

GO! The Arts

SATURDAY

Photog reveals life behind the lens

Photographer Steve McCurry won't have time to snap any pix this weekend. He'll be busy at the Southeast Museum of Photography, which is featuring his exhibition "The Path to Buddha — A Tibetan Pilgrimage."

On tap Saturday: a reception at 5 p.m., a book signing with McCurry at 6 p.m., and an illustrated lecture by McCurry and a screening of the National Geographic Explorer documentary "Search for the Afghan Girl" by filmmaker Lawrence Cumbo at 6:30 p.m. Cumbo also will participate in the lecture.

The events will be at the museum in the Mori Hosseini Center on the campus of Daytona Beach Community College, 1200 W. International Speedway Blvd., Daytona Beach. Admission is free. Information: 386-506-4475 or online at smponline.org.

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Southeast Museum of Photography

The portrait made famous by National Geographic magazine in 1985, "Afghan Girl," by Steve McCurry, is now part of the permanent collection at Daytona Beach Community College's Southeast Museum of Photography.

'Afghan Girl' finds home at DBCC photo museum

By LAURA STEWART
FINE ARTS WRITER

DAYTONA BEACH — When Steve McCurry caught the stunned expression on the face of a young Afghanistan refugee, in 1983, he never guessed that he was making history — and creating the image that will formally enter the Southeast Museum of Photography during a reception, lecture, book signing, and film-screening set for 5 p.m. Saturday.

Not only was the Magnum photojournalist doing what he has done best for decades — slipping into war-torn countries and showing their people and places to the world — but he also was putting a human face on the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, and creating an instant icon.

Bannered on the front of National Geographic in June, 1985, the anonymous "Afghan Girl" was the image that "summed up for me the trauma and plight, and the whole situation of suddenly having to flee your home and end up in a refugee camp, hundreds of miles away," McCurry later told National Geographic.

The 12-year-old stared into McCurry's camera that day, green



McCURRY

tattoos, becoming one of the most recognized and widely reproduced prints in the world.

Yet her name and story were a mystery until 2002. That's when McCurry and a National Geographic team located the girl, Sharbat Gula. She lives in a remote region of Afghanistan with her husband and three daughters, and was photographed only twice — at the refugee camp in Pakistan in 1983, and during McCurry's second visit.

McCurry's most recent exhibition, "The Path To Buddha," will remain at the Southeast Museum of Photography through Feb. 15, and the book based on the works is available at the museum.

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If You Go

WHAT: "Steve McCurry: My Life as a Photographer," reception, book signing, talk and screening of "Search for the Afghan Girl," a documentary by DBCC photography graduate Lawrence Cumbo. Cumbo will participate in the discussion.

WHEN:

5 p.m. Saturday

WHERE: Southeast Museum of Photography, Building 1200 on the Daytona Beach Community College campus, 1200 W. International Speedway Blvd., Daytona Beach

ADMISSION: Free; for more information, visit smponline.org or call 386-506-4475