
ERIC ROBERT GREITENS

Eric Greitens was born and raised in Missouri, where he was educated in the public schools. He was an Angier B. Duke Scholar at Duke University where he studied ethics, philosophy, and public policy. Selected as a Rhodes and Truman Scholar, he attended the University of Oxford from 1996 through 2000. There he earned a master's degree in 1998 and a Ph.D. in 2000. His doctoral thesis, *Children First*, investigated how international humanitarian organizations can best serve war-affected children. He continues to study and teach public service as a Senior Fellow at the Truman School of Public Affairs at the University of Missouri and in the MBA Program at the Olin School of Business at Washington University.

Eric's award-winning book of photographs and essays, *Strength and Compassion*, grew from his humanitarian work. He has worked as a humanitarian volunteer, documentary photographer, and researcher in Rwanda, Cambodia, Albania, Mexico, India, the Gaza Strip, Croatia, and Bolivia. *Strength and Compassion* is a collection of striking photographs from these countries, combined with bold essays on Strength, Dignity, Courage, Faith, Hope, and Compassion. Among other accolades, *Strength and Compassion* has been recognized as ForeWord Magazine's Photography Book of the Year, and as the Grand Prize Winner of the 2009 New York Book Festival.

Eric's second book, *The Heart & the Fist: The Education of a Humanitarian, the Making of a Navy SEAL*, was released in April of 2011. It relates Eric's story of leadership and service as both a humanitarian and a warrior. In a life lived at the raw edges of the human experience, Eric has seen what can be accomplished when compassion and courage come together in meaningful service.

Eric is also a United States Navy SEAL officer, and he has deployed four times during the Global War on Terrorism: to Iraq, Afghanistan, the Horn of Africa, and Southeast Asia. He has served as the Commander of a Joint Special Operations Task Unit, Commander of a Mark V Special Operations Craft Detachment, and as Commander of an al Qaeda Targeting Cell. Lieutenant Commander Greitens continues to serve in the reserves at U.S. Special Operations Command. His personal military awards include the Navy Achievement Medal, the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon, the Purple Heart, and the Bronze Star.

An accomplished athlete, Eric is a sub-3 hour Marathon runner and the winner of the Shamrock Marathon at Camp Fallujah, Iraq. As a boxer, he won two Oxford Boxing Blues and the Gold Medal at the BUSA National Boxing Championships.

A committed public servant, Eric was appointed by the President to serve as a White House Fellow in 2005. The White House Fellowship is a non-partisan, non-political appointment that is considered America's most prestigious fellowship for leadership and public service.

After returning from Iraq, Eric donated his combat pay to found The Mission Continues. A non-profit organization, The Mission Continues empowers wounded and disabled veterans to begin new lives as citizen leaders here at home. From May 2007 to May 2009, Eric contributed over 2,750 volunteer hours as a volunteer Chairman and CEO, and the President of the United States personally presented Eric with the President's Volunteer Service Award in recognition of his inspiring national leadership working with wounded and disabled veterans.

As CEO of The Mission Continues, the Draper Richards Foundation selected Eric as a Fellow, recognizing him as one of the most innovative leaders in America. The following year the Manhattan Institute for Social Entrepreneurship honored Eric as one of the five leading social entrepreneurs in America. His work has been covered by national media outlets including National Public Radio, USA Today, NBC Nightly News, and the Today Show. Major League Baseball and PEOPLE Magazine recently named him an "All-Star Among Us" for his service to his country, Outside Magazine announced Eric as their "Reader of the Year," and the National Conference on Citizenship named Eric its citizen soldier of the year.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Politics, Oxford University, England, 2000

Dissertation: "Children First: Ideas and the Dynamics of Aid in Western Voluntary Assistance Programs for War-Affected Children Abroad"

M.Phil. in Development Studies, Oxford University, England, 1998

Thesis: "Intervening on Behalf of Children in War: Challenges for Humanitarian Assistance"

AB in Ethics, Duke University, 1996

Summa cum laude and with Distinction in Ethics

Minor in Philosophy and Certificate in the Science, Technology, and Human Values Program

Thesis: "On Courage," awarded distinction

ACADEMIC HONORS

- Research grant from the Templeton Foundation, 2010-2012
- Numerous research grants from the Queen Elizabeth House Development Studies Center, Lady Margaret Hall College, the University of Oxford, and Rhodes House Oxford, 1997-2000
- Rhodes Scholar, 1996
- Truman Scholar, 1995
- Phi Beta Kappa, 1995
- USA Today All-USA Academic First Team, 1995
- Duke University Faculty Scholar Award, 1995
- Benenson Award for Documentary Photography, Duke Univ. Institute for the Arts, 1995-1996
- John Hope Franklin Award for Photography, Center for Documentary Studies, 1994-1996
- A.B. Duke Scholar, 1992-1996

ACADEMIC POSTS

Senior Fellow

Harry S. Truman School of Public Affairs, University of Missouri, 2008 – Present

The Harry S. Truman School of Public Affairs advances the study and practice of policymaking and governance, educates for ethical leadership, and facilitates public dialogue on critical issues of public affairs. Eric teaches ethics, strategic planning, and leadership to students and public servants.

Adjunct Professor

John M. Olin School of Business, Washington University St. Louis, 2010-Present

Olin Business School is one of the country's leading research-oriented business schools. Its EMBA program is ranked #2 in the world by the *Wall Street Journal*. Eric teaches ethics and leadership in the MBA and Executive MBA programs.

UNITED STATES MILITARY SERVICE

Eric is a United States Navy SEAL Officer. He joined the Navy in 2001, and today he serves in the reserves with a unit at Special Operations Command.

Tactical Team, in Afghanistan with a US Special Operations Special Mission Unit, 2003

Operated in the field in support of counter-terrorism missions

Commander, Mark V Special Operations Craft Detachment One Alpha, 2004

Led 20 men and commanded two Mark V Special Operations Craft in the conduct of counter-terror operations in Southeast Asia

Commander, Joint Special Operations Task Unit in the Horn of Africa, 2005

Led 35 men in the execution of counter-terror operations in the Horn of Africa

Commander, Al Qaeda Targeting Cell in Iraq, 2006 – 2007

Led 12 men as part of a Special Mission Unit focused on the capture and kill of al Qaeda and other high-value targets in Iraq

Author, Complete Warrior Program

Tasked by leadership in Naval Special Warfare, developed an education and training program that places character at the core of our community

Special Operations Command (SOCOM) Reserve Service, Founder of TALENT, 2007 – Present

Proposed the development of a new activity to fight the War on Terrorism. Approved by SOCOM's Commanding General, TALENT now contributes to operational and strategic counter-terror efforts

Graduate of BUD/S (Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL Training) and other Courses

SEAL, Gold Jump Wings, and a qualified Special Operations Craft Patrol Officer. Expert rifle and pistol; closed-circuit SCUBA combat diving operations; demolitions; direct action target assault; special reconnaissance; small boat operations; survival, evasion, resistance, and escape; combat medicine; land navigation; tactical communications; close quarters defense; land warfare; maritime interdiction operations; prisoner detention and hostage survival.

MILITARY HONORS

- Bronze Star
- Purple Heart
- Joint Service Commendation Medal
- Navy Commendation Medal
- Joint Service Achievement Medal
- Navy Achievement Medal
- Combat Action Ribbon
- National Defense Service Medal
- Afghanistan Campaign Medal
- Iraq Campaign Medal
- Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal
- Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
- Navy Sea Service Ribbon
- Armed Forces Reserve Medal
- Expert Pistol Shot Medal
- Expert Rifle Shot Medal
- Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal

AMERICAN PUBLIC SERVICE

Founder and CEO, The Mission Continues, 2007 – Present

The Mission Continues provides fellowships to wounded and disabled veterans so that they can continue to serve their country and their local communities, and brings volunteers together to honor the fallen by living their values through service. Eric used his combat pay from Iraq to found the Mission Continues. From May 2007 to May 2009, Eric contributed over 2,750 volunteer hours as a volunteer CEO. In just three years, The Mission Continues has awarded 100 fellowships and engaged 14,000 volunteers who have completed over 50,000 hours of service to their communities.

White House Fellow, September 2005 – August 2006

The White House Fellowship program is a non-partisan leadership and public service program designed to give Fellows first-hand experience working at the highest levels of the Federal government. During his Fellowship, Eric founded the *Universities Rebuilding America Partnership* to rebuild communities affected by Hurricane Katrina and co-founded the *President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll and Awards Program*.

PUBLIC SERVICE HONORS

- In 2008, the President of the United States personally presented Eric with the President's Volunteer Service Award for his inspiring national leadership working with wounded and disabled veterans.
- In 2009, the National Conference on Citizenship recognized Eric as America's Citizen-Soldier of the Year with their George A. Smith Memorial Award.
- In 2009, the Draper Richards Foundation recognized Eric as a leader in social innovation. The Foundation selects the nation's most promising leaders and provides funding and support to increase the impact of their work.
- In 2010 Major League Baseball and PEOPLE Magazine selected Eric as one of 30 "All-Stars Among Us" for extraordinary service to the community.
- In 2010, the Manhattan Institute for Social Entrepreneurship selected Eric as one of five most high-impact social entrepreneurs in America for his leadership of The Mission Continues.
- In 2011, New Profit added The Mission Continues as the newest member to their portfolio of the fastest growing and highest impact nonprofits in the sector. New Profit is a national venture philanthropy fund that seeks to harness America's spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship to help solve our country's biggest social problems.

REPRESENTATIVE PUBLICATIONS

***The Heart & the Fist: The Education of a Humanitarian, the Making of a Navy SEAL*, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Forthcoming April 2011**

Author, This book relates Eric's story of leadership and service as both a humanitarian and a warrior. In a life lived at the raw edges of the human experience, Greitens has seen what can be accomplished when compassion and courage come together in meaningful service.

***Strength and Compassion*, Leading Authorities Press, October 2008**

Author, An award-winning book of photographs and essays with a foreword by Paul Rusesabagina, winner of the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his work that saved the lives of 1,268 people during the Genocide in Rwanda, and with an introduction by Bobby Muller, co-founder of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, which received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1997.

- Grand Prize Winner, 2009 New York Book Festival
- Gold Medal, ForeWord Magazine's 2008 Photography Book of the Year
- Winner, 2009 National Indie Excellence Book Award for Photography Book of the Year

***War and Underdevelopment*, Oxford University Press, 2000**

Contributing author, Chapter VI "The Treatment of Children During Conflict"

***Children in War: Community Strategies for Healing*, Save the Children & Duke University, 1995**

Principal photographer

INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN & DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHY WORK

In his international service, Eric has worked as a humanitarian volunteer, documentary photographer, and researcher. The services he provided were often simple, such as caring for children in an orphanage, feeding the dying in a home for the destitute, setting up a soccer team for refugee children, or helping with art projects in a home for street children. He also undertook research to determine the best methods that international humanitarian organizations could use to provide assistance to war-affected children.

- **Albania:** *Hope and Homes for Children Orphanage*, 1998
- **Cambodia:** *Cambodia Trust Limb Project for Mine and Polio Victims*, 1998
- **Chiapas, Mexico:** *Community Photography*, 1997
- **India:** *Mother Teresa's Home for the Destitute and Dying*, 1997
- **Gaza Strip and West Bank:** *Documentary Photography*, 1996
- **Bolivia:** *Mano Amiga Home for Street Children*, 1996
- **Rwanda and Zaire (Congo):** *UNHCR, UNICEF, Refuge Children Programs*, 1995
- **Croatia and Bosnia:** *The Project for Unaccompanied Children in Exile*, 1994
- **China:** *Study in Political Economy and Human Rights*, 1993

SPEAKING & MEDIA ENGAGEMENTS

As an active public speaker & commentator, Eric communicates frequently with diverse audiences and has regular interaction with the media. A selection of representative engagements include:

National Media Appearances & Public Commentary

- NBC Nightly News, CSPAN, Morning Joe, All-Star Game on Fox, USA Network, Outside Magazine, National Public Radio, Today Show, USA Today, Wall Street Journal, C3 Magazine, Military Times EDGE Magazine

International Public Speaking

- *Corporate:* Accenture; Boeing; Charles Schwab; Cobank; Express Scripts; Goldman, Sachs & Co.; Harris Corporation; IBM; Marriott International; Merrill Lynch; MITRE Corp; Pelco; PepsiCo; U.S. Bancorp; Wells Fargo
- *Higher Education:* Bob Graham Center for Public Service at the University of Florida, Harvard Institute of Politics, Holden Public Policy Forum at Webster University, Duke University's Kenan Institute for Ethics, Monroe-Paine Lecture at the University of Missouri, New York University Center on Law & Security, Sam and Marilyn Fox Atlas Week Program at St. Louis University, Virginia Tech, Xavier University, Pennsylvania University's Wharton Business School
- *Associations and Organizations:* American Society of Association Executives, Delta Regional Authority, Kansas Hospital Association, Missouri Association of Counties, National Fluid Power Association, Society for Human Resource Management, Texas Association of Counties, United Way of Greater St. Louis
- *Military & Law Enforcement:* Air Force Academy National Conference on Leadership Symposium, Baltimore Police Department, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Illinois Drug Enforcement Officers Association (IDEOA), Major Cities Chiefs Association, Naval Academy Leadership Conference, Naval Special Warfare, Special Operations Command, U.S. Army 82nd Airborne, West Point National Conference on Ethics in America

ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Amateur Boxing

Gold Medalist, British Universities Sports Association National Championships, 1998
Awarded two Oxford Boxing Blues, 1997 and 1998

Running

Sub-3 Hour Marathon Runner; 12 Marathons completed, 4 Ultramarathons completed
1st Place, Shamrock Marathon, Fallujah, Iraq, 2007
1st Place, Fauquier Half-Marathon, Warrenton, VA, 2005

Tae Kwon Do

Gold Medal, Show Me Cup, Missouri State Championship 2010, Sparring (Colored Belt Division)
Gold Medal, U.S. National Tae Kwon Do Federation Championship 2010, Sparring (CBD)
Gold Medal, Midwest Regional Championship 2010, Sparring (CBD)