

Levine Museum of the New South exhibit offers new cultural perspectives



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Since June, local artist Anna Gallant Carter has had a photography exhibit on display at Levine Museum of the New South. Called *Under the Same Roof of Stars/Bajo el mismo techo de estrellas*, it chronicles her trips to El Salvador with Habitat for Humanity of Charlotte, and how those trips have changed lives and perspectives. Carter has visited the country 10 times with Habitat for Humanity.

"It's a very positive exhibit and I think people respond really well to that," Carter said. "It makes you feel like you're there. Many people have a different vision of El Salvador."

Carter has volunteered with Habitat for Humanity of Charlotte since 1989. In 2005, she started studying Spanish to show her children the importance of learning another language. Then, after spending time in El Salvador, learning Spanish became even more important to her.

"I saw with every word that I learned that the payback of communicating was so tremendous that I just wanted to learn more and more words," Carter said. In 2009, she graduated from Queens University with a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish, and she's currently pursuing a master's degree in Spanish and Translation. "It's changed my life," she said. "It's opened up an entirely new world for me."

The exhibit, which runs until Feb. 6, teaches another important lesson. "It's very important to see people as individuals," Carter explained. "I think that this exhibit goes a long way in helping people see other as individuals and not as large groups of people."

"The exhibit helps people to recognize hope and dignity in others and that's vital." She added. "It's something that we all have in common. We have so much in common. We have a lot more in common than we have differences."



Anna Gallant Carter points to one of her photos on display at Levine Museum of the New South.

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