



(VIRGINIA BEACH) Photographer Earns Craftsman Degree

Ty Swartz of Landstown Governor's STEM Academy recognized for helping to advance the photography industry

(VIRGINIA BEACH, JANUARY 17, 2022) – Ty Swartz of Landstown Governor's STEM Academy in Virginia Beach has earned the Photographic Craftsman degree from Professional Photographers of America (PPA). The degree was presented to Swartz by PPA president Mary Fisk-Taylor, M.Photog., Hon.M.Photog.M.Wed.Photog.Cr., CPP, ABI, API, EA-ASP, at the association's annual convention, Imaging USA, held in National Harbor, MD, on January 17, 2022.

This degree is not merely a piece of paper. It means that Swartz has met the standards of excellence set by the PPA. He has been awarded the Photographic Craftsman degree in recognition of his service to the photographic profession as an orator, author, and mentor. In 2022, he was one of only 52 recipients.

Swartz's degree – and all the expertise it requires – illustrates his accomplishments and talent as one of a select few.

This is Swartz's fifth year working for Virginia Beach City Public Schools as a Career Technical Educator teaching Adobe Creative Suite, photography, videography, and podcasting to students at Landstown High School. Swartz retired from the U. S. Navy in 2011 after serving 20-years as a Mass Communication Specialist Chief Petty Officer specializing in photojournalism, broadcast journalism, and public relations. He is currently a doctoral student at Regent University studying K-12 School Leadership and earn his Master of Business Administration in Project Management and Marketing from Brenau University and a Bachelor of Science in Workforce, Education, and Training from Southern Illinois University. Swartz has his Post Graduate Teacher License in Business and Information Technology, Technology Education, Marketing Education, and Middle Ed. 6-8: Science.

About PPA

Professional Photographers of America (PPA) is the largest and longest-standing nonprofit photography trade association. Founded in 1868, PPA currently helps 33,000 professionals elevate their craft and grow their business with resources and education, all under PPA's core guiding principle of bridging the gap between photographers and consumers.

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