

Photo Challenge - Hands

Commercial Photography 1 - MHS

Student Expectations/TEKS

12(F) demonstrate knowledge of photographic composition

12(P) demonstrate knowledge of the principles of design in photographic work with a focus on composition, color, shape, shadow, negative space, and background

Class Expectations

To practice creative portrait photography

To produce at least one good portrait today

Any photos you take today can go toward the big Portrait Project that is due on April 16

Review

If you remember from our portrait introduction on Monday, a portrait does NOT have to show a person's face in order to be considered a "portrait."

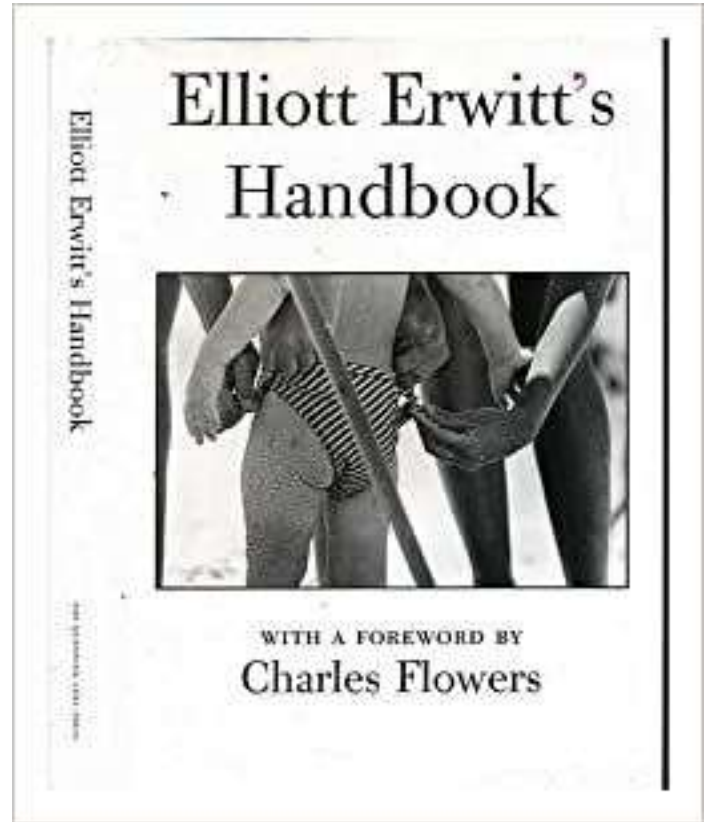
It can just show a part of their body.

Elliott Erwitt

Erwitt was one of our spotlights recently

He was known for street photography and “dogs and their people”

He also did a book called The Handbook



Elliott Erwitt



Nice vertical,
lovely high contrast,
also contrast of
subjects' hand sizes

Elliott Erwitt

Not really hands, but close enough. Taken in the 80s. This photo has been seen in COVID-19 public education ad campaigns recently.



Elliott Erwitt

Nice vertical,
lovely symmetry,
nice contrast and
use of negative
space to focus on
the hand.



Elliott Erwitt



Erwitt thought hands could be funny. He had several “nose picking” images in the book.

Hand Photography

A privilege of photography is the ability to tell a story through images, the ability to freeze time and capture moments that express emotion and feeling.

Though often times we are drawn to the eyes of the subject in a photo, there is nothing more powerful than the stories that can be told by a person's hands.

Posing hands, we can evoke mood, capture gesture, tell stories.



Why Hands?

Not only are hands unique, but they share more about you than you are aware of. Photographing hands can capture a person's hidden details and stories, from calluses created with hard labor, leftover paint stains of an artist, to tan lines of a never-removed wedding ring.

As humans we use our hands to talk, weave stories with our hands through pencil and paper, we cry into our hands, use them to show love, and affection, to climb mountains, and to stifle laughter. What more could you ask for when capturing a subject for a photo than one full of chapters ready to share?



Hand Photography

You can pose hands or you can capture realistic, spur-of-the-moment hands that are performing their usual duties. Hands with character, dirt, paint, or just generally messy can convey a sense of craftsmanship and dedication.



What are hands photos used for in Commercial Photography?

Lots of things, but mostly stock photography and use in advertising and public service announcements.

Hands are very appealing for photo buyers and brands.

Having a human element in an image can increase its saleability, and your image can reach a wider audience.



What are hands photos used for in Commercial Photography?

With just carrots, this photo could look boring. But adding the hand/arm in the frame makes them much more interesting.

It gives the illusion that these carrots were plucked from the ground, and photographed right away at their freshest state.



Advertisement Example



Advertisement Example



Advertisement Example



NEW Dove Nourishing Hand Wash
for soft and smooth hands with every wash

*Within Epidermis

10 Nourishes up to 10 layers deep*

Ordinary soap may leave your hands dry. Try New Dove Nourishing Hand Wash which has 1/4th moisturizing cream that penetrates up to 10 layers deep giving you touchably soft smooth hands after every wash.

Advertisement Example



McFries. Grab yours.

Rock 'n' Fries



Advertisement Example



AT&T did a large ad campaign with hands and body art painting



Pro Commercial Photographer:

“My number one best selling image has been this image called Healing Hands with clients such as hospitals, health care organizations. It's even been the cover of one book and one pamphlet.” - Art Rosch



The best equipment for hand photography

Using a shallow depth of field (blurry background and foreground) will help bring your subject to the forefront.

The 50mm 1.4 lens is great, but if you don't own a prime lens or a DSLR camera, don't let that stop you!

Becoming creative with what you have “on hand” can often times lead to an even more personal image. Using just your built-in camera on your mobile phone or iPad, you have can capture just as eloquent of a photo – the photo below was captured using an iPhone.



Shutter Speed Control

Fast shutter speed, bright light for freezing motion.



Shutter Speed Control

Slow shutter speed, low light for blurring motion.



Editing

Almost all hand photos need a little editing love.

Grayscale, contrast, selective color (like this example) and other Photopea lessons we have done can help you with edits to your photos today.



Pro Tip for Hands

Your teacher hates her big veins on her hands.

Tip: when shooting hands on the table - hold them up above your head for about 10 seconds before shooting. Blood flows down the arm and veins shrink, making the hand look more elegant.



Vein normally



After holding arm up for 10 seconds

Also...

The photo does
not have to be of
the whole hand.
This is fine.



You Assignment Today

Produce a photo with at least one hand or part of a hand.

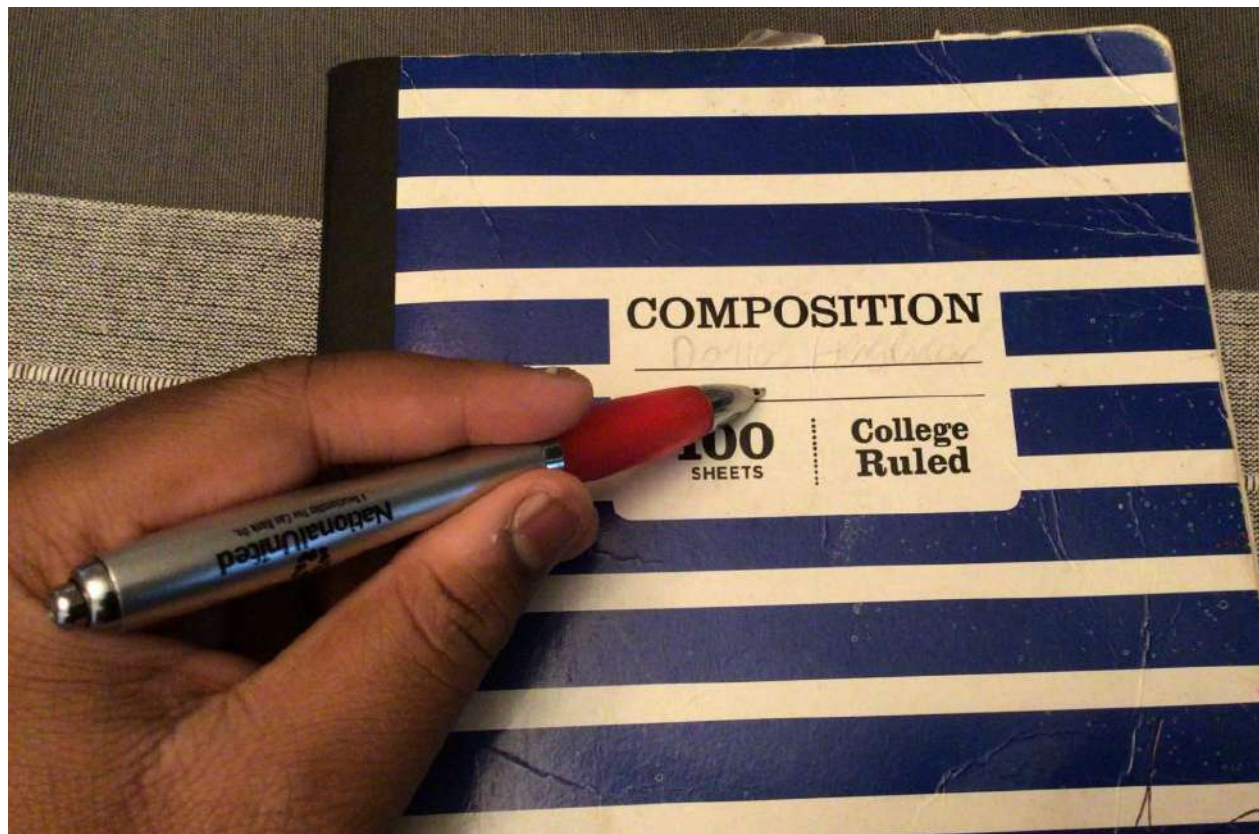
- Whose hand? It's up to you.
- How posed? It's up to you (just be school appropriate and avoid gestures that are or can be mistaken for inappropriate symbols).
- Prop or no prop.? It's up to you.
- How many hands? It's up to you.
- Need to edit? Probably some, but it's your photo.

Turn in your one (or more) best photos to Schoology. **Just submit photo, no need for a slide or title or anything.**

Student Example



Student Example



Student Example



Student Example



Student Example



Student Example



Student Example



You Assignment Today

Produce a photo with at least one hand or part of a hand.

- Whose hand? It's up to you. (yours, other people....)
- How posed? It's up to you (just be school appropriate and avoid gestures that are or can be mistaken for inappropriate symbols).
- Prop or no prop.? It's up to you.
- How many hands? It's up to you.
- Need to edit? Probably some, but it's your photo.

Turn in your one (or more) best photos to Schoology. **Just submit photo, no need for a slide or title or anything.**

Resources for this presentation:

<https://iso.500px.com/how-to-photograph-hands/>

<https://www.craftsy.com/post/photographing-hands/>