

Stockton's Kramer Hall to Feature Nature Photos And Stories Behind Them on Thursday, Jan. 21

For Immediate Release; links to photos below

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Galloway, NJ - Stockton University's Kramer Hall in Hammonton will host "Shutter Stories" as a part of the Hammonton Third Thursday theme, "She," at the instructional site on **Thursday, Jan. 21**. The event celebrates women through the unique photography captured by Susan Allen of Port Republic, N.J.

Allen is a two-time graduate of Stockton University with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics (2009) and a Master of Arts in Instructional Technology (2014). She has worked in the University Relations and Marketing Office since 2009 doing photography, writing and social media.

She will be exhibiting her work and sharing the stories behind capturing distinctive nature shots. Prints will be available for purchase at this free public event, to be held from 6 – 8 p.m. at Kramer Hall, 30 Front St. in downtown Hammonton, N.J. Light refreshments will be served.

As a nature enthusiast, Allen's camera often leads her to wildlife refuges and national parks, and to volunteer events to rescue migrating amphibians during road crossings, to tag horseshoe crabs during spawning season and to build oyster reefs for habitat restoration. Behind the images can be a long, snowy hike, hours of swatting greenheads, crawling through the dirt to get eye-level with a subject, driving on dark, rainy nights to vernal pools or long waits to capture just the right moment. What she enjoys most about nature photography is the excitement of discovering creatures she's never seen before, observing wildlife and sharing images that reveal often unnoticed scenes from the natural world.

Going along with her wildlife and photography interests, Allen created a trail guide, known as the <u>Stockton Biodiversity Project</u>, which is available online. It is a one-hour walking tour around Lake Fred on the Galloway campus.

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Over the summer, she was selected by NASA as one of 40 social media professionals to cover the live RS-25 rocket engine test at the Stennis Space Center in Mississippi to help share a piece of NASA's journey to Mars with the Stockton community.

Her images have been displayed at Paul Dempsey's Photo Studio in Galloway and were selected for the