

Susan Mosser, FPSA, HonNEC Wins Award from Griffin Museum of Photography

Susan Mosser a member of the Greater Lynn Photographic Assoc., Lynn, MA, is a well known figure in New England's photographic circles. She volunteers for numerous photographic organizations on the local, regional and national level, through NECCC and the Photographic Society of America. This year, the Griffin Museum of Photography is honoring Susan for all of her work in promoting photography by naming her the recipient of the New England Beacon Award. This is one of three awards to be presented at the museum's 6th Annual Focus Awards in October.

The museum, located in Winchester, created the awards in 2006 to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to the promotion of photography, resulting in a greater awareness of the photographic arts among the general public. The New England Beacon Award is given to an individual whose work brings prominence to the local photographic scene. Susan has played a big role in doing just that—as Conference Chairman for several NECCC Conferences, as Exhibition Chairman for the Greater Lynn Photographic Assoc. International for more than 30 years, as Program Chairman for the Yankee Photographic Society for over 25 years, and as president of all three organizations. Susan has also served as Program Chairman for the Photographic Society of America's annual photographic conference which is held in a different state each year.

The awards presentation will be held on Saturday, October 1, 7:00 p.m., on Boston's historic waterfront at the Exchange Conference Center in Boston, followed by wine and hors d'oeuvres. For more information and tickets, go to www.griffinmuseum.org , click on Focus Awards. Tickets are \$85 per person and may be purchased on line or at info@griffinmuseum.org

NECCC congratulates Susan on this achievement.

The press release from the Griffin Museum of Photography announcing Susan's award is reproduced below.



The Griffin Museum of Photography has announced the recipients of its 6th Annual Focus Awards, which will be handed out at the Exchange Conference Center on Boston's waterfront Oct. 1

The museum created the awards in 2006 to recognize individuals who have made critical contributions to the promotion of photography, resulting in a greater awareness of the photographic arts among the general public.

The awards are given in three categories: Lifetime Achievement, Rising Star, and New England Beacon.

The awardees are **Dr. Alison Nordstrom**, **Eileen Gittins**, and **Susan Mosser**.

"Each year the Focus Award selection process is a humbling experience and an exciting challenge. As always, we're very fortunate to be in such wonderful company," said Paula Tognarelli, executive director of the Griffin Museum. "Moving this event to Boston is a significant milestone for the museum, and coupled with the new satellite gallery at A Street Frames in the South End it provides new opportunities and further expands our reach."



Lifetime Achievement

Dr. Alison Nordstrom

Curator of Photographs and Director of Exhibitions
George Eastman House, International Museum of
Photography and Film

Award Presenter - Bill Hunt



The award is given to an individual whose ongoing commitment to photography has a far-reaching impact.

Alison Nordström was born in Boston, educated in public schools and at Boston University. She traveled extensively throughout Europe and Asia in her 20s and early 30s, including an overland journey from Turkey to India, a five-year stay in Japan, and a long walk through Indonesia.

Since 1979, she has worked in museums of art, history, ethnography, and photography, focusing simultaneously on contemporary photographic art and 19th-century vernacular photographs.

On return to the U.S., Nordström found her interests were in cross-cultural understanding (and its lack) piqued by early photographs and films made or used with ethnographic intent. This led to jobs in the cultural sector: first as director of the Robert Flaherty Centennial Film Festival in Brattleboro, Vermont, and later as a research associate in the 19th-century photograph collection at Harvard's Peabody Museum.

In 1984, Nordström became director of the Brattleboro Museum & Art Center; in 1991 she was appointed founding director and senior curator of the Southeast Museum of Photography in Daytona Beach, Florida; and in 2002 and 2003 she was director of the New Hampshire Humanities Council.

In 2004, Nordström became curator of photographs at George Eastman House, International Museum of Photography and Film in Rochester, NY., a position that was expanded in 2008 to include director of exhibitions.



Rising Star
Eileen Gittins

Founder, President, and CEO of Blurb

The award is given to an emerging force the photographic community is watching with great enthusiasm.

Award Presenter - Joyce Tenneson

Eileen Gittins is founder, president, and CEO of Blurb, the creative publishing and marketing platform that enables anyone to design, publish, market, and sell bookstore-quality books. She has been at the intersection of Internet, consumer, and enterprise software, imaging systems, search,

and digital photography throughout her career.

Blurb was born because Gittins wanted to create a beautifully-designed and produced photo essay book- which looked like a book you'd buy at a bookstore-but she only needed 40 copies. It turned out to be a remarkably painful, expensive, and time-consuming experience.

She thought that was unfortunate, so she founded Blurb.

Since its 2006 launch at the DEMO emerging technology conference, Gittins has led Blurb from a startup to a high-growth company, reaching profitability with revenues of more than \$45 million in 2009.

In 2010, Blurb was ranked as the fastest-growing media company on the Inc. 500 list. With more than one million books produced, well over one million registered users, and a global footprint that extends to 72 countries, Blurb continues to experience high growth in challenging economic times.

Gittins says she's had the most fun at Blurb, which is saying a fair amount as she's lived and worked all over the world with Kodak; as vice president at Wall Data; as CEO of Personify and Verb; outside board director at Qbiquity and Popular Demand; and even a stint at a boutique investment bank.

In her spare time, Gittins still photographs, is a voracious reader, avid traveler (both physically and virtual), and former competitive swimmer who occasionally dips back into the pool.



New England Beacon

Susan Mosser

Special Service Vice President of the
New England Camera Club Council
Award Presenter - Barbara Rozaovsky

The award is given to an individual whose work brings prominence to the local photographic scene.

Susan Mosser has organized photographic programming for single events, all-day seminars, and larger, multiple-day conferences throughout New England and the U.S. for more than 30 years.

Her willingness to volunteer on behalf of the photographic community and a can-do attitude have earned her recognition from several organizations. Mosser has served as program chairman for the Photographic Society of America (PSA), the New England Camera Club Council, Yankee Photographic Society, and the Greater Lynn

Photographic Association. She also has served as president of all those organizations, except the PSA.

She has organized and led photo safaris to Africa and across North America, and her eye for an image has earned her four stars as an exhibitor in PSA color and nature slide exhibitions.

In 1978, Mosser began doing organizational work for the Greater Lynn Photographic Association, an organization the North Shore of Massachusetts. The association awarded her its highest Honor of Service Award and an Honorary Life Vice Presidency for her numerous contributions, most notably for chairing the Greater Lynn International-America's largest, single division PSA-approved color slide exhibition-for more than 32 years. The exhibition is an annual event, which receives entries from more than 1,300 photographers from around the world and is affiliated with national and international organizations such as the PSA, The Canadian Association for Photographic Art (CAPA), IIFW of Germany, and the Fédération Internationale de l'Art Photographique (FIAP).

In 1993, the PSA awarded Mosser an "FPSA," a fellowship in the society for holding a variety of responsibilities, most notably serving as program chairman for multiple international conferences.

The New England Camera Club Council also awarded her an honorary membership for chairing several committees, serving as council president, and chairing or co-chairing its annual, three-day photographic conference at the University of Massachusetts on eight occasions.



Award Presentation

Saturday, October 1, 7:00 PM

Exchange Conference Center, Boston, MA

Master of Ceremonies - photographer Lou Jones.

The awards presentation is followed by wine and hors d'oeuvres from Best of Boston caterer East Meets West.

Guests can also mingle with award-winning editors, curators, and gallerists.

For more information and tickets, call 781-729-1158 or email info@griffinmuseum.org. Tickets are \$85 per person and may be purchased [online](#).

THE
GRIFFIN



The Phoenix Media/Communications Group is a media sponsor of the Griffin Museum Focus Awards.

Visit www.griffinmuseum.org and <http://www.griffinmuseum.blogspot.com/>