

# Björklunden Seminars

*"Vacation with a purpose"*

SEPT. 15-18, 2024 AT BJÖRKLUNDEN



"Parent Child" by Jeff Wall

## "Deep Looking: Exploring Empathy Through Art"

### Course Description

Join artist and educator Kevin McCarty for a seminar to ignite a transformative journey of self-discovery and empathy enhancement by observing art objects and texts. Participants will delve into art interpretation, learning to decipher the signs and symbols embedded within works to uncover rich, nuanced meanings. Attendees will cultivate the ability to apply this deep look to their everyday experiences, finding new layers of meaning everywhere and fostering a more profound empathy for others. Discover the profound connections between art, self-awareness, and compassion.

Through engaging discussions and interactive exercises, participants will explore the profound connections between art interpretation and the development of empathy. By honing their observation skills and delving into the layers of artistic expression, attendees will gain insights into the diverse perspectives and experiences of each piece.

Throughout the seminar, emphasis will be placed on applying these newfound insights to real-world scenarios, fostering empathy in day-to-day interactions with others. Participants will learn how to recognize and appreciate the complexities of human emotions and experiences, cultivating a deeper understanding of the people around them.

By the end of the seminar, participants will emerge with a heightened ability to connect with others on a deeper level, fostering empathy and understanding in personal and professional relationships.

[Register Here>>](#)

### Instructor



#### Kevin McCarty

McCarty is an artist and educator who forged a career as a photographer, focusing on capturing the essence of varied spaces and documenting the vitality and importance of individuals existing on the margins of society. While his work often portrays "outsiders," his images transcend exoticism and voyeurism, empowering his subjects to be depicted with agency and purpose.

As an educator, McCarty combines his love for creativity and personal development in his work as an administrator, leader, teacher, manager, and mentor. His goal is to encourage his team to bring their best work to a project and accomplish more than they think possible.

As the Director of Blended Education for the College of Health Care Professions, he leverages over two decades of experience in higher education leadership to drive meaningful change. Through innovative instructional design and online curriculum development, he spearheads initiatives to enhance student success and promote equity across all demographics.

McCarty's vision for education extends beyond the classroom, as evidenced by his dedication to creating inclusive institutions that champion equality and empathy.