

## New for 2024!

### Commemorative County Fair Artwork \$1500

Think Grandma Moses with a camera at **Your Fair!** Includes high resolution digital image with commercial copyright permission for marketing of the fair and sales (mugs, posters, etc)! Commission R. J. Kern to create a large-scale photograph depicting elements of the county fair, including 4-H youth and their animals. Photograph requires about an hour of time between 6 - 8pm and assistance to help spread the word. Bonus for a vantage point like on top of a scissor lift, bleachers, or horse trailer!



Winona County Fair, 2023, archival pigment print mounted on dibond, 39 x 52 inches



Live Action Role Players, Blue Earth County Fair, Minnesota, 2022  
archival pigment print mounted on dibond, 39 x 52 inches

## 2024 Pricing

R. J. Kern will appear at your county fair, showcasing his enthusiasm for photography and Minnesota agriculture. Shows are booked on a first come, first-served basis. Payment due after shows. R. J. requires electricity and covered shelter to perform, preferably in a darkened area for best experience (video projector and audio included).

Travel expenses additional to include mileage (67c/mile), per diem, and lodging.

### 1-3 Shows

\$375 per show + travel expenses

### 4-6 Shows

\$350 per show

### Extras

*The Unchosen Ones:* Community Exhibition of Photography

\$300 per day

## Grant Supported!

Qualifies for grants by the Minnesota Dept of Ag including:

Category I (AGRI) Preserving & Promoting MN Agriculture

Category II (Legacy) Promoting MN Arts & Ag History

To book:

[rj@rjkern.com](mailto:rj@rjkern.com)  
(303) 474-0983

R.J. Kern

## Agricultural Photography Storytelling Demonstrations Community Exhibition of Photography



Photo Credit: Matthew Steaffens



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# County Fair Shows (30-minutes)

## 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.

## 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.

## 3. The Unchosen Ones: Advice for 4-H Competitors and Life Skills Learned

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.

## 4. iPhoneography Tips for 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.

## 5. 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 shaped by technology. Learn how animal husbandry has been shaped by photography since 1850.

## 6. Historical Photography Demonstrations - Tintypes

Watch and learn how R. J. Kern creates tintype photographs, using the Civil War-era wet plate collodion process. The fairgrounds will be subject to the photograph and a digital copy will be shared with participants.



R. J. Kern's show, Mahnomon County Fair, 2023



Community Exhibition of Photography, Hubbard County Fair



Tintype, Houston County Fair, 2023