | Developed coloring book pages for Dr. Cortni Borgerson (Nat Geo Explorer); alternative food sources for conservation in the Masoala NP, translated to local dialect (part of Book Two: Lemur Conservation Coloring and Activity Book, West and Elison) |
| Oct 2018 | Provided photographs and photography services in Suriname; to Monique Pool, Director, Green Heritage Fund Suriname, Member IUCN/SSC Anteater, Sloth and Armadillo Spec. Gp & IUCN/SSC Sirenia Spec. Gp |
| Oct 2018 | Provided services and photographs to Southwest National Primate Research Center for education and scientific uses |
| Sep 2018 | Provided photographs to Marine Mammal Center, Sausalito, CA for use in outreach and education |
| Aug 2018 | Donated primate prints to American Society of Primatologists conservation auction. Over \$200 raised for conservation. |
| May 2018 | Provided photographs to Foundation for Biomedical Research for education materials |
| May 2018 | Provided photograph to UC Davis–CNPRC Zika research scientist for journal article |
| Apr 2018 | Provided at request, hardcopies of “Book One: Lemur Conservation Coloring and Activity Book: Berenty” to Lemur Conservation Network |
| Apr 2018 | Provided photography services to UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, Knights Landing community service, free veterinary clinic day |
| Mar 2018 | Designed and created graphics for Dr. Amy Porter, Dian Fossey Foundation journal publication (in-kind donation), PeerJ, Apr '19, https://peerj.com/articles/6655/ |
| Sep 2018 | Provided photography for UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine / UC Davis One Health event |
| Mar 2018 | Provided lemur images to Lemur Conservation Network and Amer Soc of Primatologists |
| Jan 2018 | Produced illustrations, layout, design, and text and published “Book One: Lemur Conservation Coloring and Activity Book: Berenty, West and Walker-Bolton”; 44 pp., in English and local Malagasy dialect |

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| Aug 2017 | Donated photography art prints to American Society of Primatologists conservation auction. Raised over \$500 for conservation. |
| May 2017 | Provided photograph for Neurobiology chapter in the Yale Journal of Biology and Medicine |
| Apr 2017 | Photographed at request Workshop for Women Biol. Anthropologists, Santa Clara Univ., Calif |
| Mar 2017 | Donated graphics and illustration skills to University of California, Davis hummingbird conservation and education program materials |
| Feb 2017 | Provided requested photos from Cambodia to bat research specialist, Dr. Neil Furrey, Centre for Biodiversity Conservation, Royal University of Phnom Penh |
| Jan 2017 | Provided photography services to UC Davis PREDICT Program (Phase II, rural Cambodia). Documented program activities, local PREDICT scientists and residents, scientific techniques |
| Sept 2016 | Provided photographs at request to Dr. Katie Hinde for TEDWomen 2016 |
| Aug 2016 | Donated photography art prints to American Society of Primatologists and International Primatological Society joint conservation auction. Raised over \$600 for conservation funds. |
| Sep 2015 | Provided photographs to Dr. Tim Clutton-Brock, Cambridge Univ, textbook "Mammal Societies" |
| Nov 2014 | Provided bat photos and video (from Tiputini Biodiversity Station) to Ecuadorian bat biologist, Dr. Jaime Guerra, University de San Francisco, Quito |

Organization Memberships

- North American Nature Photography Association (NANPA), member since 2019
- International Primatological Society, member since 2016
- American Society of Primatologists (member since 2010); contributing member to: 1) ASP Education Committee (2010–); 2) ASP Conservation Committee (2019–); 3) ASP – Conservation Action Network (2019–); and 4) ASP Media and Public Engagement Committee (2016–2019)
- Guild of Natural Science Illustrators (member since 1984)

References

- Dr. Harry Greene, Professor Emeritus; Stephen H. Weiss Presidential Fellow; Faculty Curator of Herpetology, Cornell University Museum of Vertebrates; hwg5@cornell.edu
- Dr. Amanda Dettmer, Associate Research Scientist, Child Study Center & Department of Pediatrics Yale School of Medicine; adettmer@gmail.com
- Dr. Karen Bales, Professor of Psychology, University of California, Davis; klbales@ucdavis.edu
- Dr. Katie Hinde, Professor of Evolutionary Biology and Senior Sustainability Scientist at Arizona State University; katiehinde@gmail.com

"Kathy's work is utterly wonderful, reflecting outstanding technical expertise, extensive training in biology, and a special knack for capturing details, a talent I suppose must come from some deep love of natural history. My regard for Kathy's award-winning work is all the higher because of her commitment to conservation, especially through education." Dr. Harry W. Greene, Aug 2019

Background

Kathy West, M.Sc., has over 28 years of nationally recognized expertise in designing, implementing and teaching unique youth education programs for education organizations. She has successfully designed, illustrated and written children's activity workbooks for science education, including for lemur conservation. She has also conducted scientific field research with wild nonhuman primates as well as done extensive international travel. Kathy is a wildlife photographer, scientific illustrator and primatologist and cares deeply about conservation issues. Retired from the university, she is using her skills and experience to contribute to conservation, education and research, focusing her efforts on the primate extinction crisis.

Kathy was recently recognized through the American Society of Primatologists "2019 Kyes Award for Excellence in Outreach" for her outstanding efforts in outreach education using best practices, creativity, and cultural sensitivity while demonstrating

meaningful impact.

As an education outreach specialist, Kathy founded, designed, and taught the California National Primate Research Center (CNPRC) Education Outreach Program (University of California, Davis), bringing knowledge of nonhuman primate biology and behavior, conservation issues, and scientific advances to more than 10,000 students in Northern California elementary, middle, and high schools and at high-risk, low-income rural student programs for over 13 years. She provided on-site CNPRC presentations and tours to secondary school and professional groups, and developed unique outreach materials and children's activities. She wrote, illustrated and published a highly successful activities workbook that was used in outreach to northern California schools, and was used as a model publication by numerous other primate educators across the country. Kathy founded and served as Chair of the NIH-NPRC Consortium Outreach Working Group for 6 years, leading the group in national outreach materials development and events, and serving as a liaison with the NIH Office of the Director.

In 2017, Kathy designed, illustrated, co-wrote and published "Book One: Lemur Conservation Coloring and Activity Book: Berenty", with text in both English and SE Malagasy dialect, to educate children on lemurs and urgent conservation issues in Madagascar. The book is available at cost for hardcopies, and free online as a PDF. 500 copies of the book were distributed to students and teachers in SE Madagascar (2018 and 2019) and international researchers at the International Primatological Society conference in Kenya (2018). "Book Two: Lemur Conservation Coloring and Activity Book: Masoala" has been illustrated and written by Kathy, and translated by co-author Pascal Elison, and was published online in October 2020. Hard copies will be produced for the 2021 PICC program scheduled for Masoala NP.

Kathy has an extensive background in photography and has been a member of the Guild of Natural Science Illustrators since 1985. As a photographer and illustrator, Kathy has had her images appear in many journal articles and textbooks, journal covers, and countless online media outlets internationally.

The primate conservation project that Kathy founded, Photography Inspiring Children in Conservation (PICC), has generated interest from primate researchers and conservationists around the world. She presented the PICC program in Suriname in October 2018, as part of the Fulbright Suriname Forest Fragment Project, and her lead Malagasy team member conducted a COVID abbreviated version in the village of Ambodiforaha, Madagascar in the summer of 2020. Other PICC sessions are being planned for post-COVID sessions in Madagascar, Kenya and Uganda. See PICCmadagascar.org for more details and updates.