

**Kent A. Tompkins**  
**Documentary Photographer • Videographer • Editor**  
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## **Work Experience:**

**1990-Current: Photographer • Videographer • Editor** - Create documentary video projects, with video, stills. Major themes have been indigenous culture in the southwest US and First Nations, Canada and music, dance and wellness festivals. Established wilderness-based wellness program for indigenous adolescents within Navajo Tribe, AZ.

**2006-Current:** Shifted from film, darkroom to digital format. Experienced in post-production in Adobe Photoshop and Apple Final Cut Pro (video editing). Currently shoot with Canon 80D, GoPro, and Phantom 4 4K drone.

**1999: Colorado Council on the Arts** - Grant recipient of Artist Fellowship from Colorado Council on the Arts for documentation of western Colorado farming community. Specifically the project documented through candid portraiture and landscape images, the disappearance of farming in the Grand Valley of western Colorado. The project culminated in a gallery show of medium-format black and white images in Fruita, CO. See: A pictorial book of these images and related stories is planned.

**1986-1990: Arizona Commission on the Arts, Phoenix, AZ.**

Project Co-Director/ Photographer

Grant writer and funding recipient for documentary work established by invitation of traditional healers of Navajo healing ceremonies and sacred areas. Co-Directed the Hijiinei Place of Emergence Project by collaborating with twelve artists from various tribes and nationalities to produce a national traveling exhibition consisting of photos, video, paintings, sculpture and allegorical writings. Dine'tah is located in the four corners area and documents many exchanges between late Anasazi and early Athabascan (Navajo/Apache) peoples. The Arizona Commission on the Arts funded artists' traveling expenses, stipend for artwork, while coordinating the traveling exhibition for a three-year period. This project was instrumental in the Navajo Tribe's purchase in 1988 of the Largo Canyon and Crow Mesa Ranches in order to protect ancestral home sites. Tony Hillerman also assisted in our presentation to the Tribal leaders, and also getting this ancestral area listed as a national historic area.

**1984-1990: Chinle Unified Schools, Chinle, AZ.** - Director, Navajo Curriculum and Development Center. Supervised a staff of twelve Navajo graphic and video artists, writers and production staff in development of culturally based Navajo school K-12 curriculum for distribution nationally. Lectured nationally on topics including; art in the classroom, visual strengths of ESL students, cross-cultural photographic projects and bringing Native American culture into the classroom. Taught many Talented-Gifted/ESL

Kent Tompkins, visual resume, page two:

Native American students black-white photography and book production from 1978-1990. Photographer/Consultant for Arizona Highways Magazine.

**1982-1984: Colorado Mountain College-Photography** Instructor / Studio Manager - , Vail, CO / SummerVail Workshops for Art and Critical Studies  
Taught black and white, color photography in a community college/art institute setting. Assisted visiting photographers from National Geographic Magazine, and nationally known landscape and fashion photographers.

**1983: - Eagle County Arts Council, Vail, CO**  
Grant recipient of the council's annual artist award. One year project of documentary black and white work of homestead families in Valleys of Vail and Beaver Creek.

### **Exhibitions:**

**June 2014** - Four years of images created by Native American adolescents went into a DVD production to show the essence of an Indigenous-Centered healing program on Navajoland.

**March 2008** – New work from India 2008, combined with Native American sacred sites. Chipeta Sun Kiva, Ridgway, CO

**Summer 2002** – We R All 1, 20 years of documentary images depicted in an A/V slide show from life on Navajoland and other cross-cultural settings– Shows in Pagosa Springs, Crestone, Durango and Moab.

**October 2000** – Adams State College, Graduate Studies Department – Alamosa, Colorado. Guest Lecturer and artist.

**August 2000** – Manitou Foundation – Crestone, Colorado. Guest Lecturer and artist.

**March 2000** - Planet Earth Gallery one man show - 16 x20" black/white images documenting changing landscape in western Colorado farming industry. Landscape and candid portraiture comprise the exhibit. **Funding provided by the Colorado Commission on the Arts.**

**December 1999** - Civic Center, Fruita, CO 16 x20" black/white images documenting changing landscape in western Colorado farming industry. Landscape and candid portraiture comprise the exhibit.

**Funding provided by the Colorado Commission on the Arts.**

**March 1999** - Costa Rica Highlands and coastal regions.  
Documentary color images-one man show. Planet Earth Gallery, Grand Junction, CO.

Kent Tompkins, visual resume, page three:

**1998** - A day in the Life of Grand Junction - A multi-media collaboration with Mesa State College Dancers, community skateboard kids, Native American Dancers and community children-Created and directed by Kent Tompkins. Presented at the Avalon Theatre.

**1994** - Navajo Retrospective - Color and black/white images from Navajo ceremonial portfolio. Western Colorado Center for the Arts, Grand Junction, CO

**1992** - Western Colorado Center For the Arts-Grand Junction, CO Audio-Visual Presentation and lecture on Navajo Ceremonial Life.

**1992** - Society For Photographic Education-Santa Fe, NM / Anderson Ranch-Snowmass, CO – Guest lecturer on Dine'tah-Hajjineei The Place of Emergence project with co-director Will B. Tsosie, Jr.

**1989-1992** - Dine'tah-Hajjineei The Place of Emergence Navajo Ceremonial Site documentation - A 50 piece black/white national traveling exhibition. Funded and coordinated by the Arizona Commission on the Arts. Locations: Heard Museum-Phoenix, AZ, Navajo Community College-Tsaile, AZ, Anasazi Heritage Center-Cortez, CO, Miami Dade Community College- Miami, FL, White Mountain Apache Reservation-Whiteriver, AZ, Anderson Ranch-Snowmass, CO, Society For Photographic Education-Santa Fe, NM.

### **Credentials and Education:**

Primarily self-taught. Born and raised in rural western Colorado, steeped in nature with healthy support to exercise creative gifts. Exercise and athletics as a way of life paid my way through college, and continues in an art of seeing the world intuitively. Learned techniques and equipment assist in creating my internal workd-view.

1994 - Licensed Professional Counselor #949, State of CO, Clinical Hypnotherapist # CHT306-222

1992 - M.A. - Community Counseling - Adams State College, Alamosa, CO

1976-1977 - Majority of Graduate work completed in Clinical Rehabilitation and Psychology - University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO Received full coverage grant and teaching stipend.

1982 - Photographic Internship with Ansel Adams, Carmel, CA

1970-1974 - B.A., B.S. - Special Education/Social Psychology - University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO. Received athletic Scholarship for duration of undergraduate work.