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 **“Common Threads: Global Portraits”**

 **PHOTO EXHIBIT**

Cincinnati, Ohio—Since 1993 photojournalists Cathy and Mark Lyons have documented the stories of those “who needed the most, but had the least.” It was from the beginning a collaborative project that spanned twenty years and thirty countries.

The result is the dramatic collection of photographs called “Common Threads,” on display at Xavier University’s *Faces of the World Gallery* in the Gallagher Student Center beginning in August.

Cathy and Mark have their B.A. in Photojournalism from Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, KY, a leader in photojournalism for the past 30 years producing College Photographers of the Year winners, National Geographic photographers, and Pulitzer Prize winners. Former Chief photographer of the Tennessean, and Director of Photography at the Chicago Tribune, Jack Corn, conveyed this about the images, “Mark and Cathy Lyons are two great documentary photographers. I have known them as students since I was on the faculty of the Journalism Department of Western Kentucky University, and I have followed their work as they became professionals. Their photographs seem to peer into the soul of people from around the world. I think it is documentary photography at its best.” Scott Stoelting, former Executive Director of Give the Gift of Sight Foundation echoed the sentiment saying, “Cathy and Mark Lyons created emotionally authentic visuals that inspired people to be a part of our foundation’s Vision “To Help the World See”. For 20 years their photographs brought our missions around the world to life and they became the “face” of our successful volunteerism and fundraising programs.”

The opening reception for “Common Threads” will be Tuesday, September 9, 2014 from 7-9 p.m., and the exhibit, which runs from August through December 2014, is free and open to the public.

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