

Bold red texts are interactive links!

# FOCUS

Volume 85 - No. 6

[www.spsphoto.org](http://www.spsphoto.org)

March 2019

## NO MORE SNOW!!!

Have we set a new SPS record?

Four (that's right, four!) meetings cancelled due to weather.

And winter isn't over yet.

Here's what has been rescheduled so far:



**March 13** - Lawrence White will present his program on "Abstract, Impressionist & Cubist Images."

**March 27** - Sara Poggi-Decker will present her program on "The Albany Pine Bush Preserve" -

followed by our February print competition (assigned topic: "Flowers Past Their Prime"). **NOTE: This is an extra meeting, not originally on the schedule.**

We hope to schedule Doug Mitchell's "Photographing Models Workshop Review" in May (after our Print and Image of the Year Programs).

Stay tuned to our website and Facebook pages for further details. And keep your fingers crossed...NO MORE SNOW!



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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Phil Olivo

## A LIFE LESSON LEARNED

When my youngest son was eleven we enrolled him in a martial arts school. The students were expected to adhere to a code of conduct that included the attributes of Perseverance and Indomitable Spirit. Teaching these young people the value of steady and continued action as well as determination was a very valuable life lesson for both my son and me.

Over the years these lessons became a bit less impactful and I was inclined to take the easy way out in many things. My visit to Robert Wright's exhibit, "Wright of Passage" at the Waterford Museum brought these lessons back full force. Robert, a fellow SPS member, has limited use of

his arms and employs adaptive methods to use his camera. He creates very pleasing images from different viewpoints.

Attending his exhibit was a double bonus for me. Not only did I get to see outstanding images of an interesting town but more importantly get reacquainted with valuable ways of living one's life.

Robert, I appreciated your great photo show and my life lesson.

Until next time, stay well, keep in touch and do good work.



## Travel Photography | 5/4/19-5/18/19

### Course Description

Learn the basics of travel photography in this class. Start with a critique of images, followed by a personal assignment, and a two-week-later follow up. Topics to be covered are: preparing for a trip, what's in the bag, general shooting techniques, portrait photographer, cultural awareness. It is not necessarily about the camera one takes on a trip as it is about seeing, being prepared, and learning to be in the right place at the right time. Learn some tips and techniques that will maximize your results and demystify the process.

Start Date:	End Date:	Number of	Time: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
05/04/2019	05/18/2019	Sessions: 2	

Instructor: Connie Frisbee Houde  
<http://www.conniefrisbeehoude.com>

Member Price: \$120	Non-Member Price: \$140	Studio Fee: \$10
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**CONNIE  
FRISBEE  
HOUDE  
COURSE  
AT  
THE ARTS  
CENTER.**

**Click  
here  
to register**

# PRINT JUDGING FOR ALL TO SEE March 6

Ever wonder what goes on in that back room for the print competition judging? Here's your chance to find out. The judge for our March 6th print competition will perform his/her judging duties in front

of the group. It's interesting to see how the process of elimination takes place. Will your print end up in the winner's circle? Join us on March 6th and find out!

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## ABSTRACT, IMPRESSIONISTIC AND CUBIST IMAGES

March 13

by Lawrence White

**RESCHEDULED!**

My life has been a whirlwind since my partner, and I purchased a house and studio in Saratoga at the end of last year. The resulting burst of creative inspiration and energy that working on the ecology of the property provided me turned into a new body of work. Perhaps my best.

In the process we restored a creek and pond that had been filled many years ago. It has been an amazing experience and I have photographed the entire process.

The resulting new portfolio of "Abstract / Impressionistic / Cubist" images are a pure joy to cre-



ate. I call them "light paintings" because that is exactly what they are. In the end, each one is a true collaboration between photo-artistry, the form & design created by the hand of nature and the miracle of light. Of course, the final prints will be large format, some up to 80".

I also see this new portfolio as a compilation of everything I have learned from the many truly great artists of all the disciplines I have been fortunate to have known and worked with from childhood through art school to present. Our discussion will cover some of their work as well.



Continued...

## Abstract, Impressionist and Cubist Images (Continued from page 3)

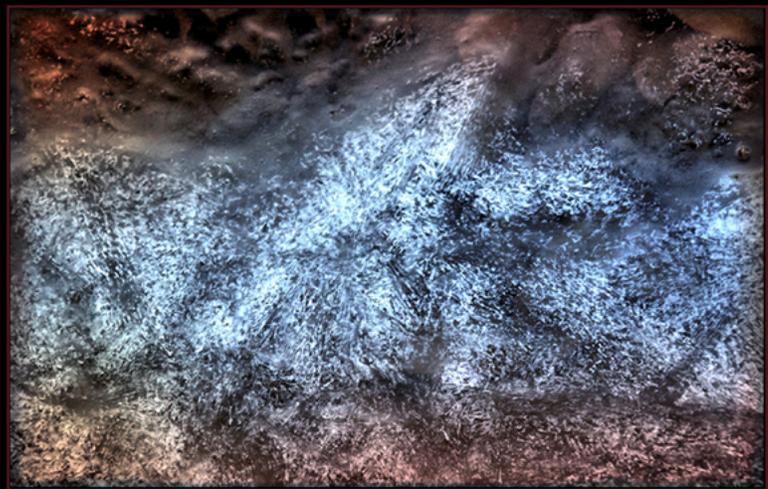
n reference to my new abstract work... In my opinion, it is crucial for photographers to create art every day. Capturing and manipulating light for purely aesthetic reasons keeps the eye alive and helps maintain a strong connection to the imagination. It also forces the photographer to utilize their equipment in ways they had not imagined, thereby making them more observant, and confident when on assignment or in the studio. We will discuss this as well.



Lawrence



© Lawrence White



© Lawrence White

*Lawrence White's professional photography career spans over 4 decades. In that period of time his photographic work has been seen world wide in publications such as the NY Times, Boston Globe, Rolling Stone, Vogue, People, Time, Forbes, Der Spiegel and Le Monde. Lawrence won the NY Press Association award for his striking images of the terrorist attacks on NYC, 9-11-01. His film work has been collected by the Smithsonian Museum Archives of American Art. Lawrence also received a short film award from the American Film Institute in 1994. For the past 3 years Lawrence taught a series of highly successful photo workshops in conjunction with Saratoga Arts, the National Museum of Dance and the Saratoga Performing Arts Center.*

See more of Lawrence's creative work at:

<http://www.lawrencewhiteimages.com>

# ANNUAL PHOTO ESSAY COMPETITION

## *Print - Projected - Book*

Hosted by Dow Smith - March 20

It's time to get creative - for the Schenectady Photographic Society's annual Photo Essay Competition. Everyone has a story to tell! Tell yours to us - and perhaps win a ribbon in the process.

**Print** essays are a collection of prints displayed in some fashion. Most typically they will be mounted on a board, but any method of presenting a collection of prints that can be physically managed by the entrant is allowable.

**Projected** essays are a collection of images that will be projected in some fashion, typically, but not necessarily, accompanied by a soundtrack. The presentation medium may be 35mm slides or a digital slide show. If slides are used the maker must use their own equipment. If digital images are used the presentation should be in a format which is compatible with the projection equipment available on the night of the competition. Important Note: Digital essays must be submitted to Dow Smith by March 13 to assure compatibility with the Club's software.

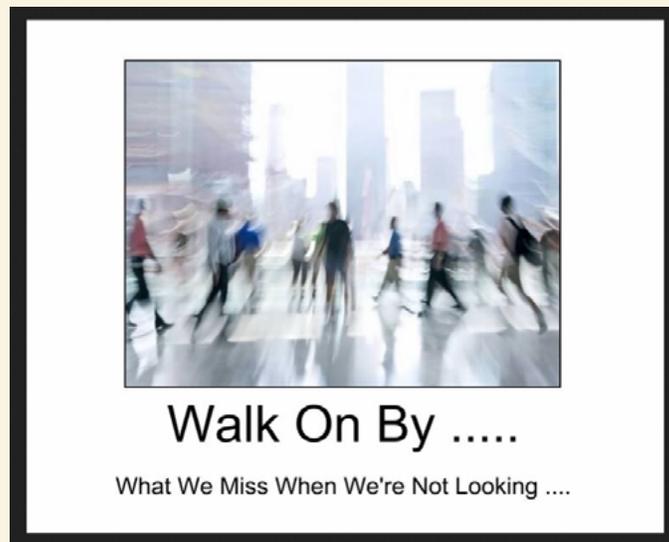
**Book** essays are a collection of images assembled into a bound book such as are available from vendors like Shutterfly, Snapfish, Blurb and others.

The rules for entry are as follows:

- One entry per person per category [print, projected, book].
- Maximum length of a projected essay is 8 minutes. Suggested and preferred length is 3 to 5 minutes.

- Participants are encouraged to use only their own images. Other images may be used only if they are vital to the narrative quality of the essay. Any images not made by the participant must be credited. No more than 10% of the total images may be non-participant images.
- It is the participant's responsibility to know the rules. A submission outside of these guidelines will not be accepted.

For more info, contact our Photo Essay Chair, Dow Smith: [photoessay@spsphoto.org](mailto:photoessay@spsphoto.org).



First Place Book Essay 2016  
© Phil Olivo

Create an Essay that has meaning for you and share it with the group.  
Win or not, you'll have a wonderful memento!

## WEATHER-RELATED CANCELLATIONS

We'd like to think that old man winter is finished with us - but we can only hope!

This is a reminder that, in the event of inclement weather

PLEASE check your e-mail and the SPS website before heading out.

In the event of bad weather it is up to the Program Chair to determine if a meeting will be held. Although we hate to cancel or postpone our meetings, your safety is our main concern.

# THE ALBANY PINE BUSH PRESERVE

March 27

by Sara Poggi-Decker

**RESCHEDULED!**

**EXTRA MEETING!**

On February 6, Education Director of the Albany Pine Bush Preserve, Sara Poggi-Decker, will take us on a tour of one of the Capital District's gems.

Picture a wide open landscape filled with dense shrubs, scattered pitch pines, openings of prairie grass and wildflowers all rooted in sweeping sand dunes. This is the Albany Pine Bush, also known as an inland pine barrens ecosystem, encompassing 3,200 acres and more than 18 miles of trails. It was formed toward the end of the last Ice Age 12,000–15,000 years ago. At this time a large

glacial lake stretched from present day Glens Falls, NY, to Newburgh, NY. Over time, the water drained leaving behind the sandy deposits of the lake floor

These sandy soils now support the Albany Pine Bush ecosystem. A National Natural Landmark, the preserve is also a New York State Unique Area, Bird Conservation Area and a National Audubon Society Important Bird Area. More than 1,500 plant and animal species can be found in the Pine Bush, including the federally endangered Karner Blue Butterfly.



APB Coyote Program Krishna Hill, Dec. 2015

A feature of the Preserve is the Discovery Center—where visitors of all ages can learn about the unique environment and human history of the Albany Pine Bush. Interactive and interpretive exhibits and nature trails are all features of the Discovery Center.

Learn more about the  
Albany Pine Bush Preserve at:  
<http://www.albanypinebush.org/>



Linda A. Tomasulo  
PHOTOGRAPHY

Pine Bush Snow Nov. 2018

Continued...

# The Albany Pine Bush Preserve

Continued from page 5



Blueberry Hill West 2013

*Sara has worked in the Education Department at the APBPC since 2011. Before coming to the Pine Bush she earned a Bachelor's Degree in Marine and Freshwater Biology from the University of New Hampshire and then went on to serve as a United States Peace Corps Volunteer in Bulgaria for three years. She has worked as an environmental educator in a variety of locations, including on the coast of New Hampshire, on whale watching boats in the Gulf of Maine, in schools in Bulgaria and in nature centers in Southern Oregon. She went on to receive a Master's of Science in Environmental Education from Southern Oregon University and is dedicated to exploring, learning and teaching in nature.*



Lupine Festival 2017

# FOCUS ON

## Nancy Pfuntner

I was the youngest child of four, all born within seven years. My brother, the second youngest, was a sickly kid, so Mom had her hands especially full. As a result, while there were many photos of my oldest siblings, there were almost none of me. I decided I must have been adopted; I recall insisting that my Mom and I search newspaper records at the library, until we found my birth announcement. I had no baby book, so when I was about ten or so, I created one for me, including that birth announcement and the few pictures of me that could be found.

Well, way back then I decided that this would not happen to MY kids...there would be lots of pictures! And so, I suppose I went a bit overboard. My husband Walt and I have two children, now in their 20s. Throughout their childhoods I kept a point-and-shoot camera handy, and photographed most every event. Now, I can imagine the conversation we will have in a few years, when we want each of them to take their shelves and shelves of photo albums... "Good Lord, Mom, what do you expect me to do with all of these?"

My parents gave me a Canon DSLR about ten years ago, and I was hooked. My pictures improved. However, it turns out that time is short when one has young kids (who knew?!) and it was not until the kids were off to college that I began working to improve my photography skills. In the last five years I have taken many courses at the Arts Center of the Capital Region, most from Katherine Wright, as well as some other classes and seminars. I joined SPS for a brief time about five years ago, but back then the meetings ran too late at night for me to be able to work the next day. I grew up in the Schenectady area, a GE brat. Earned my electrical engineering degree and went to work for GE. Moved away, moved back. Had kids. After a dozen years staying home with the kids, I went to work for Siemens in Schenectady, as a technical editor. Now, I have my own business as a freelance technical editor, and work part time. This allows me to set my own hours, so the lateness of the SPS meetings is no longer a problem.



Maggie and Daffodil © Nancy Pfuntner

I joined the SPS this past September and have been enjoying the meetings and workshops. People at the meetings are so helpful and seem exceptionally friendly. And the photos – wow! Great inspiration for this newbie.

I shoot with a Canon EOS 6D Mark II. My favorite lens is a Canon EF 70-300 mm f4-5.6L IS USM telephoto. My daughter rowed crew from middle school through college, and over the years I became an unofficial team photographer. This lens was great for trying to capture a shell being rowed at high speed, far across a river.



From Bridge © Nancy Pfuntner

*Continued...*

## FOCUS ON: Nancy Pfuntner

Continued from page 7

These days, reflections are my favorite subjects. Reflections of most anything. I am an avid perennial gardener, so flowers are my subjects as well; each year I create a calendar of garden bouquet photographs.

Last March, I was thrilled to witness the sandhill crane migration on the Platte River in Nebraska. I spent several days working with a professional photographer who grew up in the area. The experience of seeing 50,000 or so cranes all at once is hard to describe. Quietly waiting for dawn, cold, in a blind on the riverbank. The cranes are roosting on the shallow river; they look like a thick spiky carpet, changing from black to gray with the sunrise. As the birds awake, the calls from one to another become a thunderous chorus. Then, waves and waves of these huge birds take to the sky en masse, flying out to nearby cornfields to feed for the day. It was awe-inspiring, and humbling. I felt privileged to be there. I am not a “bird-er,” but seeing this ancient migration had been on my bucket list ever since I learned of it. I am not sure what my next photography adventure will be; the crane migration will be hard to beat.

For now, I would like to find some way to use my photography to help others. However, I have not quite figured out how to accomplish this...and I am wondering if fellow SPS members have any suggestions? I have taken photos for my church, and also for fundraising walks for the Alzheimer's association and for the Autism society. But I am looking for something else. A cause to get behind, one that has a need for an enthusiastic amateur photographer? If any members have suggestions, I would love to hear them!



Iowa Trip - Johnsons and Second Cranes



Iowa Trip Cranes - Second Morning



Bubble



Peonies and Chair



Poppy and Bee

All photos  
© Nancy  
Pfuntner

# TRAVELING EXHIBIT

## 2018-2019 Season Schedule

Here are the confirmed dates for our Traveling Exhibit through the end of 2019. All members (Yes...you MUST be a member) are encouraged to participate. Members who have not previously participated will be given preference. Images must be framed and ready for hanging (i.e., wired). In general, there are no size restrictions (but, we ask you to be reasonable when it comes to larger prints). There are no

restrictions as to subject matter (with the exception of June/July and August/September), frame and mat colors, canvas prints, metal prints, etc. Details on photo collection and specific exhibit dates/times will be forthcoming.

If you'd like more info, contact the Traveling Exhibit Coordinators at:  
[travelingexhibit@spsphoto.org](mailto:travelingexhibit@spsphoto.org).

### TRAVELING EXHIBIT CALENDAR 2019

#### March/April

##### **Moon and River Cafe**

115 S. Ferry t., Schenectady, NY 12305

Mon–Sun/9–9

(518) 382-1938 (Messages Only)

**RECEPTION: Saturday, March 9, 2–4 pm**

**LOCATION  
REVISION**

#### May

##### **Saratoga Springs Public Library**

49 Henry St., Saratoga Springs, NY 2866

Mon–Thurs/9–9; Fri/9–6; Sat/9–5; Sun/12–5

(518) 584-7866

#### June/July

##### **Albany Pine Bush Discovery Center**

**Theme: Nature in the Capital District**

195 New Karner Road, Albany, NY12205

Mon–Fri/9–4;

Sat, Sun & Holidays/10–4

(518) 456-0655

#### August/September

##### **Irish American Heritage Museum**

370 Broadway, Albany, NY 12207

**Theme: Depictions of Irish-American Heritage.**

Wed–Fri/11–4; Sat&Sun/12–4

(518) 427-1916

#### October/November

##### **Guilderland Public Library**

2228 Western Ave., Guilderland, NY 12084

Mon–Thurs/9:30–9;

Fri/9:30–7; Sat/9:30–5;

Sun/1–5

(518) 456-2400

#### December: Open

Two dedicated members of the Traveling Exhibit Committee, Jerry Boehm and Bert van Grondelle, setting up at the Moon and River Cafe.

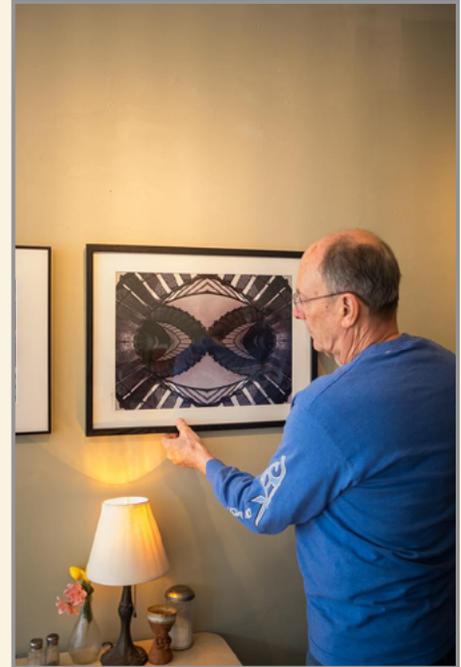
Photo by our other dedicated member of the Traveling Exhibit Committee, Rich Schreiberstein.



© 2019 Rich Schreiberstein

# TRAVELING EXHIBIT

## Setting Up at the Moon and River Cafe



All photos © 2019 Rich Schreiberstein



The committee has been hard at work, already scheduling exhibits for 2020!

Venues include:

The Beltrone Living Center in Albany  
Vorheesville Public Library  
Uncommon Grounds in Saratoga Springs  
Spectrum 8 Theatre in Albany  
The National Bottle Museum in Ballston Spa  
East Greenbush Community Library and the  
Saratoga Springs Visitors' Center.

So plan on printing your favorite images to share with the community. It's a great way to show your work and is good publicity to attract new members to SPS.

The Moon and River Cafe will host a reception on Saturday, March 9, from 2 to 4 pm. All are invited. Bring your friends!

# STORYTELLING IN PHOTOGRAPHY

## 7 Tips to Share 1,000 Words with One Image

by Andrew McFarlane

Reprinted with permission from the December 27, 2018 edition of the WIX Photography Blog.  
Access the original article here:

<https://www.wix.com/blog/photography/2018/12/27/storytelling-photography/>

Ansel Adams once said, “there are always two people in every picture: the photographer and the viewer.” Well, that puts us, as photographers, in a very interesting position. It’s not just about sharing beautiful images on our photography website. We are also tasked with the responsibility of capturing the attention and drawing emotion and curiosity out of the viewers. Tell a story, if you will.

Now, what story you want to tell in order to evoke certain feelings and thoughts that you hope the viewer will have is entirely up to you. For example, you could capture a sweet old couple sitting in a park on a bench holding hands. Really cute story, right? Or, you could freeze the moment right after a kid licks their delicious ice cream while it’s falling off the cone coupled with their parents’ faces reacting in horror right behind them. Absolutely hilarious.

As photographers, we are simply expected to freeze moments in time that depict a small part of a bigger story. As much as we want to portray certain situations, the interpretation of our captured scenes is entirely up to the viewer. So, how does storytelling in photography works when limited to just a few, or even a single image? Well, it’s quite simple when you break it down because (get ready for the classic, but totally true cliché) a picture is worth a thousand words. These simple tips will teach you all that you need to know about storytelling in photography.

### 01. Plan your shoot

Look, I know in the intro I said that it’s not so much about the set up and more about capturing the moment. But you still need to be prepared with the proper gear, camera accessories, and knowledge in order to capture the right story. Here are a few questions to ask yourself before you go shoot:

What will your subject be?  
Where will the photo shoot take place?  
What time will

you be shooting and how will that affect the lighting? Which pieces of gear do you need? What camera angles do you want to capture? How much time do you need? What additional tools can you bring to help inspire you to be creative? The list goes on.

The whole point is to prep yourself so that when a creative idea about how to tell a story pops into your head, you can tell yourself: “Sweet, I’m glad I brought my [enter super handy item here you are grateful for]” instead of “Wow... I should’ve packed my [amazing lens that would’ve been much better for this scene].”

As an example, I was driving out to Utah Lake for some evening shots a little too close to sunset. I was feeling rushed at the moment but decided to grab my whole camera bag with all of my lenses, timers, and tripod. Once I started out onto the road to the lake the sun had already set and I thought my trip was a waste. Then, lighting struck off in the distance. I decided to pull over and change my story

from a sunset on the lake to an evening in the storm. Because I was prepared, I was able to capture some pretty amazing photographs.



© Andrew McFarlane

*Continued...*

# Storytelling in Photography

Continued from page 12

## 02. Adjust the settings

This is absolutely crucial and has a huge impact on what story you will convey to your viewer. Aside from making sure that your image is exposed properly, ensure that your aperture and shutter speed are set to execute your goal. For example, you can set your shutter speed to be slower so that you can capture the motion blur of race cars on a track and depict high-speed movement. On the other hand, you can set your shutter speed to be faster so you can capture that intense moment of two athletes squaring off on the pitch of a football field fighting for the ball.

When it comes to aperture, you, as the photographer, are in control of what the viewer will focus on. When you shoot with a wider aperture, it will allow you to focus in on a precious moment shared between a mom and her baby's first steps while the background is blurred out. Thus, drawing the viewer to the gaze of a proud parent. When you shoot with a wide aperture, you can capture an entire grass field in front of you with a majestic mountain range towering in the background. Knowing your subject and adjusting your camera settings is key for photography storytelling success.



© Andrew McFarlane

## 03. Compose your image

In photography, composition is second only to lighting in my opinion. Using basic photography composition rules such as framing, leading lines, and the rule of thirds allow you to be creative while still capturing an aesthetically pleasing image.

For example, you could capture a fence line along a ridge that leads your viewer to an amazing sunset view. Or, you could offset the subject of your

image to be in the bottom corner while opening up more of the beautiful landscape into your visual. It's up to you. Get creative.



© Andrew McFarlane

## 04. Play with light

It's not always about where light is in an image that is important. Sometimes, it's about where light is not in an image. Knowing how to play with light to get the right mood is an absolute must for photography storytelling. Utilizing light and shadows gives the photographer the ability to evoke different feelings out of the viewer. Light can often evoke feelings of happiness or illuminate a specific part of the image that you want your viewer to see. Shadows, on the other hand, can share feelings of sadness, loneliness, or even hide certain parts of an image you don't want the viewer to see by drawing their attention elsewhere.



© Andrew McFarlane

Continued...

# Storytelling in Photography

Continued from page 13

## 05. Utilize color (or lack of)

Color plays a huge part of what story you want to tell. What color takes priority in your image? How vibrant are the colors? How dull are the tones? These questions help me decide what specific emotion I want to draw out of my viewer. Here's a quick break down of what various colors mean and what they can do for your image:

- > Red: Excitement, courage, passion, energy, romance
- > Blue: Trust, honesty, responsibility, freedom, wisdom, joy, loyalty, frigidness
- > Yellow: Happiness, positivity, liveliness, spontaneity
- > Green: Hope, growth, wealth, fertility, harmony, peace, balance, safety
- > Black: Power, control, authority, discipline, elegance
- > White or gray: Neutrality, practicality, quietness, formality
- > Orange: Optimism, creativity, adventure, thrill
- > Pink: Love, compassion, playfulness, admiration

Choosing a dominant color above all of the others mixed with proper lighting and composition will have a powerful effect on the viewer. But what about those black and white pictures, you might ask? Someone once said, "What I like about black and white photographs is that they're more like reading the book than seeing the movie." It definitely holds as true.

With the absence of color goes the context of a scene. It's almost like that feeling you get when you see the movie after reading the book and compare what you imagined versus what you saw depicted. A black and white image causes a viewer to dig deeper and find different meaning than what color usually shows. A monochrome shot will convey more through light and shadow than a color image will simply because the viewer is presented with less distractions.



## 06. Get weird

Kylie Jenner once said, "If you're different, or if you think something about you is just weird and out of the ordinary, I just think that's so dope." And I agree. Being an artist alone gives us the opportunity to be weird. So be weird! Ordinary people that do ordinary things are rarely ever noticed. Same goes for photographers. Photographers that photograph the "usual" or "same" images as other photographers rarely ever get noticed.

Just get outside and start shooting from a different perspective. Sure, studying the work of other photographers via websites or Instagram can help. But, you need to get out and take a look at everything from your own, unique angle. If you've already taken photos of your grandpa's old '65 Mustang in the driveway a hundred times, take photos of inside of the car this time. After that, take photos inside the engine. Get down on the floor and take photos from under the car. If you've done all that, take the car on a joy ride up to the mountains and photograph your grandpa livin' the dream inside of his own car! The possibilities are endless.

Don't worry about what other people might think. There have been plenty of times where I'm hanging upside down on a jungle gym or laying on the floor of a dirty room. You get weird stares. It's okay. As a photographer, you gotta do what you gotta do for that perfect pic.

*Continued...*

# Storytelling in Photography

Continued from page 14



© Andrew McFarlane

## 07. Embrace failure and evaluate

Embracing your own failure and learning from it is one of the hardest things to do as a person, let alone as a photographer. Yet, it is the only way we can improve ourselves. As an exercise, I want you to open up your files and look through some of your first photographs (if you can go back that far). You will see how awful you exposed an image or how awful the subject looked smack dab in the middle of the image at noon on a sunny day. Maybe you'll even see how cluttered and messy an image appears. That's all fantastic.

By looking through old images, you can tell what you did wrong and know what you either have done or will do to improve your work going forward. It's that sweet taste of humble pie that makes you an even better photographer than you were yesterday. Always keep in mind that you have room for improvement, but don't forget how much you have already improved.



© Andrew McFarlane

*Create a photography website with Wix and share YOUR stories with the world!*

<https://www.wix.com/photography/website>

*Andrew McFarlane is a professional photographer in Utah County who loves to capture moments that will last a lifetime.*

**View more of Andrew McFarlane's images at:**

<https://www.andrewmcfarlanephoto.com/>

# FIELD TRIP TO VIA AQUARIUM

Saturday, March 16 - 2:30 pm  
(Meet for lunch at 1:30 pm)  
organized by Brian Sherman



The Photo Society is organizing a field trip to the aquarium located within the ViaPort Mall in Schenectady. In addition to the large tanks that represent fish and crustaceans from around the world and also the state of New York, there are large open pools for stingrays and Coi where you are encouraged to touch and if you wish, feed the fish (not recommended is having the Coi nibble on your lens - yes, it's possible). There is a circular tank that you can get inside and the fish swim around you, as well as two tanks that you can walk through where the fish swim around and over the top of you (each is approximately twenty feet long). At the end of the pathway you follow is a tank with many Poison Dart Frogs within (suggest a macro lens or extension tubes – man those things are tiny!). The docents are very friendly and very willing to answer questions. All the staff I have met really enjoy what they do!

On average, plan for two hours or more to do photography. There are restrooms midway through the Aquarium and also water fountains (food is not permitted). You move at your own pace and in any direction you wish once inside. It will take some practice to get used to following the fish around the tanks or waiting for them to enter your frame. You may wish to use a rubber lens hood when shooting so as to reduce any glare or unwanted light refraction from entering the lens (you do not want to press a metal lens against the glass). You might also want to bring a lens wipe (only microfiber cloth with no chemical cleaning agent is permitted) to clean the glass if it is smudged from finger prints; however, the staff are meticulous and do keep the glass very clean! At the end of the pathway through the Aquarium is an Aquarium Shop (stuffed animals, books, clothing, etc.) which is equally as impressive as the Aquarium itself with much to choose from if you want something for your children or grandchildren. Lots of amusing photo ops exist there as well. This isn't Boston or NYC but is very similar without the huge center tank or live seals, dolphins and penguins.

A full day pass for an adult is \$17.00. Plan on shooting at an ISO ranging between 640 and 6400 or even higher. White balance is very tricky and will likely require adjustment in post processing (tanks have different environments and lighting depending on the geographical theme). Flash is not permitted except in the special photo areas for candid shots of people. The staff have indicated that tripods and monopods are permitted (they just ask that you be courteous to other visitors).

The Society members will meet inside the mall at the entrance to the aquarium at 2:30 pm. If you would like to have lunch together, the group will meet at the food court at 1:30 pm and have lunch there or we can opt to eat at Ninety-nines, past the food court area. The start time puts us after the busiest time at the aquarium.

Please let the Field Trip Coordinator, Brian Sherman, know if you plan to attend, and if you are interested in joining the group for lunch. Email any questions to: [fieldtrips@spsphoto.org](mailto:fieldtrips@spsphoto.org).

#### Editor's Note:

Brian has emailed the splist a detailed memo including many links with tips for photographing at aquariums, as well as a map of the Via Aquarium. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact him at the email link above.



More info: <https://viaaquarium.com/>

## NEIL SHAPIRO WINS FIRST PLACE IN BACKROADS PHOTO CONTEST!



The photo was taken while biking in Thingvellir National Park, in the southern region of Iceland, on one of the most beautiful sections of road that I've ever ridden. The ride was a 35 mile bike ride around Lake Thingvellir in Thingvellir National Park. The ride took us by the Iceland historical site, and the continental divide, which is part of most Golden Circle tours (if you don't like riding). This photo was taken fairly close to the end of our ride, on the Southwest side of the lake.

That's my buff brother-in-law Mark on the bike. It's not a regular biking helmet, but rather was one brought by one of the Backroads guides for fun. And it can be pretty cold in Iceland, even in July: the high that day was 52 degrees. Mark took off his jacket and shirt just for the picture, to show he's a hardcore Viking!

The photo was taken with my Fuji X-T20 camera and Fuji 18-135 lens, which I carried in my bike bag. The detailed specs are 52mm, ISO 200, f/11 at 1/250 second.

The photo below will give you an idea how beautiful the park is. I stopped to take this picture on my approach to the rest stop, where you see the van. In fact, the previous photo was taken while stopped at the support van, looking back towards where I'm standing here. That's another rider from our group approaching from the lower right.



First place is a \$5,000 trip credit!  
Neil's winning photo was selected from thousands of images revealing the natural splendor, cultural sights and spontaneous moments on Backroads trips.  
Congratulations, Neil!

**Hudson Valley Photography Network  
Spring 2019 Photography Conference  
Saturday, May 11, 2019**

Mt. St. Mary College, Hudson Hall, 330 Powell Ave., Newburgh, NY

***RAW Wars: Battle of the Landscape Pros***

**Greg Miller, Nick Zungoli, and Carl Heilman process each other's RAW files using the same tools to create very different artistic visions**

Most cameras today take beautiful snapshots, but there is a large gap between a snapshot and a fine art photograph. The image editing process is very individualistic and embodies the philosophy and artistic vision of the photographer. Our three pros will begin with an identical image and will create three very different photos using similar tools but manifesting very different artistic visions. This workshop should appeal to photographers of all different skill levels. Each attendee should walk away with many new concepts that they can incorporate into their own workflow, that will assist them in creating fine art photography.

**Schedule**

**8:15 am Sign-in begins**

**9:00 Program begins with introductions**

**9:15 - 10:10 Greg, Nick, and Carl present their workflow and philosophy**

**10:10 - 10:30 Break**

**10:30 - 11:30 Process of Image #1 (Greg Miller's) by each**

**11:30 - 12:30 Process of Image #2 (Nick Zungoli's) by each**

**12:30 - 1:30 Lunch**

**1:30 - 2:30 Process of Image #3 (Carl Heilman's) by each**

**2:30 - 2:45 Break**

**2:45 - 3:30 Process of image provided by HVPN by each**

**3:30 - 4:00 Q & A**

**Registration \$39.00 which includes lunch**

**Payment Options:**

a. Online: Go to [www.hvphotonet.com](http://www.hvphotonet.com)

b. By Mail: Send check, payable to Hudson Valley Photography Network, to:  
Thomas Vaillancourt, PO Box 242, Goshen, NY 10924

c. At the Door: \$39, exclusive of lunch

NOTE: Full time students with valid ID: \$15, exclusive of lunch

[Click here to register](#)

**Presenters:**

**Greg Miller**--has published award winning photo books and has been featured in international publications such as Popular Photography & Imaging, Outside, B&W Magazine, Photo District News, Europe's DIGifoto Magazine, Hudson Valley Budget Travel, and InsideOut Hudson Valley magazine.

[www.gregmillerphotography.com](http://www.gregmillerphotography.com)

**Nick Zungoli**--Nick's work has been widely collected since he opened Exposures Gallery in Sugar Loaf, NY. He has been a contributor to National Geographic, the New York Times, and Popular Photography and has produced numerous exhibitions and books from his extensive travels.

[www.theexposuresgallery.com](http://www.theexposuresgallery.com)

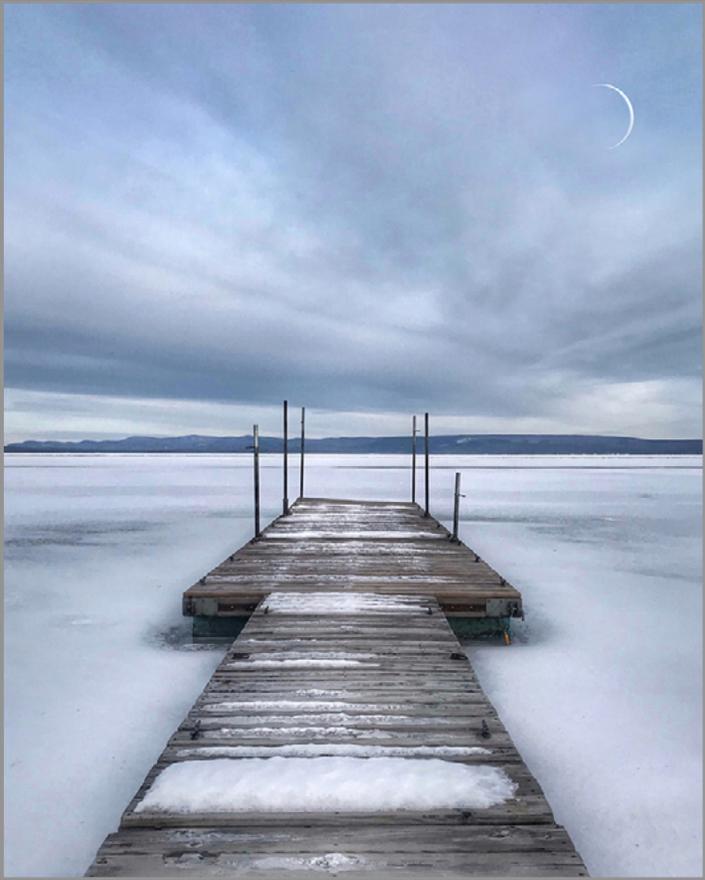
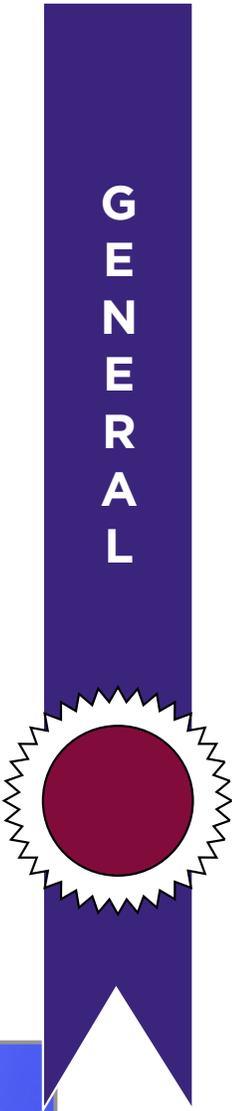
**Carl Heilman**--Is an award winning outdoor photographer and workshop leader who has published many coffee table books and how-to books. He specializes in landscape and fine art photography of the Adirondacks, New York State, the Maine Coast, and the Blue Ridge Mountains.

[www.carlheilman.com](http://www.carlheilman.com)

FEBRUARY PROJECTED WINNERS



1st Place  
"Dragonfly"  
© Joe Cotroneo



2nd Place / "Mayfield Dock" / © Kim Koza



3rd Place / "Dried Flower" / © Jeff Plant

# FEBRUARY PROJECTED WINNERS



4th Place  
"Carnival Fun"  
© Bill Lanahan



5th Place  
"Disembodied Crew"  
© Nancy Pfunter

## PROJECTED JUDGE: Neil R. Shapiro

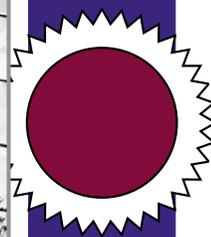
Fellow SPS member, Neil's photographs are inspired by his love for impressionistic art. He uses long exposures to stretch a moment of time into a sense of soft motion, color and form. Clouds play a special role in all of his landscapes. Lit by the golden light of a sunset or sunrise, each landscape is a work of art made by nature, displayed only for a brief moment, and never exactly the same. He returns to the same location many times, and often spends hours waiting for just the right light and conditions.

## Honorable Mention



"NYC Reflections"  
© Barb Lawton

GENERAL



"Balcony"  
© Connie Frisbee Houde

# FEBRUARY PROJECTED WINNERS



"Kids in Tow"  
© Alan Wiggins



"Eagle Alaska Power & Phone Company"  
© Dan Steen

**NOTE: The February Print Competition was cancelled due to snow, and has been rescheduled for Wednesday, March 27th.**

To view all winning images, current and previous, check out our website:  
<https://spsphoto.org>.

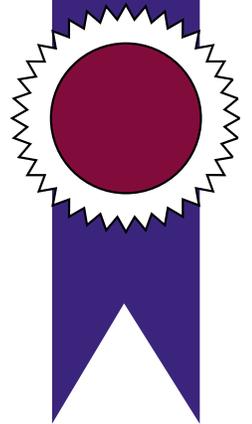
Links to current winners are on the Home Page.

To view prior winners, click: Competitions (then Print, Projected Image, etc.)



"Window with a View"  
© Elena Keese

GENERAL

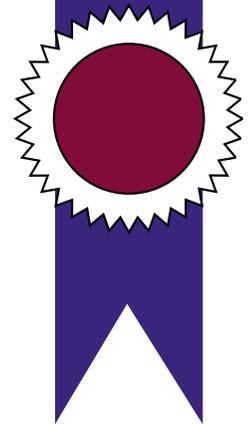


# FEBRUARY PROJECTED WINNERS



1st Place  
"The Winning Calf"  
© Lance Monotone

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Assigned Topic:  
"Photo Journalism"



2nd Place  
"Fear Has No Place"  
© Kim Koza

3rd Place  
"Winning Pumpkin"  
© M-J Adelman



FEBRUARY PROJECTED WINNERS



4th Place  
"Crossing Cultural Lines"  
© Rich Schreiberstein



5th Place  
"Karate Kid All Grown Up"  
© Phil Olivo



"Car 137 on Ice"  
© Alan Wiggins

Honorable  
Mention



# JANUARY PROJECTED WINNERS



Honorable  
Mention

“Street Scrubbing Kicks Off  
Albany Tulip Festival”  
© Elena Keese

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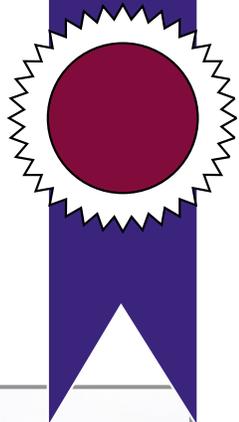
“Forged in Fire”  
© Linda Tommasulo



“Honors for a Fallen Comrade”  
© Tom Whittemore



“Solar Light Demonstration”  
© Connie Frisbee Houde



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**For Camera Club Specials...**  
**Ask for Alan Samiljan, at (781) 462-2383.**  
**His hours are usually 8:30-5:00pm,**  
**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday.**

**Leave a message or send an email**  
**([asamiljan@huntsphoto.com](mailto:asamiljan@huntsphoto.com)),**  
**and he'll get right back to you.**



**New Camera's Alert!**  
**The Brand New Canon EOS R,**  
**Nikon Z7/Z6, and Fuji X-T3 Are Here!**

Panasonic LUMIX S1 Mirrorless Camera with 24-105mm F/4 S-Series Lens, \$3,399.99

Panasonic LUMIX S1 Mirrorless Full-Frame Camera 24.2 Megapixels (Body), 2,499.99

**Click here** for details on these highly anticipated cameras then call me at 781-462-2383 to order.

**Sony is offering up to a \$500 Trade In Bonus on the a9, a7R III, a7 III cameras and select Sony GM lenses!** Trade in any working interchangeable lens camera or lens and receive the value or the trade in plus a Bonus of up to \$500. Nothing to trade? Call me! Sony is also offering instant savings on many of their cameras and lenses through March 30. Call me at 781-462-2383 for details and pricing!

**Nikon is also offering a \$200 instant savings on the D850, \$3,096.95.** I will also include a FREE Sandisk 32gb SD card and Promaster EN-EL15 battery!

**Fuji is offering great savings on their X-T3, X-H1 cameras and most lenses through March 30, 2019.**

The powerful **Olympus E-M1X** should be shipping by the time you receive this. Order yours now!

...and something else you may want to know about:

**Canon has continued their printer rebate program.** Now through March 30, 2019 or until supplies run out, we are offering the **Canon Pixma PRO 10 printer** at \$379.99 before rebate (Canon sells it on their website for \$699.99). If you purchase the printer plus a package of 13x19x50 sheets of Canon Semi-Gloss or Luster paper, \$50, Canon will send you a \$250 mail in rebate! This is a pigment based printer and is always reviewed very well. Your final cost is \$129.99 plus the \$50 paper package after mail in rebate! And don't forget to ask me about special pricing on Monitor Calibration from Data Color and Xrite, a crucial part of the printing process!

Not to be outdone, **Nikon is offering a \$400 Trade-Up Bonus on the new Nikon Z7 Mirrorless Full Frame camera and a \$200 Trade-Up Bonus on the Z6!** Trade in any working interchangeable lens camera and receive the value or the trade in plus a Bonus of up to \$400 or \$200. Nothing to trade? Call me! This is a great opportunity to get into this great new Nikon Mirrorless system! Offer good through March 31, 2019.

In order to take advantage of these specials and special club/workshop pricing please call me, Alan Samiljan, at 781-462-2383 to place your order and reference this email. As always, UPS Ground shipping is FREE in the Lower 48. My regular hours are 8:30-5:00pm Eastern, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

Photographically yours,  
Alan

## HUNT'S MARCH SPECIALS

So far 2019 has brought us some great new products and some super deals as well. Here's a recap:

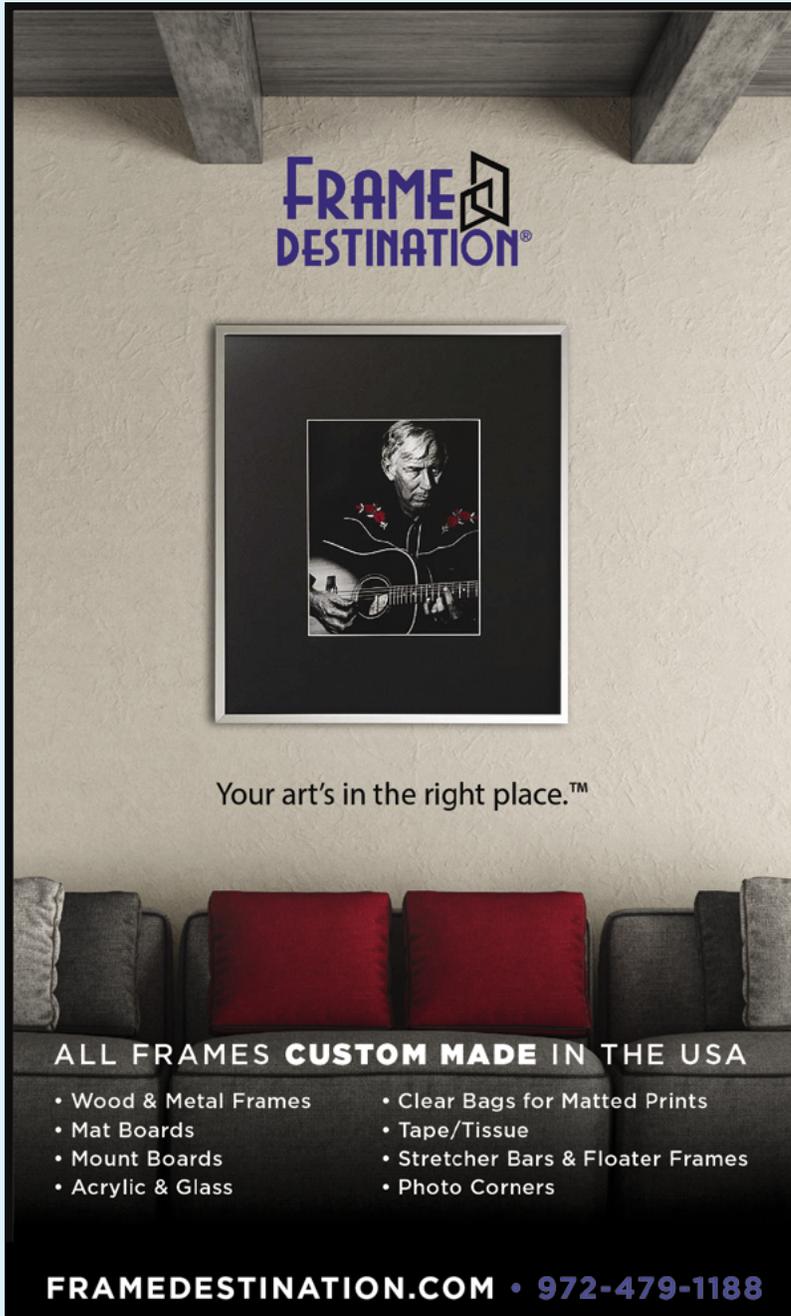
Canon has hit a home run with the **Canon EOS RP**, their smallest and least expensive EOS Full Frame camera yet! It is available in three configurations; body only, \$1,299, body with 24-105mm f/4L lens, \$2,199, or body with 24-105mm STM lens, \$1,699. As an added bonus, Canon and Hunt's will give you at **no charge an EOS-EF R Lens Mount Adapter** so that any of your EF or EF-S lenses can be used on the RP, and an EG-E1 Extension Grip, total value \$179.98!

Panasonic has announced their entry into Full Frame cameras with two models:

**Panasonic LUMIX S1R** Mirrorless Camera with 24-105mm F/4 S-Series Lens, \$4,599.99

**Panasonic LUMIX S1R** Mirrorless Camera with 47.3 Megapixels (Body), \$3,699.99

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2. Click "Create an Account" in middle of the page and follow instructions.
3. Email [info@framedestination.com](mailto:info@framedestination.com) with your account name and request an SPS membership.

For tips on ordering frames, visit "How to Order a Custom Picture Frame" in our video gallery: [frame-destination.com/video-gallery](http://frame-destination.com/video-gallery).



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# ABOUT THE SCHENECTADY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

by Linda Tommasulo



For more than 85 years, the Schenectady Photographic Society has been the meeting place of photographers of all levels—from beginners to serious amateurs to professionals—with the goal of exploring and sharing their love of photography. Members throughout the Capital Region meet primarily on Wednesday nights to engage in various competitions (print, projected, photo essay and more), enjoy member round-table discussions, guest speaker presentations and hands-on mentoring to further their knowledge, creativity and inspiration. Occasional field trips give us the opportunity to expand our photographic vision; and frequent exhibits in the local area allow us to share that vision.

In addition to our monthly print and projected competitions, we are challenged with an assigned topic—encouraging participants to venture out of their comfort zones. Members participating in competitions receive specific commentary and suggestions to take their images to the next level. Don't wish to compete? That's OK too. Observing competitions is always an inspirational and learning experience.

The Schenectady Photographic Society is an enthusiastic and energetic group. Our camaraderie is infectious. Check out our calendar on the last page (season runs from late September to mid-May) and join us! Visitors are always welcomed...especially those who have a passion for photography.

*It's not about being better  
than everyone else...  
it's about being better than you were.*

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### **Connect with the Schenectady Photographic Society:**

Website: **www.spsphoto.org**

Facebook Group: **https://www.facebook.com/groups/schenectadyphotographicsociety/**

Facebook Page: **https://www.facebook.com/schenectadyphotographicsociety/**

Instagram: @schenectadyphotographic

**THE FOCUS NEEDS YOU!** For articles, suggestions, and member profiles (bios/photos).

Contact Linda at **newsletter@spsphoto.org**.

# SCHENECTADY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

## 2018-2019 SEASON CALENDAR

Meetings start at 7pm and are held at the First United Methodist Church, 603 State Street, Schenectady, NY.

(Parking and entrances are on Chapel Street, a one-way street off Nott Terrace.)

***This schedule is a work in progress and is subject to change!***

### September, 2018

**9/26/18.....Opening Night**

Print critique & member vote for best image. Hosted by Bob Coppola

### October, 2018

**10/3/18..... Print Competition**

Assigned Topic: Leading Lines (one of the basic elements of photography). Speaker: Miranda Eldridge, Dance Photography.

**10/10/18..... Projected Competition**

Assigned Topic: Hobby (someone enjoying a hobby - other than photography). Speaker: Fred Moody, "Transylvania"

**10/17/18..... Mentoring/Speaker Night**

Speaker: Jim Craner, "Shooting Close to Home"

**10/24/18..... Print Competition**

**\*RESCHEDULED FROM NOVEMBER 7\***

Assigned Topic: Faceless Self Portrait (Your favorite selfie without showing your face.) Speaker: Phil Olivo, "Exploring Rural Ireland"

### November, 2018

**11/3/18 (Sat.) Photographing Models Workshop with Doug Mitchell**

**11/7/18.....NO MEETING**

**11/14/18..... Projected Competition**

Assigned Topic: Digital Madness (It's taken over our lives—show us how.) Roundtable: "Full Frame Mirrorless Madness"

**11/28/18..... Mentoring/Speaker Night**

"Photo Essay Inspiration Night" hosted by Dow Smith

### December, 2018

**12/5/18..... Print Competition**

Assigned Topic: Post Card Photos (Everyone maligns post card images...show your best tonight.) Speaker: Connie Frisbee Houde, "Ghost Images"

**12/12/18.....Projected Competition**

Assigned Topic: Money (show us money in an imaginative way.) Speaker: John Ogden, "IR Camera Conversion"

**12/18/18 and 1/2/19.....NO MEETING**

### January, 2019

**1/9/19..... Print Competition**

Assigned Topic: Clichés (Show us your favorite.) Speaker: David Edgecomb, "What Your Camera Can Tell You About You."

**1/16/19..... Projected Competition**

Assigned Topic: Orange...is the New Black (Images where orange is the dominate color.) Speaker: Joan Heffler - Inspiration to enter the Luba Ricket Creativity Competition

**1/23/19..... CANCELLED!**

### February, 2019

**2/6/19..... CANCELLED!**

**2/13/19..... Projected Competition**

Assigned Topic: Photojournalism. Speaker: Claudia Jokubawski, "365 Days of Possibilities."

**2/20/19..... CANCELLED!**

**2/27/19..... CANCELLED!**

### March, 2019

**3/2/19 (Saturday)....Compositing Workshop with Jim Christensen**

**3/6/19..... Print Competition**

Assigned Topic: Textures (rough or smooth - but no overlays). Print Judging in the Main Room.

**3/13/19..... Projected Competition**

Assigned Topic: "L is for?" (subject must start with L). Speaker: Lawrence White, "Abstract, Impressionist & Cubist Images"

**3/20/19..... Photo Essay Competition**

**3/27/19..... February Print Competition**

Assigned Topic: Flowers Past Their Prime (The beauty of flowers that no one would buy.) Speaker: Sara Poggi-Decker, "The Albany Pine Bush Preserve"

### April, 2019

**4/3/19..... Print Competition**

Assigned Topic: Patterns (another basic element of composition). Speaker: M-J Adelman, "South Dakota"

**4/10/19..... Projected Competition**

Assigned Topic: Bicycle Parts (not the whole bike). Speaker: Robert Near, "PPA"

**4/17/19..... NO MEETING**

**4/24/19..... Luba Ricket Creativity Competition**

Speaker: Linda Tommasulo, "Creating Artistic Back-grounds with Topaz"

### May, 2019

**5/1/19..... Print of the Year**

Members' "Lightning Fast Editing" Demonstration I

**5/8/19..... Projected Image of the Year**

Members' "Lightning Fast Editing" Demonstration II

**June, 5, 2019..... Awards Banquet**