



About Jim Richardson

Judging the Energizer® Ultimate Photo Contest will be Jim Richardson, an internationally acclaimed photographer, whose work has appeared frequently in *National Geographic* magazine. He developed his love of photography as a youngster by experimenting with his father's secondhand box camera and taking pictures on his parents' wheat and dairy farm in north central Kansas.

A native of Kansas, Richardson's color landscape story on the state's Flint Hills appeared in the April 2007 edition of *National Geographic*. Repackaged as a traveling exhibit sponsored by the National Geographic Society, Epson and the Kansas Division of Tourism, the story was unveiled at the State Capitol in Topeka and is touring galleries within Kansas throughout 2008.

This is not the first time Richardson has brought attention to his native state. In May 2004, *National Geographic* published Richardson's color story on the Great Plains, alongside a retrospective of his 30 years of social documentary photography of Cuba, Kansas.

Also a noted social documentary photographer, Richardson's ongoing photography of Cuba, population 230, has been profiled twice by CBS News "Sunday Morning," first in 1983 and again in 2004. Richardson's book, *High School USA*, considered a photo documentary classic, is a three-year photographic examination of adolescence in a small-town Kansas high school (St. Martin's Press, 1979).

In 1971, he abandoned his psychology major at Kansas State University to begin a photo internship at the *Topeka (KS) Capital-Journal*. In the ensuing 15 years, Richardson's work was published in many major publications, including *LIFE*, *Time*, *Sports Illustrated* and *The New York Times*.

In addition to his work for *National Geographic*, Richardson teaches photography workshops in the US and abroad. He also speaks to audiences about building communities based on his work around the world, as well as in his home state.

Richardson and his wife Kathy returned to their native Kansas in 1997, having lived 18 years in Denver. They now reside in Lindsborg, Kansas, where they operate Small World: A Gallery of Arts and Ideas on the town's Main Street.

Richardson's web site is www.jimrichardsonphotography.com. His work also can be seen at nationalgeographic.com, corbis.com and nikonnet.com.