

ACTIVITY GUIDE

Bill Cottman – Photographer and Poet

Writing/Essay/Journal

For Bill Cottman, art is a family affair. It helps him and his family maintain freedom, identity and responsibility. Write about something that bothers you. Now imagine a way around that issue. Write about how you can conquer that problem and continue to move you forward on your path.



Activity

Bill Cottman modifies haikus to be about people, not nature. Use his “Seventeens” as a model for some poems of your own. Pick a person and write two poems that follow the Seventeens/haiku format (5 syllables, 7 syllables, 5 syllables) and that convey the spirit of that person.

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