

downs & towns™

Houston Vandergriff

shows/exhibitions

2023

Venice Biennale NFT Exhibit, Italy

Dogwood Arts - Duet Show
(January - February)

2022

Vanderbilt Kennedy Center - Solo Show (October - December)

Mighty Mud - Collective Show

Knoxville Mayor's Office - two photographs selected to hang for 6 month period (also in 2020)

Arts in the Airport

2021

Knoxville Darkroom - (Down The Road) solo show and (Blue Town) two person show

Vanderbilt Kennedy Center Virtual Gallery - one image submitted/selected

Fountain City Art Center - two photographs hung in Open Show

2020

The Emporium Bailey Show - three photographs selected

F/32 Grand Opening Print Competition - two prints selected

Inspiration Gallery, Perth, Scotland: Featured guest at Open House to greet patrons, sign autographs, etc.

2019

Solo photographer represented at the Inspiration Gallery in Perth, Scotland

Vanderbilt Kennedy Center - two photos selected for Show; one photo selected for Show poster

Sunset on Central - invited vendor

Mega Conference displayed and sold art prints and photography - related merchandise

Fountain City Photography Competition Show - one image hung

Click or Treat at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory - invited vendor

2018

Disability Resource Center - Solo Exhibit: Around the World (July - August)

awards/recognition

2022

Smokies Through The Lens - 2nd place B&W

Let Your Imagination Take Flight Borderless Arts Competition - 2nd place

2020

My Perspective International Photo Contest - Steven Thomas Award Winner for International



Photographer in the London-Based Contest for "Traveling Through"

My Perspective International Photo Contest - Finalist for "The Cowboy"

2019

Named one of "Five People with Down Syndrome to Watch" by Ginga Ethical in Sweden

2018

11th Annual University of Tennessee Photography Contest - Honorable Mention

Tennessee Valley Fair - 1st place Exotic/Travel for "Lady of the Alps"

Tennessee Valley Fair - 1st place Plant/Flower for "Tulips in Holland"

publications

2021

Breaking Ground Magazine - Art Issue - one photograph accepted for publication

Sonder Travel Magazine, Edition 4

2020

Sonder Travel Magazine, Edition 3, "Photo Story"

Markings Publishing in Pakistan - two photos selected for international book "#StayHomeStaySafe"

2019

TN Council on Developmental Disabilities - "2 Nuzzling Horses in Iceland" photo included in website "Breaking Ground 100 Arts - Fine Arts Selections"

Sonder Travel Magazine, Edition 2

2018

Two photos accepted for publication in Breaking Ground Magazine - Art Issue

One photo selected for use in University of Tennessee Professional Program catalog

donations/charity

2021 & 2022

Selected 6 prints in on-line print shop for 100% of the proceeds to go to regional and international organizations dedicated to serving the special needs community



2021

Our City Beautiful - 2 canvas prints donated for fundraising Gala in Orlando, Florida - Invited to attend as guest artist and meet with patrons

2020

Rippled, Inc. - two prints, magnets, and photo cards donated for fundraiser

OCB - 1 print donated for fundraiser and 2 pieces included in art show

2019

Hope Resources - donated 1 large art print for fundraiser

East Ridge, Tennessee - donated 1 art print for fundraiser

Koinonia Foundation - donated 1 XL Canvas print for fundraising dinner

community service

2022

Judge for Matador Travel Awards

2022- Present

Travelocity Board

2018 - Present

Sunshine Ambassadors - Non-Profit Dance troupe for dancers with special needs - Board Member

2019 - Present

elskað: empowering women - Non-Profit to provide resources to new mothers with a Down syndrome diagnosis in Iceland - Board Member

commercial/internet

TikTok for Good

Fuel Motorcycles: Photo used in ad campaign "When Kids Have Good Taste" featuring Kenny Kirk for Colonial Pants

Markings: two photos published on Instagram for Covid-19 Quarantine experiences

Paid TikTok and Instagram Influencer (one TikTok video has more than 23M views)

press/media/etc.

2021

Newsweek.com: "Photographer with Down Syndrome's Viral Tiktok Gets Over a Million Likes" by Courtney Brogle

Indians in Gulf: Connected Beyond Borders: "Inspiring! 23-year-old with Down syndrome becomes and award-winning travel photographer" published by Trends Desk

The Logical Indian: 23-Yr-Old Man with Down Syndrome Becomes Award-Winning Travel Photographer by Palak Agrawal

WVLT Channel 8: "East Tennessee Photographer Goes Viral on TikTok for Dispelling Stereotypes" by Abby Kousouris (Also shared on WKYT and WYMT in Kentucky)

Disability Insider "Photographer with Down syndrome becomes a Tiktok Star"

Live Action: "Photographer with Down syndrome creates viral TikTok about proving naysayers wrong" by Cassy Fiano-Chesser

STORYPICK: "23-YO With Down Syndrome Beats All Odds to Become An Award-Winning Travel Photographer" by Aakriti Agarwal

fooshya.com: "Photographer With Down Syndrome's Viral TikTok Will get Over a Million Likes"

Zespoldowna.info: Artykuły oznaczone jako 'Houston Vandergriff' - Houston Vandergriff fotograf podróżniczy z nagrodą! By Jarek Kategoria

Down Syndrome News (on Twitter): #HoustonVandergriff

The T21 Project: "Houston Vandergriff" story has had more than 1,000 shares on Facebook

WVLT Channel 8: "UT Grad with Down Syndrome Recognized World-Wide for Photography Skills" by Abby Kousouris (Also shown on MSN – Microsoft News Extension)

2020

Neurobrilliant Magazine: Featured story "The Ups of Down Syndrome: The Inspiring Life of Houston Vandergriff" by Christian Yonkers

TRAVELABILITY Insider: "Meet Houston Vandergriff: 48 States and 22 Countries with Down Syndrome" by John Morris

WVLT Channel 8: "East Tennessee Photographer with Down Syndrome Receives International Awards" by Alan Williams

Amateur Photographer UK: "Great Entries in Global Contest for Photographers"

WBIR TV: "Neuro Brilliant Magazine Features 22-Year-Old from Knoxville" by Emily Stroud

Homicide Hunter: Season 9, episode 7 – played murder victim

DigitalCameraWorld.com "Winners of My Perspective 2020 International Competition Revealed" by Niall Hampton

Knoxville Daily Sun: "Knoxville Photographer Reaches International Competition Final"

2019

"Behind the Lens: Houston Vandergriff" by Austin Christiansen

"Laboratory Intern Puts B.E.S.T. Foot Forward: Houston Vandergriff" in ORNL Today by Christy White

University of Tennessee Professional Programs Catalog – UT Photography Certificate "Student Testimonial: Houston Vandergriff" by Darrin Devault

2015

PACKERSNEWS.com: "Teen with Down syndrome leads a busy life" by Emily Stroud

podcasts/live shows/ etc.

2022

Arrival Travel Conference, Las Vegas – Speaker/Panelist

"Sprouting Minds" podcast

"If We Knew Then" podcast

Pilot in Phoenix

2021

"Inclusive Radio Europe" podcast with Myrto Delkou

"The Inspiration Show" episode 13 in Toronto, Canada

"Open Book" episode 14, live show in London, England

"Stories you Should Know" on Goana Podcast in India

"Fly on the Wall" podcast from Salt Lake City, Utah

"Inclusive View" podcast from New Jersey

Youth TV Bridge for USA and Russia – Guest speaker

"Including You" podcast and blog from New York City

"Transcontinental Times – 360 Degree Live Stream" show in India "American Award-Winning Photographer Houston Vandergriff @downsandtowns in Discussion with Editor-In-Chief (Asia) of Transcontinental Times Ishita Chakraborty"

"Social Curae" live show in India

"Max Rice Tonight" podcast in Chicago, Illinois

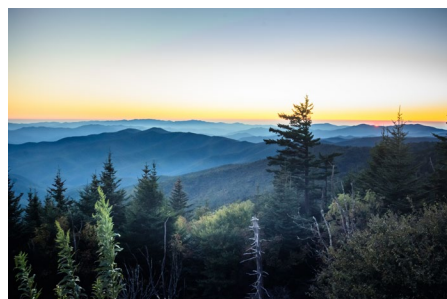
"Inclusive View" podcast in New York City with Daisy Hampton

Interviewed for book "Gen Z – Perspective to Disability"

Butler County (Ohio) Board of Development Disabilities guest speaker

2019

"Save Down Syndrome" podcast "Celebrating Houston Vandergriff" with Chantele Holm



funding

Bailey Opportunity Grant from
Arts and Culture Alliance –
2020-2021

memberships

Professional Photographers of
America – 2017 – Present

Southern Appalachian Nature
Photographers – 2018 – Present

International Travel Writers and
Photographers Alliance –
2019 – Present

Arts and Culture Alliance –
2020 – Present

Save Down Syndrome
Ambassador – 2019 – Present

education/internships

Oak Ridge National Laboratory
– Bridge to Employment in
Service and Tourism (B.E.S.T.)
intern (worked with photography
department, etc.), Summer 2019

University of Tennessee
Professional Programs –
Photography Certificate (3 year
program), June 2019
Portfolio Review and Presentation

University of Tennessee
Professional Programs – Advanced
Photography Certificate (1 year
program), June 2020
Virtual Portfolio Review
and Presentation

Professional Photographers
of America – Expo in Nashville,
Tennessee 2018 and 2020

Photo classes in Paris and Aix-en-
Provence 2018 and 2019

social media

 www.downsandtowns.com

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