



HARBOR HISTORY MUSEUM

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HARBOR HISTORY MUSEUM HOSTS *HANDS AT WORK* EXHIBIT

On View June 16 – September 9



Gig Harbor, WA – *Hands at Work*, an extraordinary traveling exhibit of photographs and quotes from photographer Summer Moon Scriver and author Iris Graville, will debut at Harbor History Museum on June 16, 2017 and will be on view through September 9, 2017.

This heartfelt collaboration between Scriver and Graville offers insight into the enduring satisfaction of work that relies on the tactile experience of using one's hands. Drawn from a wide array of interviews and photoshoots conducted by Graville and Scriver, *Hands at Work* features a number of people who live and work in Puget Sound; many are from Lopez Island, Washington, home to Graville and Scriver. In addition to the exhibit, the pair's 144-page hardcover book has received numerous awards including a National Best Books Award in Photography, an Outstanding Book award by Independent Publishers (IPPY), and a gold Nautilus Book Award.

The public and media are invited to the *Hands at Work* Exhibit Author Reception, Tuesday, July 25, 2017, at 5:00p.m. at the Harbor History Museum. Following the reception, guests are encouraged to attend Graville's [Humanities in the Harbor](#) lecture, "The Way of the Artist" at 6:00 p.m. Whether the art is writing, music, photography, painting, healing, baking or some other creative expression, seven characteristics describe Iris' own experience as well as what she's learned from the people in *Hands at Work*: commitment, exploration, joy, fear, connection, faith, and lack of control. She will talk a bit about each of these characteristics with stories from her own journey as well as images and excerpts from *Hands at Work*.

Twenty-four framed images with accompanying quotes make up the 1,000-1,500 square-foot exhibit along with a mirror that encourages visitors to frame their own hands, asking the questions, "What work do your hands do? To what work do they aspire?" A bulletin board accompanies the displayed images as well to allow for community involvement; those interested are encouraged to post pictures of local people's hands at work. These photographs can be brought to the Museum or simply posted on the

Museum's [social media](#) platforms with, "#HandsAtWork," and will subsequently be printed and added to the community board in the exhibit.

Following its time at Harbor History Museum, the *Hands at Work* Exhibit will go to [Cheekwood Estate and Gardens](#) in Nashville, Tennessee.

As our society gets more and more technology based and further from the production process, there is a renewed interest in the rediscovery of skills and professions that rely on working hands. From setting metal type to turning wood and hauling nets, these hands know the weight of a letter, the direction of the grain, the bounty of the sea. The healing power of hands has long been known as well, and the fact that our personalities can be read in a palm or by the very calluses we work to conceal.

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Image credits:

Letterpress Printer by Summer Moon Scriver

About Harbor History Museum Harbor History Museum creates opportunities to experience the heritage of the greater Gig Harbor communities by collecting, preserving, and sharing the rich history of the area. Our vision is to be the cornerstone that provides a gathering place and a sense of identity for our community. The Museum re-opened to the public on September 18, 2010. The facility includes: a 1893 fully restored one-room school house; a 65-foot fishing vessel currently under restoration; 7,000 square feet of exhibition space; and a 900-square foot library, research and meeting room. The Museum provides a variety of public education programs. Our core educational program is the Pioneer School Experience (PSE), which serves over 1,500 students every year. Led by a trained "School Marm," the children experience a pioneer school classroom complete with lessons, recitations, music, recess, and lunch. Our permanent exhibit features professionally designed exhibitions, larger-than-life experiences, and opportunities for hands-on exploration of our region's rich history and unique heritage. Artifacts, video kiosks, hands-on exhibits, computer interactives, and a small theatre bring Peninsula history to life in our permanent galleries. In addition, the Museum provides 3-5 special exhibits throughout the year so there is always something new to see and experience for our members and visitors.

HOURS – Tuesdays–Sundays 10 am–5 pm, Sundays 1 pm–5 pm.

ADMISSION – Adult \$7, Student/Military/Senior (65+) \$6, Youth (6-17) \$5. Children 5 and under free. Members always free. Sundays in July are "Pay As You Will" admission.

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