

Relevant Experience Profile: **Michael Potts**

- 1944: born in Berkeley, California; raised and attended public schools in Oakland.
- 1958: Ford Foundation Industrial Arts Award in fine woodworking.
- 1959-62: High school at Oakland Technical High School, graduated 1962 from Skyline High School with full scholarship to Harvard.
- 1964-1990: goldsmith. Studied with Henry Shawah in Cambridge. Represented at Gallery Fair, Mendocino; Fraser's, Berkeley; The Phoenix, Big Sur among many others.
- 1967: graduated cum laude with a BA from Harvard College, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Field of concentration: English Literature; thesis topic: William Butler Yeats and the Arcane. Minor field: graphic design.
- 1967-69: graduate studies in English Literature and Education, San Francisco State.
- 1968: moved to Caspar, finished a house. Purchased present property and began renovations. In the last 50 years, I have personally renovated two cabins, the original large house, abated an old corrupt residence and replaced it with a solar-powered cottage, and built and renovated a new zero-carbon-footprint residence.
- 1968-72: Workshop Supervisor, Paul Bunyan Work Training Center for Multi-Handicapped Adults (alternative service).
- 1972-83: owned and managed a restaurant in Fort Bragg until 1976, then a bakery in Caspar, California
- 1974-79: trained as a Montessori teacher, then taught at Kinderhaus Montessori School, Fort Bragg.
- 1980-82 Speaker, San Francisco Computer Faire; topic: computers in education.
- 1979-85: taught at Mendocino Community School. Administered Independent Study Tracking program. Wrote and supervised computerized attendance system for Mendocino High School. Regional Occupation Program instructor (credentialed) in computer science and office automation.
- 1984-87: consulted with Mendocino and Lake County Offices of Education, taught teacher enrichment courses for Cal Poly Pomona, Sonoma, Chico, Fresno, and Humboldt State Colleges: Computers in the Classroom and California Writer's Project.
- 1985-1990: amanuensis to Hanley Norins, International Creative Director, Young & Rubicam.
- 1989: created and administered computerized mail order system for Real Goods Trading Company.
- 1991-97: Founding Board member and Chief Technical Officer, Real Goods Trading Company. In 1993, founded the Institute for Solar Living as first Director and curriculum architect. Published *The Independent Home*, best selling book on domestic renewable energy, published by Chelsea Green, Vermont. Board member, Real Goods, 1994-97.
- Revision, *The New Independent Home*, published in 1999, called "the industry bible."
- 1996: Keynote Speaker, Midwest Energy Fair, Amherst, Wisconsin. Keynote speaker, Cairnes/Barrier Reef Preservation Conference.
- 1995-97: Remote Energy System Designer, Kapawi Rainforest Resort, Ecuador – installed the largest eco-lodge renewable energy system in the Americas. Similar installations and consulting at Canopy Tower, Panama; Cousteau Resort, Fiji.
- 1995-2002: Founding Member, Caspar Community Board.
- 1996-present: Web designer and cyber-business consultant for (among others) Real Goods, Chelsea Green, Cafe Beaujolais, Canopy Tower. For current clients, visit <http://casparinstitute.org/#sites> .
- 2008-present: Development Consultant to local nonprofits, including Caspar Community, Redwood Coast Seniors, and Mendocino Coast Humane Society. Website and cloud information management consulting for numerous local organizations and businesses.
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