



# *Distinguished* LECTURE SERIES

## THE STORIES BEHIND THE PHOTOS

Fourteen Years of Documenting  
S&T for ONR



**JUNE 21**  
2019

**1100-1200**  
IN THE JUNKER CENTER



Presented by: **John F. Williams**

ONR's Senior Visual Information Specialist

This lecture will be accompanied by a photo exhibit in the Fran Rothwell Room  
from 1030-1300

Office of Naval Research, 875 N. Randolph Street, Arlington, Virginia

# **The Stories Behind the Photos: Fourteen Years of Documenting S&T for ONR**

## **ABSTRACT:**

Photography and video are powerful tools for telling a story. And they can be impactful for conveying how science, innovation and cutting-edge technology benefit Sailors and Marines.

During this talk, John will showcase some of his favorite photographs from the past 14 years documenting science and technology at the Office of Naval Research — and share the stories, adventures and challenges behind those images.

Through these photographs, selected from tens of thousands, he will provide you with an understanding and insight about what elements make a good photograph, how good photography can help you better tell the story of your program, and finally, provide some ideas and thoughts on how you can become a better photographer.

Memorable photographs increase reader retention and communication effectiveness by more than 50 percent. We all have the ability to take photographs. We carry a camera, in the form of a cell phone, with us every day. Now let's take the next step to becoming visual storytellers together.

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## **ABOUT**

### **John F. Williams**

John F. Williams is a photographer and Navy veteran with experience working in the government and private sectors documenting news, lifestyle, commercial and corporate assignments for use by both internal and external audiences around the world.

Currently, John is a contractor with Strategic Operational Solutions, Inc., and serves as the senior visual information specialist for the Office of Naval Research.

Prior to joining ONR, John spent eight years with Philadelphia Newspapers Inc., as a photo editor and senior multimedia producer supporting the Philadelphia Inquirer, Philadelphia Daily news, and Philly.com. Additionally, during a two-year detail, he was the national news photo editor for Knight Ridder Digital, coordinating online visual content for 40 newspapers, including the Philadelphia papers, Miami Herald, Charlotte Observer, San Jose Mercury News, Detroit Free Press, and Fort Worth Star-Telegram among them.

During his 31-year active and reserve career, John served as a public affairs officer, managed a regional black and white photo lab, spent 17 years at combat camera deploying around the world, and finished his career as the Command Master Chief for the Navy Reserve public affairs community.

John holds a photojournalism and communications degree from Temple University in Philadelphia, where he also spent eight years as an adjunct professor teaching various graduate and undergraduate photography courses.