



# R.J. Kern Agricultural Photography Programs

R. J. Kern (b. 1978) is an American artist whose work explores ideas of home, ancestry, and a sense of place through the interaction of people, animals, and cultural landscapes. He is a storyteller, and a photographer and has published several books besides exhibited much of his work throughout the country.

**All 30-minute Shows are held in the Open Class Building (Demo Space Area)**



**Thursday, July 28th at 1:00 pm —**

1. On Being a National Geographic agricultural photographer— Learn what it is like firsthand to create and publish photographs by a National Geographic photographer, showcasing the agricultural roots of Minnesota’s county fairs.

**Saturday, July 30th at 2:00 pm —**

2. On Being a Commemorative Artist for the Minnesota State Fair— How do you wrangle 24 Supreme Champion animals to look at the camera? Learn behind-the-scenes stories as told by R. J. Kern, the first photographer commissioned to create the Commemorative Artwork for the Minnesota State Fair, a highlight of The Best of the Best in Minnesota agricultural history.

**Saturday, July 30th at 3:00 pm —**

3. The Unchosen Ones: Life Skills Learned in 4-H and beyond— Watch and learn with storytelling by R. J. Kern on life lessons learned from participants in his project, The Unchosen Ones, who showed animals at Minnesota county fairs and did not win. Participants 4-years later offer wisdom learned to others fellow 4-Hers.



**Saturday, July 30th at 4:00 pm —**

4. The Unchosen Ones: Advice for 4-H Competitors— Hear a sampling of advice and stories from 4-H participants from the The Unchosen Ones project as they share lessons learned showing their animals at Minnesota county fairs.

**Saturday, July 30th at 5:00 pm —**

5. iPhoneography Tips for Your Award-Winning Photography— Photography means “writing with light,” so how can we shape to take our best photographs? Learn tips and tricks on seeing and using light from an award- winning photographer.

**Thursday, July 28th at 3:00 pm —**

6. History of Agricultural Photography 101— Did you know some of the first photographs we see are of prize-winning animals? The birth of photography and animal fairs were mid-19th century experiences both have been shaped by technology over the last 150 years. Learn how animal husbandry has been shaped by photography since 1850.

