



Northwest Iowa
Community College

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NEWS RELEASE

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NCC's Professional Photography Program Graduates its First Class

In the fall of 2008, ten students walked through NCC's doors for the first time. They were part of NCC history, enrolled in a new program at Northwest Iowa Community College, Professional Photography.

At the May 14 graduation ceremonies the students walked across the stage and into the NCC history books to receive the first Associate of Applied Science Degrees awarded from NCC in the Professional Photography Program.

Dustie Baker, "I'm very excited to be graduating. I really enjoyed the photography program. I learned so much from my instructors, Mike and Michelle. My favorite part of the program was interaction with all the different people and families we took pictures of over the past two years. One thing I didn't realize before I started the program is how important it is to know how to operate my camera. It sounds so basic but you think you know how to operate your camera and then you start the program and realize you really don't know that much."

Baker continued, "I am hoping to intern with another established photographer and then eventually open my own business."

Dr. Alethea Stubbe, Vice President of Education & Learning Services, stated, "We decided to start the Professional Photography program in 2008 because potential students were specifically requesting the program. At the time we started the program there was only one other Community College in Iowa offering Photography as a program choice and there was a long waiting list to get into their program."

The Professional Photography Program looks at three major areas of training: portrait photography, commercial photography, and photojournalism. Portrait Photographers take pictures of individuals or groups of people and often work at their own studios. Some specialize in weddings, religious ceremonies, or school photographs and may work on location.

Commercial and Industrial Photographers take pictures of various subjects, such as buildings, models, merchandise, artifacts, and landscapes. These photographers are used in a variety of media, including books, reports, advertisements, and catalogs.

Photojournalists photograph newsworthy people, places, and sporting, political, and community events for newspapers, journals, magazines or television.

The Professional Photography Program will include lectures, demonstrations and significant practical application assignments in studio areas. In addition to such courses as photo reproduction, wedding photography and electronic imaging, the program will provide instruction in areas which assist individuals who wish to start their own business.

Graduates include: Daisy Ludeke, Sheldon; Dustie Baker, Ashton; Katy Gilbert, Sanborn; Hanna Altena, Orange City; Kay Hoting, Little Rock; and Megan Franken Argo, Sioux Center.

For more information on this program or any programs at Northwest Iowa Community College, contact the Admissions office at NCC by calling 712-324-5061 or 800-352-4907 or emailing studentservices@nwicc.edu. Or, check our website at www.nwicc.edu.