

Humboldt

The Magazine of Humboldt State University | Fall 2017

Special Photography Issue

Hills, Stairs, and Umbrellas • Portraits of Student Activists • Campus, Only Dreamier • Local Places You Love

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Cover: A moment of reflection on Humboldt Bay.

On this page: Sand, sky, and a waning sun at Samoa Beach.

Editor's Note

Close your eyes and imagine Founders Hall.

You may picture the cream-colored facade or the grand arched entryway. But through the eyes of longtime campus photographer Kellie Jo Brown, that familiar icon becomes art.

And that’s the point of this photo issue. For years, *Humboldt* magazine has told you the story of Humboldt State, using plenty of words. This time, we show you the University from a more visual perspective, and with far fewer words.

Through photos taken mostly by Kellie, you’ll meet a new generation of activists fighting for social justice and environmental sustainability. There are local landscapes such as the appropriately named Top of the World with its expansive views from atop Fickle Hill. There’s also a dreamy translation of campus, including Founders, captured on film with a spunky little camera called a Holga.

Compelling and vivid, these images are, without a doubt, worth a thousand words.

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magazine.humboldt.edu

Humboldt magazine is published for alumni and friends of Humboldt State University and is produced by University Advancement. The opinions expressed on these pages do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the University or those of the California State University Board of Trustees.

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LETTERS ARE WELCOME and may be published in upcoming issues of *Humboldt* magazine. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

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Hills Stairs Umbrellas

You probably still carry around steep, damp memories of HSU, which for years has been unofficially dubbed Hills Stairs Umbrellas. Being a Humboldt State student means breathtaking, rainy trips across campus.

WE ASKED THREE PHOTOGRAPHERS—one professor, one student, and one alumnus—for their interpretations of these inescapable Humboldt features.



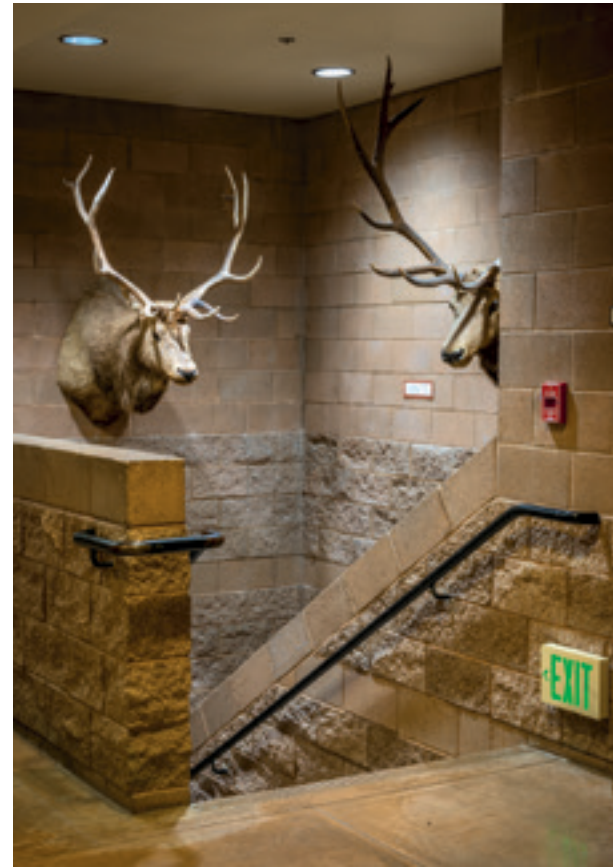
Photograph by Evan Wisheropp



The Alumnus

Evan Wisheropp ('13, Environmental Management & Protection)

evanwishphotography.com



The Professor
Nicole Jean Hill, Art
nicolejeanhill.com





The Student
Elijah Howe ('19, Art)
elijahhowe.com



The North Coast is your

CLASSROOM

Stargazing at the
Fickle Hill Observatory

photography by Kellie Jo Brown

With so much to discover about the world and the people who inhabit it, why limit learning to four walls? Humboldt's living laboratories are mountains and marshes, forests and fields, beaches and bays, and more. These are the places where educations are made.





LEFT:
Banding a Canada
goose at the
Arcata Bottoms

RIGHT:
Searching for
lichens and
bryophytes at
Prairie Creek
Redwoods
State Park

BELOW:
Getting a
ground-
level view of
geomorphology
at Big Lagoon





LEFT:
Shooting video at
Moonstone Beach

BELOW:
Paddling for water
samples at the
Arcata Marsh

RIGHT:
Climbing campus
redwoods to
study tree
growth and forest
management







LEFT:
Analyzing
vegetation on
the South Spit
of Humboldt Bay

BELOW:
Researching
the open ocean
aboard the
Coral Sea

RIGHT:
Netting
invertebrates
at Dry Lagoon



STUDENT ACTIVISTS



photography by Kellie Jo Brown

The nation has seen a resurgence of activism over the last few years. It's an era when students are mobilizing and protesting on campuses around the country, including Humboldt State, where taking a stand is as much of a tradition as the Marching Lumberjacks.

HSU students are rallying for diversity and inclusion, raising awareness of sexual violence prevention, and helping reduce waste generated on campus—actions they believe will lead to a more just society and a healthier planet.

“As a queer, trans person in this community, I want to be as involved as I can in supporting my peers, as well as creating safer and more supportive spaces for myself,” says Oliver Winfield-Perez, one of the several students featured here.

Outspoken and energized, their determination to upend status quo is inspiring—and we're all better for it.

left:
**GREGORY
RODRIGUEZ**

Native American Studies
class of 2017

U.S. out of
Puerto Rico

right:
**CARLREY
DELCASTILLO**

Environmental Studies
class of 2017

Protection of Mother Earth
and Future Generations
that Depend on Her

JEN GARCIA

Criminology & Justice Studies; Anthropology
class of 2018

Prison Reform



ELIZABETH PHILLIPS

Communication
class of 2018

Human Rights



SHOHEI MORITA

Environmental
Management & Protection
class of 2017

Zero Waste



NIKKI XIONG

Communication
class of 2019

Support for Underprivileged
and Underrepresented Students



OLIVER WINFIELD-PEREZ

Critical Race, Gender,
& Sexuality Studies
class of 2019

Queer and Trans Liberation
from Oppression



CHANT'E CATT

Sociology
class of 2018

Homeless Student
Advocate Alliance (HSAA)



GLORIA BROWN

Child Development
class of 2018

Black
Lives
Matter



AUSTIN ANDERSON

Environmental Science & Management
class of 2017

Environmentally Safe and
Healthy Homes for All



CYNTHIA BOSHELL

Environment & Community
class of 2018

Respect for Tribal Nations



MARCO GONZALEZ

Environmental Resources Engineering
class of 2018

Sexual Violence Education
and Prevention



MADISON WHALEY

Environmental Studies
class of 2017

Resiliency, Adaptability,
and Justice in the Face
of Climate Change



GRECIA ALFARO

Sociology
class of 2018

Resources for
Marginalized Groups

photography by Kellie Jo Brown

Campus, *Only Dreamier*

HSU photographer Kellie Jo Brown has been taking photos of campus for 15 years. She started on film, and even in this digital world, she continues to shoot analog for her art outside work. For this photo feature, we asked her to use some of her art techniques—to show the campus in a new light. So she headed out with a Holga—a cheap plastic, simplistic film camera that’s built a cult following for its imperfections. The pace of photographing on film is meditative, she says, and surprises await.


Go to magazine.humboldt.edu to see more Holga photos.









A photograph of two women standing in a grassy field with a forest in the background. The woman on the left is wearing a dark blue long-sleeved shirt with 'HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY WILDLIFE' printed on it and blue jeans. She is holding binoculars and pointing her right hand towards the sky. The woman on the right is wearing a light blue hoodie with a graphic that says 'WHERE NEXT? GRAD NIGHT 2014' and dark pants. She is holding a long wooden staff. The sky is blue with white clouds.

Why I Teach

In the daily rhythm of academics, students and alumni rarely get to learn what drives faculty to teach in the first place. And so we asked. Their answers reveal a desire to open young minds and the impact they have made on their students.

photography by Kellie Jo Brown

“

It's rewarding to inspire students to conserve wildlife. Tracking and observing elk is one way I show students the techniques for protecting wildlife and their habitats.

Micaela Szykman Gunther, *Wildlife*

“ I’m passionate about teaching my students about the Middle East. I believe that understanding this region gives them the knowledge to debunk ‘alternative facts’ and the critical thinking skills to engage their world and guide their actions.

Leena Dallasheh, History



“ There's nothing more thrilling as a professor than watching students use what they learned from me as a launching pad for new ideas, new sounds, and new ways of looking at the world.

Dan Aldag, Music



“Delving into the most important philosophical questions about life and working with my students to explore answers is deeply fulfilling. Doing this has made me appreciate the different ways we experience the world meaningfully, just as I experience life through running in our beautiful redwood forest.

Loren Cannon
Critical Race, Gender
& Sexuality Studies



“I encourage my students to examine science through the lens of social justice. I hope they use those tools to become potent activists who make science more inclusive. I want them to know how to dismantle the systems that perpetuate inequality, and the reasons why they should.

Melinda Myers, Psychology



“

I teach Psychology but I also teach yoga, which helps me manage stress and teach more effectively. For example, I teach about the neurodevelopmental effects of trauma and how yoga can change the brain. Students begin to connect their own childhood trauma to their current functioning. I'm inspired by students who, like me, came from impoverished or stressful households, because when they learn that all humans can overcome such trauma, I see them begin to blossom. They find their own strength and agency to go out and powerfully change the world.

Tasha Howe, Psychology



“

I love to watch my students grow from their first semester to the moment they walk across the stage to receive their diplomas. When they graduate, I hope my students take with them some of my positive outlook on life, including having fun.

Armeda Reitzel, Communication



“

I had teachers who inspired me to love learning and I strive to do the same with my students in the classroom and through field work at places like the Mattole River. These experiences instill the joy of scientific discovery and help remove the stigma that science is unapproachable.

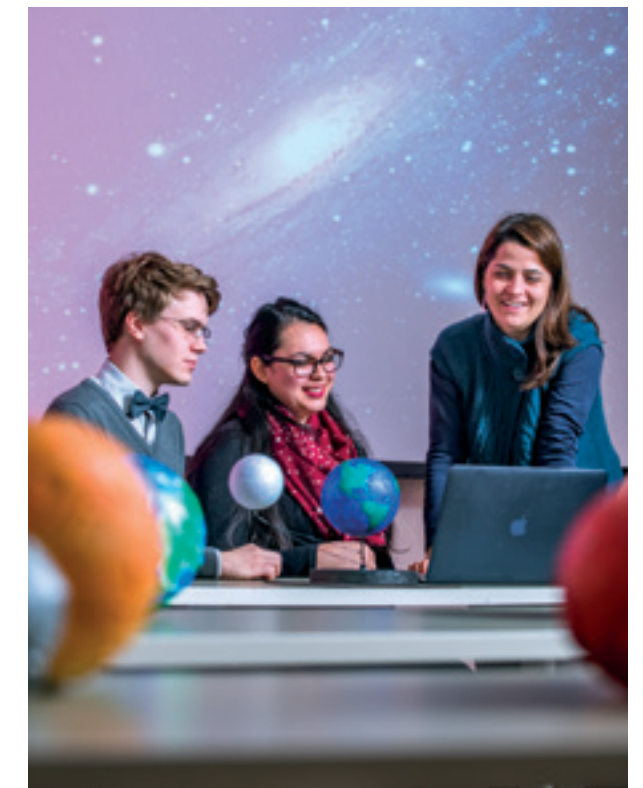
Mark Hemphill-Haley, Geology



“

As part of the Astronomy community, I'm passionate about educating future generations so they become part of the circle of knowledge. Their insight and intelligence strengthen that circle with each cycle.

Paola Rodriguez Hidalgo,
Astronomy & Physics





“It’s wonderful to know that you’ve made an impact on students’ lives, and I hope they know that they also impact my life. My interactions with them have made me a better teacher, communicator, and person.

Jeffrey Dunk, Environmental Science & Management

“The classroom should be a space for empowerment and motivation but also agitation and exploration. Teaching provides the opportunity to weave lesser-known narratives of rebellion and resistance into the stories we ‘think’ we know of those identified as marginalized and oppressed.

Maral Attallah, Critical Race, Gender & Sexuality Studies

As a teacher, advisor, and mentor, I want to make sure I am a positive influence in the lives of my students. I integrate diverse and inclusive perspectives into my courses so students learn to celebrate not only their similarities but also their differences.

Sarita Ray Chaudhury, Business



“It’s a pleasure to see my students get excited about what they’ve learned from our discussions. I feel that as a teacher and researcher in forestry, I have done my job. More importantly, I feel privileged to be able to make a positive impact on students’ learning.

Han-Sup Han, Forestry
(standing)





I hope my students will become teachers who fight for a curriculum that reflects the diversity of California and gives all students the opportunity to learn different languages, think for themselves, and access enrichment programs.

Marisol Ruiz, Education



“One of my students spoke at Black Graduation this past spring. She, like other graduates, stood at the microphone to thank her family. But she also thanked me for helping her explore new ways of thinking and seeing the world. I was on the verge of tears and had no idea she felt that way. Having that kind of impact on my students is why I teach.

Kerri Malloy, Native American Studies

Local Places You
LOVE

photography by Kellie Jo Brown

Top of the World

**From the pristine Ma-le'l Dunes to the verdant Fern Canyon,
here are some of the places alumni loved most when they were students.**

So take a look, take your time, and relish the breathtaking views.

Experience more local places at
magazine.humboldt.edu.





Mad River



Trinity River



Trinity Alps



Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park

Photo courtesy of Kristen Gould



Camel Rock



Old Home Beach



Luffenholtz Beach



College Cove



Ma-le'i Dunes



Humboldt Bay



Manila Dunes Recreation Area



Arcata Marsh



Mattole Road



Fern Canyon

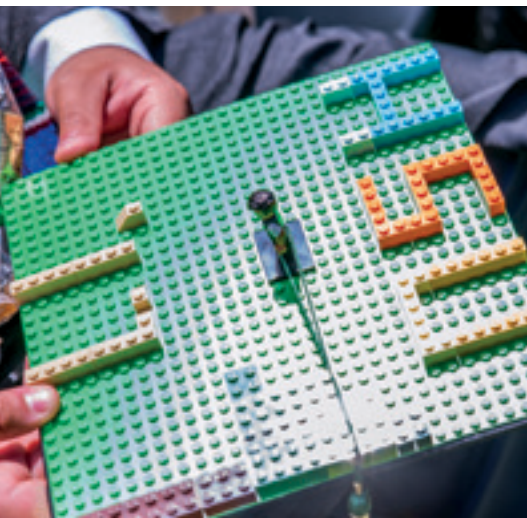


CAPPING OFF AN ACHIEVEMENT

photography by Kellie Jo Brown

Donning the cap and gown symbolizes a huge accomplishment. And what better place and time—in front of a graduate's biggest fans—for another burst of creativity?

Graduates decorate their caps wildly for their special day, flaunting their majors, backgrounds, or just an eagerness to party. It's a chance to exclaim pride, relief, exhaustion, and excitement for the future.



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