

Judging

Impact

- The WOW factor:
- An emotional response to: beauty, creativity, tenderness, grief, drama, admiration, humor, anger, wonder, pity, intrigue, grandeur, sadness, isolation.....
- perfect moment
- Unique subject
- Great story
- Elements that 'pop'
- Unusual perspective
- Beautiful lighting

Composition

- Balance in the arrangement of elements, shapes, colors, lights/darks
- Framing
- Cropping
- Leading line(s)
- Level horizon & straight verticals
- Strong center of interest (traditional)
- Patterns
- Room to move
- Few distractions

Technique

- Focus
- Exposure
- White Balance
- Depth of Field
- Lighting
- Highlights/shadows
- Use of color
- Noise
- Sharpness
- Tonal range
- Printing
- Mounting