

**Berea, Beloved: Learnings**

Libby Falk Jones - August 30, 2018

“Tell me, what is it you plan to do  
with your one wild and precious life?” --Mary Oliver, “The Summer Day”



President Roeloffs and Berea, Beloved—I’m delighted to be part of this story-sharing. My Berea story began 30 years ago, in 1988. For all these years, Berea has nurtured my passion and skills for teaching and learning, for working with words and images, writing and photography. Here, I’ll name some of my most important learnings and embody them in photographs I’ve made since I taught my last class a year ago June. I made these photographs in several different states, including Kentucky, and in three countries, Japan, India, and Iceland.

At Berea, I have learned:  
--to look



...and to look again, look deeper



--to find wonder in the far-away



... and right here at home



--to make my own way



...and to join in community



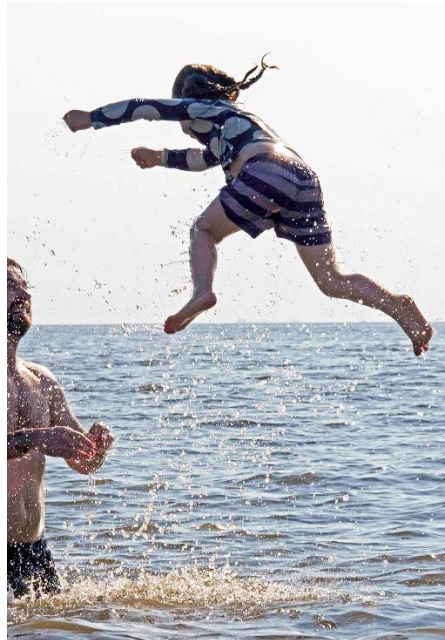
--to relish work



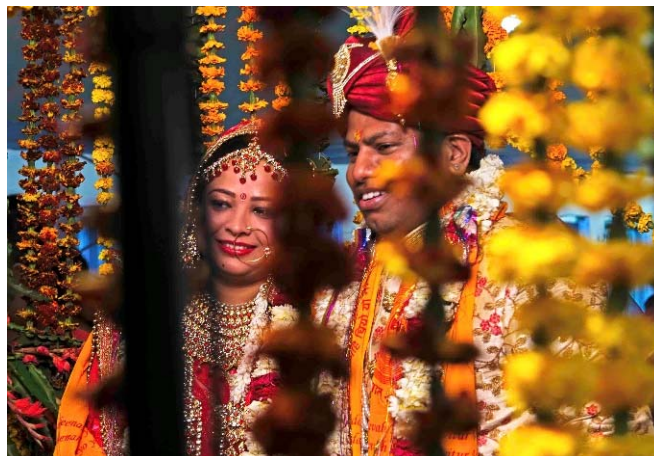
...and play



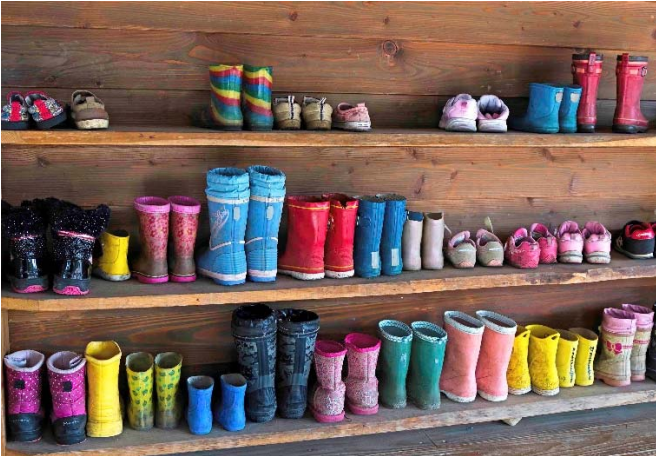
--to leap into the unknown



...and to connect across cultures



--to plan and prepare



...and to be open to surprise



--to value movement and voice



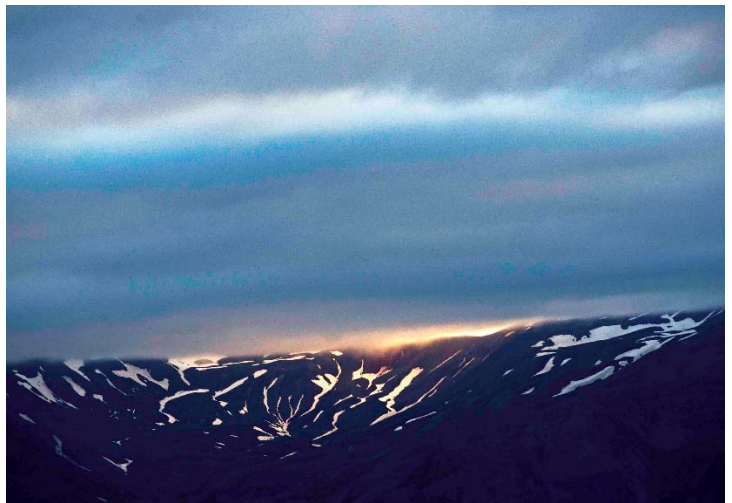
...and stillness and silence



--to investigate the world



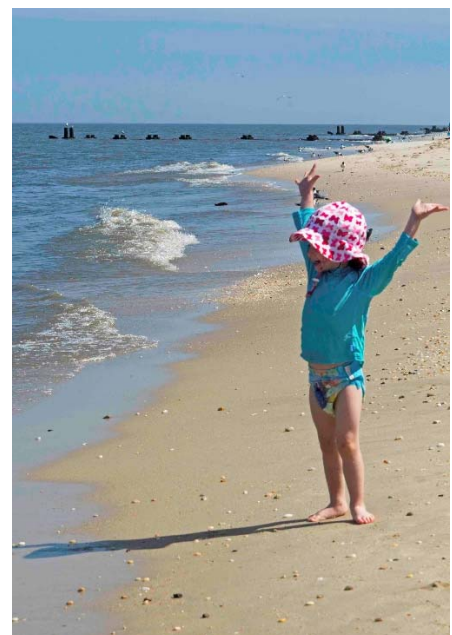
...and to embrace mystery



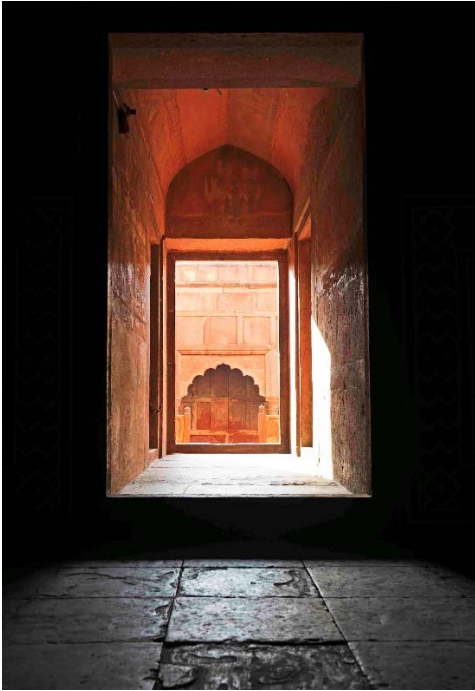
--to ponder



...and to celebrate!



At Berea, I've deepened



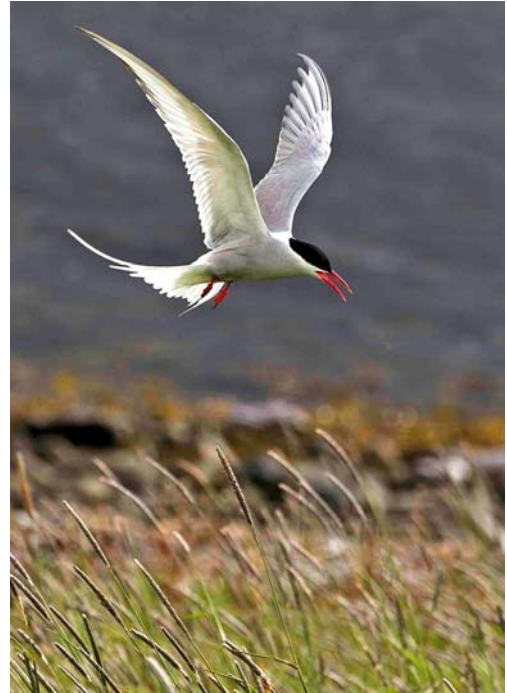
May you too thrive here!

**Photography locations:**

Japan: Hokuto City, Tokyo, Delhi  
India: Haridwar (Dev Sanskriti University), Agra  
Iceland: Vigur Island, Westfjords, Godafoss,  
Jokulsarlon Glacial Lagoon, Djupivogur  
United States: Maryland, New Jersey, Tennessee,  
Kentucky



...and I've soared.



Thank you.

**Gratitudes:**

To all Bereans, past and present, for  
enriching my work and life;  
To my family, who've journeyed with me.

