Jim Alinder and son Zachary.

Photos shown by UNL professor

After more than 50 exhibitions throughout the United States during the last 10 years, Associate Professor of Art Jim Alinder Thursday ended his first exhibit in New York City.

More than 60 photographs showing "something about America and something about what's going on now" are on route from New York to New Mexico, according to Alinder, director of photography at UNL's Art Dept. Alinder said his prints will be exhibited at the F/22 Gallery in Santa Fe, N.M.

Alinder used a Frank H. Woods Fellowship last spring to take his family on an 18,000-mile picture shooting expedition across the United States. The photos from that trip comprise about one-half of his collection, Alinder said.

The Woods Fellowship is a yearly sabbatical which allows six UNL professors regular salary and a one-semester leave to work on a creative activity, Alinder said. NU has no sabbatical system, and must depend on sources such as the Woods Foundation to finance leaves

"They're very personal things, but are meant to be appreciated by a lot of people," Alinder said of his photographs. All photos in the collection were taken with a panoramic camera and include at least one member of his family.

Alinder, 33, received his Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of New Mexico. He spent two years in the Peace Corps teaching English and worked as photography adviser to the Somali, Africa, Ministry of Information. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Macalester College in St. Paul, Minn., and last studied at the University of Minnesota.

During his eight-year stay at UNL, he said, his work has evolved into "some sort of combination of experimental and documentary photography." He says his use of the panoramic camera is unusual because that camera usually is used for landscapes or large groups or people.

"Photography is the most accessible art form in terms of ability to control the medium. A photographer is limited only to his imagination," he said.

Photography students should exhibit their work if it embodies a true sense of self-expression, he said.

An artist's work is ready for show, Alinder said, "when you're convinced that you had something to say and you said it."



"Mt. Rushmore, Black Hills, South Dakota, 1972," by Jim Alinder

