



SARAH MARINO

nature photography + photo education

CONNECT



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[sarahmarinophoto](https://www.instagram.com/sarahmarinophoto)



[sarahmarino.bw](https://www.instagram.com/sarahmarino)



[sarahmarinophoto](https://www.youtube.com/sarahmarinophoto)



[smarinophoto](https://twitter.com/smarinophoto)

AREAS of FOCUS

Beyond the Grand Landscape

+ Intimate Landscapes

+ Abstractions in Nature

+ Portraits of Plants & Trees

Black & White Photography

Personal Expression

Seeing More Deeply

Protection of Public Lands

EDUCATION

MASTER'S DEGREE

Public Administration

BACHELOR of SCIENCE

Business Administration

BACHELOR of ARTS

American History

University of Colorado (all)

SUMMARY

Sarah is an accomplished nature photographer, photography educator, and writer who splits her time between home in rural SW Colorado and nomadic traveling, often in an Airstream camp trailer.

Sarah's teaching—through speaking, workshops, coaching, ebooks, and video tutorials—focuses on personal expression, seeing opportunities in any landscape, finding joy in photographing nature's small scenes, cultivating curiosity, and deeply connecting with nature.

Sarah is a co-founder of the Nature First Photography Alliance, and promotes the conservation and stewardship of wild places through her photography and teaching.

PHOTOGRAPHY EXPERTISE

WRITING: Ebook Author or Co-Author (with Ron Coscorrosa)

- *Beyond the Grand Landscape: A Guide to Photographing Small Scenes*
- *11 Composition Lessons for Photographing Nature's Small Scenes*
- *Black & White: A Complete Guide for Nature Photographers*
- *Desert Paradise: The Photographer's Guide to Death Valley NP*
- *Lessons from the Landscape: Yellowstone National Park*
- *Forever Light: The Landscape Photographer's Guide to Iceland*
- Plus dozens of blog posts, published articles, and interviews about the art and craft of nature photography

TEACHING & SPEAKING: Sarah is widely regarded as an inspiring, thoughtful, and organized teacher and speaker. Sarah's experience includes delivering keynote/full-group talks at photography conferences, speaking to smaller groups (including photo clubs), leading field workshops, and developing original curriculum.

COACHING & MENTORING: Sarah has deep experience in formal and informal coaching for photographers of all levels on topics including creativity, building confidence, finding your voice, seeing more deeply, technical skills, writing/communication, and business development—all delivered with a supportive and encouraging approach.

WILD PLACES: Sarah has extensive experience traveling in wild places and remote backcountry locations. Knowledgeable about public lands policy, land stewardship, and conservation. Naturalist-in-training.

TEACHING APPROACH

Before transitioning to a career in photography, Sarah led a successful consulting practice focused on leadership and strategy for nonprofit organizations and foundations. Through this work, Sarah taught hundreds of professional development sessions, worked as an executive coach, and managed a broad range of complex projects. Sarah brings this background in her approach to photography education—experience that helps set her apart in terms of developing inspirational, well-organized, and effective educational offerings that are full of information that participants can immediately integrate into their own photography practice.



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TALKS & TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Sarah's presentations, classroom sessions, and field workshops focus on nurturing creativity, seeing opportunities in any landscape, photographing nature's small scenes, and the style of photography focused on exploration and connecting with nature. Sarah is skilled at teaching composition, working with all different kinds of light, black and white photography, building strong observation skills, and using naturalist skills to see more opportunities.

Selected Conferences and Speaking Engagements: Moab Photo Symposium • Out of Chicago Conferences (Smoky Mountains, Moab, Death Valley, Acadia, Oregon Coast, Chicago Botanic Garden, Live, and In-Depth) • Mid-Atlantic Photo Visions Conference • Maine PPA Conference • Nature Photographers Network • Pictureline • Royal Photographic Society • Sierra Club chapters • Colorado Mountain Club • Adobe LR Meet-Up Group • And many more photo organizations across the US.

Sarah also has experience in leading **field workshops and private sessions** in Death Valley, Colorado, Iceland, Colorado Plateau (Zion, Moab, and other locations), Smoky Mountains, Acadia, Oregon Coast, and Olympic National Park, along with teaching more than 100 photography classes, both in person and online.

PUBLICATIONS & INTERVIEWS

Canon, Outdoor Photographer Magazine, OnLandscape, ELEMENTS Magazine, CaptureLandscapes, Digital Photographer Magazine, DigitalPHOTO Magazine, Extraordinary Vision Magazine, F-Stop Collaborate and Listen Podcast, Landscape Photography Show Podcast, Landscape Photography Magazine, Luminous Landscape, the NANPA podcast, Nature Photographers Network, Outdoor Photography Guide, PhotoBlog, Talking Landscape Photography YouTube show, Photography Life, Shuttermonkeys, We Talk Photo Podcast, and more.

OTHER EXPERIENCE

- **International Photo Competition Judging:** Natural Landscape Photography Awards (two competition seasons), USA Landscape Photographer of the Year (two competition seasons), and the HIPA International Photography Awards
- **2025 Trailblazer Award** from the North American Nature Photography Association (NANPA)
- **Co-Founder:** Nature First Alliance for Responsible Photography and a private networking/professional development circle for professional women photographers
- More about Sarah's professional background on [LinkedIn](#)

Your presentation this evening was very well done and inspiring. I look forward to taking a walk in the woods to practice some of your techniques. Thank you for the inspiration. - Joe

It was such a pleasure meeting and getting to know you last week... Thank you for taking the time to work with me 1:1 and helping me to see the smaller, more intimate scenes in the grand landscapes. Having now gone through my images from the week, I can tell you that the photos we worked to compose together and those I took subsequently are among my favorites from the entire trip and represent a whole new avenue of photographic exploration for me. - Jeff

I really loved Sarah's presentation. Her delivery style is excellent. Very down to earth and simply put. - George

I saw another of your webinars yesterday and it was great. You are a gifted teacher and photographer, and an excellent communicator. Keep up your good work. - Isabel

Thanks so much, Sarah! Your presentation was one of the very best. So well organized, so much information and so many beautiful images! We'd love to have you back! - Don

Thank you for your excellent presentation. Your careful and thoughtful approach came across very clearly. I agree completely with your "get out there and experience nature" approach. It is pretty amazing what you can find if you keep an open mind. - Mark