## LACC Competition Basics 2018-19

**Eligibility**: All members who have paid dues for the current year are eligible to submit images for competition.

**Group**: Members compete within one of two groups based on skill and experience: A (advanced photographers) and B (beginning photographers). **Members remain in their group until the end of the year.** 

#### Image Submission:

- A photographer may enter up to 4 total images: 2 projected and 2 prints
- Projected entries can be submitted in any available category
- The deadline for submission is Sunday at 5 p.m., 9 days prior to the competition meeting (e.g. for a competition meeting on Oct. 9, entries are due by 5 p.m. on Sept. 30).
- Entries may be submitted in two ways:
  - online through the website www.lacrosseareacamerclub.org (Competitions > Submitting Entries > Submit Competition Entry), or
  - by leaving a CD or flash drive in John Zoerb's garage at 3200 Floral Lane in La Crosse. Prints are to be placed in the print box in John Zoerb's garage.
- The physical print is judged; digital version is submitted online or via CD for competition management.
- Each member is responsible for the accuracy of his/her submission(s).

## **Competition Categories**

#### Projected: All categories are available for entries each month

- Open: no restriction on image content or digital manipulation
- *Nature*: no evidence of the "hand of man"; no cultivated plants, domestic animals, tame birds, jet trails, museum scenes, mowed grass, gravel; (exceptions include bird bands or other wildlife tags or monitoring devices); basic image cropping/editing is allowed, however no cloning or other types of selective image manipulation.
- *People* includes both portraits and human interest images. A Portrait is likeness of a person especially of, but not limited to the face. The image must be staged. Human Interest is an un-posed image of a person/people engaged in an activity. Submit all entries in the more general People Category.
- *Challenge*: There will be one challenge (assigned topic) in each of the four projected categories. Images must follow the challenge category description & must have been shot after the date of the previous May competition which was **May 8, 2018**. This year's categories are:

Open: Barns	(November)
People: Reflections	(January—an individual reflected on a surface)
Creative: Architecture	(March)
Nature: Moving water	(May)

• *Creative:* The PSA definition of Creative is "Altered Reality." The image must obviously display a change in natural color, form, shape, or any combination of these three. Creative images are often montages (a blending or composite of multiple images). High Dynamic Range (HDR) images without further changes are <u>not</u> considered "altered reality." All component images must be original and may not incorporate elements produced by anyone else.

N4C states, " Creative photography is an opportunity for those who dare to explore the experimental and creative forms of photographic expression. These will include, but not be limited to derived images, ultra-high contrast, black light, bas-relief, solarization, multi-images, trick lenses and filters, and other ways to alter the image to produce a new abstract effect. Just about anything goes. The important thing is the result, not the means to create it. This area of photography bridges between photographic realism and creative art."

All image content must be the work of the maker. The image may be modified by the use of plug-ins, filters, brushes, etc. The use of textures and backgrounds, whether the maker's original work or commercially available, is permitted.

#### Text should not be added to projected images.

#### **Prints:**

- Color Prints: no restriction on image content; may be personally or commercially printed
- *B/W Prints*: no restriction on image content; monochromatic images with a sepia or other tint are accepted; no special or selective color treatment is allowed; prints may be personally or commercially printed.
- Prints for both A and B groups will be judged monthly. Should the total number of prints submitted in a group be fewer than 5, prints will be scored and those receiving 30 points or more will receive an "Acceptance" and be included the End of Year judging.

#### **Print Presentation**:

- Entries should be mounted but not framed
- Maximum mounted size is 16x20 inches; An odd sized print may not exceed 320 square inches in size, nor may it exceed 20 inches in length.
- Minimum size is 5x7 inches on an 8x10 mounting.
- Identifying information must be on the back of the print, in the upper left-hand corner, and should include: maker's name, title and group (A or B)
- No added text, e.g. identifying information such as name, title, copyright, website, etc. should appear on the *front* of the print or mat. *Please include identifying info including Group A or B on the back of the print.*

# Judging:

- Three judges rate every image on a scale of 1-5 for each of the following characteristics: *Technique*: focus, lighting, color rendition, exposure, print quality, and mounting *Composition*: arrangement of all elements within the picture area so that the subject matter is presented as a harmonious, well-balanced photograph *Interest:* originality, imagination, interpretation, subject impact, mood, and humor
- First, second and third places are awarded in each category. Honorable Mention applies to approximately 25% of the remaining images in a category. These images will be included in the end-of-year competition.
- During the results meeting, any member may move that an image be awarded 'Acceptance' which means that it will be included in the end-of-year competition. An Acceptance is awarded based on the results of a majority vote by paid members.

For additional information, please visit the LACC website *www.lacrosseareacameraclub.org* or contact the Judging Chairperson.

## **Becoming A Judge**

- Judging is a voluntary activity; volunteers are needed for a few hours once per year.
- Feedback provided to makers is intended to help everyone become better become better photographers and image editors, not simply to criticize.
- Notes are provided for speaking at the results meeting.
- Prior to judging for a competition, interested persons are asked to observe a monthly judging session.
- Judging perks include a \$10 Kwik Trip gift card and a free pass to submit one extra image in one monthly competition.

## **Submitting Entries**

- 1. Login to the website: www.lacrosseareacameraclub.org
- 2. Click on: Competitions > Submitting Entries > Submit Competition Entry
- 3. Complete all fields in the online submission form; be sure to SAVE the submission

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# 4. Check your Gallery to be sure your images have been saved

a. On the Home Page, click on My Account

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## b. Click on the Competition Gallery tab

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c. Review your submissions

