

2009 Hall of Fame Inductee

Suzy Gorman

Class of 1979

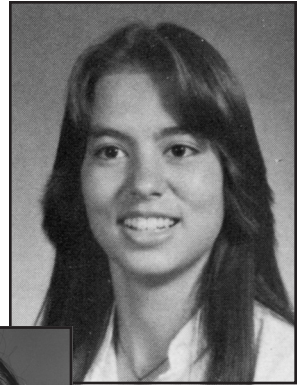
Suzy Gorman graduated from University City High School in 1979 at the age of 16 having already accumulated the required number of credits. Armed with a fierce appetite and a strong academic background, she chose to further her education at Fontbonne College where she received a bachelor's degree in Fine Arts in 1983. It was during this period, shortly after having enrolled in her first photography course, that her work was recognized. Her first photographs that gained notoriety were taken in 1981 of then Mayor Vince Schoemehl, followed by a brief internship with local photographer Rick Gould. By 1983, she had acquired her own studio.

What has brought Suzy to be distinguished and honored by University City High School in the company of a long list of highly talented and accomplished individuals is her unrelenting desire for expression. Her gifts are many and varied, but it was the gift of her late father's Leica camera, which provided the avenue she used to propel her constant hunger to express the diversity she thrives on.

The years spent at U. City High were extremely influential in determining her future accomplishments and she continues to draw strength from them.

Thirty years have elapsed, and in that time, Suzy has taken roughly two million photos, some more widely known than others, perhaps due to the subject matter. She has photographed former President Bill Clinton, former first ladies Barbara Bush and Hillary Clinton, Jackie Joyner Kersee, widely acclaimed as the world's foremost female athlete, along with current President Barack Obama.

Suzy is no stranger to controversy, in fact she is quite comfortable in uncomfortable situations. Perhaps this is part of what has led to her undeniable success and the ongoing demand for her time. She currently operates from her studio on North Broadway in downtown St. Louis, formerly an industrial warehouse with a deep history of its own, and continues her pursuit in the medium of photography. With a broad and varied body of work behind her, the future is open.



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