

George Dallas Potts, PhD

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Date of Birth: August 16, 1939
Family: Wife, Alice Rolf Potts, MS
Children, Kristin Potts Van Tassel, PhD
and Rolf Justin Potts, MFA

EDUCATION

Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Ph.D., Environmental Education/Environmental Sciences (1976). (Dissertation: The Status, Goals and Needs of Environmental Education in the Public Schools of Kansas.)

Wichita State University, Wichita, Kansas, Department of Secondary Education, MS. Science Education/Environmental Sciences (1970); Secondary Education Certification (1964)

University of Kansas School of Medicine, Lawrence and Kansas City, Kansas (Medical Student, 1961-63)

Friends University, Wichita, Kansas, Department of Science & Mathematics BA, Biology/Chemistry (1961)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Educator (1964-2016)

George Potts & Associates, Environmental Education Consultants (1991-2016)

FRIENDS UNIVERSITY (1976-1991)

Administration

Chairman, Division of Natural Science & Mathematics (1989-91).

Program Director, Master of Science in Environmental Studies (1988-91 & 2007-2010).

Dean of Admissions (1980-85)

Director, undergraduate Environmental Studies (1978-91)

Coordinator, Science Education (1976-91)

Program Development

MS, Environmental Studies (1988)

BS, Environmental Science (1988)

BS, Zoo Science (1988)

BS/BA, Environmental Studies (1978)

Faculty Status: Professor, Biology & Science Education (retired)

Undergraduate Classes & Subjects Taught

Anatomy & Physiology; Animal Behavior; Ascent of Man; Biology 2; Botany; Comparative Anatomy; Ecology; Ecology of the Southwest; Energy, Economics and the Environment; Entomology; Environmental Education; Genetics; Geology; Histology; Man & the Environment; Microbiology; Natural History; Natural History of the Rocky Mountains; Parasitology; Physical Science; Research Methods; Research Problems; Science Teaching Methods; Vertebrate Anatomy; Vertebrate Zoology; Wildlife Conservation; Wildlife Management; Zoology

Graduate Classes & Subjects Taught

Environmental Science; Human Ecology; Natural History of Invertebrates; Natural History of Vertebrates; Introduction to Environmental Studies; Environmental Biology

KSOF-FM Host of “Science Scene” (1985-1989)

KANSAS NEWMAN UNIVERSITY (1995-97)

Undergraduate Classes & Subjects Taught

Histology; Environmental Health

WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY (Summers 1973-76)

Graduate Classes & Subjects Taught

Environmental Curriculum Concepts; Environmental Curriculum Development

Teacher Workshops: Field Studies for Educators; Man & the Environment for Educators

WICHITA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Administration

Coordinator Environmental Education (1975-76)

Director of Environmental Resource Center (1975-76)

Teaching

Wichita Northeast Magnet High School (1994-2000): Applied Chemistry; Biology; Chemistry; Research Methods; Global Science

Wichita South High School (1975-76): Biology

Wichita North High School (1967-74): Biology; Environmental Studies; Field Ecology; Physical Science; Physiology; Zoology.

Sabbatical (1974-75), Ph.D. residency at Kansas State University.

LOS ANGELES PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Teaching

Fremont High School (1964-1967): Biology; Physical Science; Physics

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (Since 1980)

- Groundwater Technical Review Committee, City of Wichita (1990 – 2005)
- Arkansas River Technical Review Committee, City of Wichita (2002 – 2005)
- Vulcan (now Occidental) Chemical Company Community Involvement Group (1992 – 2004)
- Friends of the Great Plains Nature Center Board (1996 – 2005), Past President
- Wichita Sedgwick County Board of Health (1991 – 2001), Chairman (1993-94)
- Botanica Wichita, Environmental Education Consultant (1983-1991)

ORGANIZATIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Kansas Academy of Science
- Kansas Association of Biology Teachers
- Kansas Association for Conservation & Environmental Education (Past President)
- Kansas Association of Teachers of Science
- Nature Conservancy of Kansas
- Wichita Jaycees

AWARDS

- 2024 John K. Strickler Award for Excellence in Conservation and Environmental Education, Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education
- 2010 Award for Excellence in Conservation and Environmental Education: K-16, Kansas Association of Conservation and Environmental Education
- 1993 Conservationist of the Year, Kansas Wildlife Federation
- 1991 Wright Conservation Award, Sedgwick County Soil Conservation District
- 1983 Distinguished Alumnus, Friends University
- 1979 Leadership 2000 Award Wichita Chamber of Commerce
- 1978 W.A.Young Excellence in Teaching Award, Friends University
- 1974 Outstanding Environmental-Conservation Educator in Kansas, Kansas Association of Conservation Districts
- 1973 Outstanding Biology Teacher in Kansas, Kansas Association of Biology Teachers, First Runner Up
- 1973 Eco-America Award for Kansas, Wichita North HS Ecology Club, “High School to Grade School Outdoor Education Project,” Pepsi Cola Foundation
- 1973 The U.S. President’s Environmental Excellence Award for Outstanding Achievement in Environmental Protection Services: Wichita North HS Ecology Club, “Innovative Student Environmental Projects,” Environmental Protection Agency, Region VII

- 1972 Eco-America Award for Kansas, Wichita North HS Ecology Club/BSA Ecology Explorer Post, “BSA Explorer Post Pollution Survey Wichita/Sedgwick County,” Pepsi Cola Foundation
- 1971 Outstanding Young Educator in Wichita
- 1961 Who’s Who in American Colleges and Universities

PUBLICATIONS

- Potts, G., J. Blodig, M. Rader, et. al. 2010. *Grant Proposal Guidelines for Outdoor Wildlife Learning Sites (OWLS)*. Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks. 1-23
- Potts, G. D. & J.T. Collins. 2005. *A Checklist of the Vertebrate Animals of Kansas*. 3rd ed Sternberg Museum of Natural History. 1-50
- Potts, G. & B. Gress. 2005. *Pocket Guide to Common Kansas Mammals*. Mennonite Press. Newton, KS. 1-69
- Potts, G.D. & J.T. Collins. 1999. *A Checklist of Vertebrate Animals of Kansas*. 2nd ed. Kansas Biological Survey. 1-50
- Winckler, S. & G. Potts (author of Kansas chapter). 1997. *The Smithsonian Guides to Natural America: The Heartlands*. Random House. New York, NY 1-286
- Maccarone, Alan D. and George D. Potts. Growth of the Winter Population of Canada Geese in Wichita, Kansas between 1983 and 1997. Environmental Studies Graduate Program. Friends University. Wichita, Kansas 67213. *Transactions of the Kansas Academy of Science*. pp. 150-158
- Potts, G. 1995. Exploring Natural Kansas. *Outdoor Kansas*. February.
- Gress, B. & G. Potts. 1993. *Watching Kansas Wildlife: A Guide to 101 Sites*. University Press of Kansas. 1-104
- Hilliard, S., G. Potts & K. Brunson. 1991. (Revised 1997 & 2003) *Outdoor Wildlife Learning Sites (OWLS): Guidelines for Kansas Schools*. Kansas Dept. of Wildlife & Parks. 1-33
- Potts, G.D. & J.T. Collins. 1991. *A Checklist of Vertebrate Animals of Kansas*. The University of Kansas Museum of Natural History. 1-42
- Potts, G.D. 1991. *Guidebook to the Natural Regions of Kansas*. Zenodo.org. 1-69. March.
- James, R.K., & G.D. Potts. 1981. Assessing Environmental Education in the Public Schools. *Science & Mathematics*. December.
- Potts, G.D. (ed.). 1977. *Ecocaps: 50 Capsule Lessons in Ecology*. 1977. USD 259. Wichita. 1-233
- Potts, G.D. & R.K. James. 1975. *Toward the Environmental Man: Guidelines for Developing Environmental Education Activities*. Center for Environmental Learning. Manhattan, Kansas 1-28
- Potts, G.D. 1976. Ernst Haeckel: A Biographical Sketch. *American Biology Teacher*. December.
- Potts, G.D. 1976. Ecology Club Catalyzes EE in Wichita. *Environmental Education Report*. December/January.

- Potts, G.D., M.E. Gates & H.O. Sanderson. 1975. High School Ecology: The Ecosystems Approach. *American Biology Teacher*.

UNPUBLISHED MONOGRAPHS

- Potts, G.D., Editor. 2023. 10 Ways to Save Energy in the Home.
- Potts, G.D. 1994. Gateway into the Outdoors: An Extension of the Gateway Project. Unified School District 259 Wichita, Kansas
- Potts, G.D. 1991. The Natural Regions of Kansas. Presented to the Kansas Academy of Science. April.
- Potts, G.D. 1977. (Development Committee Chairman). Environmental Education Plan for Kansas.
- Potts, G.D. 1975. Learning Theory Applied to Environmental Education.
- Potts, G.D. 1975. Environmental Tactics the Democratic Way.
- Potts, G.D. 1975. Toward a Theory of Instruction in Environmental Education.
- Potts, G.D. 1975 (Development Committee Chairman). Energy Education Curriculum for USD 259. Wichita, Kansas
- Potts, G.D. 1973. High School Ecology: A Comparison of Lecture and Field Methods in the Cognitive, Affective and Psychomotor Domains.
- Potts, G.D. 1970. An Investigation of Point Sources of Pollution in Chisholm Creek Canal.
- Potts, G.D. 1970. Ecotype Determination by Comparison of the Effects of Light and Temperature on Seeds from Two Altitudinal Habitats. Presented to the Kansas Academy of Science. April.
- Potts, G.D. 1969. An Investigation into the Physical and Biological Aspects of Three Ecosystems.
- Potts, G.D. 1969. An Investigation into a Pennsylvanian Marine Ecosystem.
- Potts, G.D. 1969. Ecological Succession in a Pennsylvanian Coal Swamp.