

Tidelands Photography Club

**MAR/APR 2022
PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST**



Tidelands Photography Club

**MAR/APR 2022
PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST**

**Beginner
“Portraits”**

Beginner

“Buddha & his Advise”

7



The lighting on the Buddha is very pleasant but the shadows on the image is, in my opinion, distracting. I believe the language would limit the audience appeal.

Beginner
“Addy”
9

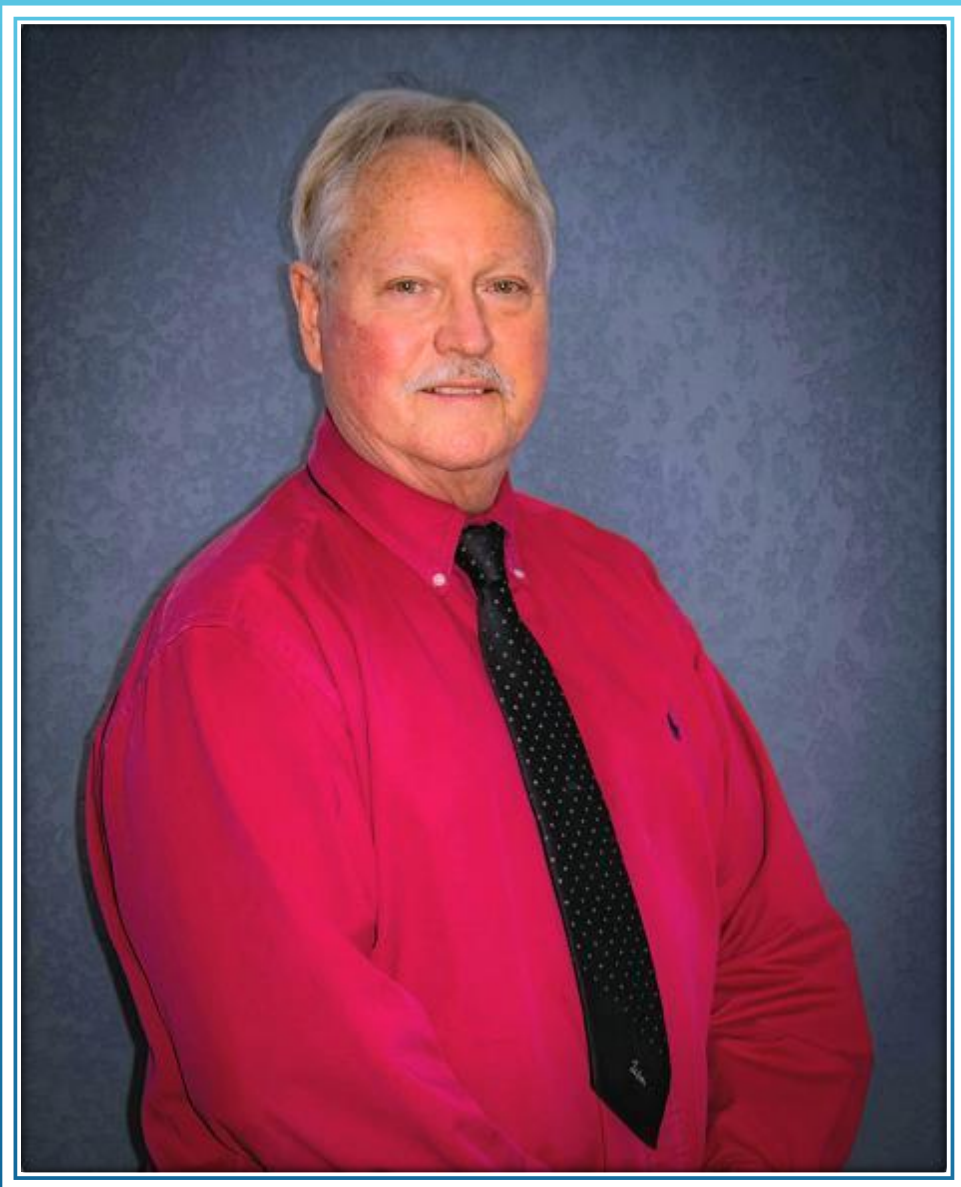


The model is relaxed and the photographer has captured a playfulness that is pleasing. And the hat is a pleasant addition. The image might benefit from a softer lighting approach.

Tidelands Photography Club

**MAR/APR 2022
PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST**

**Intermediate
“Portraits”**



Intermediate
"Larry G"
7

I'm not sure what happened to the background but it appears that something was done in post processing that caused the strange patterns. Had Larry been further away from the background the flash would not have caused the shadow you see behind him on the left side.



**Intermediate
“Engagement”
8**

The exposure is good, the couple is happy and the engagement ring is obvious. I would have preferred a square crop for this grouping.

Intermediate
"Pretty in Pink"
9



The lighting here is interesting. The photographer captured a nice effect -- an "almost-profile" with enough shadows to show the little girl's features. And, of course, the wispy tendrils of her hair contribute to the overall effect.



**Intermediate
"The Portrait"
9**

This photo is a good example of processing for "sketch effect". A much higher score would have earned were it not for the distracting vertical bar on the right margin.

**Intermediate
"At the Helm"
10**



Try a crop on the left side to eliminate the persons right hand and the distracting elements on the left side of the photo. The resulting square crop would result in the subject looking into the image -- generally a more pleasing effect.

**Intermediate
"Beach Babies"
10**



This photo made on an overcast day and that is what has produced the soft curves and features of the two children. I think a square crop would improve the composition.

**Intermediate
"Pensive"
11**



The hands and the upside "V" formed by the girl's hair form a perfect diamond frame. You could have cropped to capture that frame but you did a good thing (in my opinion) by getting the comfortable posture and location established by the couch.

Intermediate
“Woman & Rice Trunk”
11



My first reaction was to crop out the apparatus on the left side. Then, I Googled "rice trunk" and changed my mind. The rice trunk establishes the location somewhat and needs to stay. Nice posing to have the subject looking directly into the lens.



Intermediate
"Tattoos Everywhere"
12

Nice photo -- tattoos, camo shirt, framed with stone -- but the best part is that the photographer captured the attitude. Everything in the image contributes to the feeling that "we are going to do it MY way".

**Intermediate
"Senior Sunset"
12**



I like the girl framed with the bright element in the background. And, of course, the "wind in the hair" adds a feeling of freshness. A little make-up on the forehead and chin would have reduced the shiny areas.

**Intermediate
"Blacksmith"
12**



The hand gestures, in my opinion, make the photo. The man's eyes -- cut to his left -- add interest to the photo. Focus appears a little soft.



Intermediate
"Portrait"
14

A lot to like here. The position of the child's head and torso against the plain background, the subtle halo lighting effect on her arm and face, and even the teasing view of her tennis shoe.

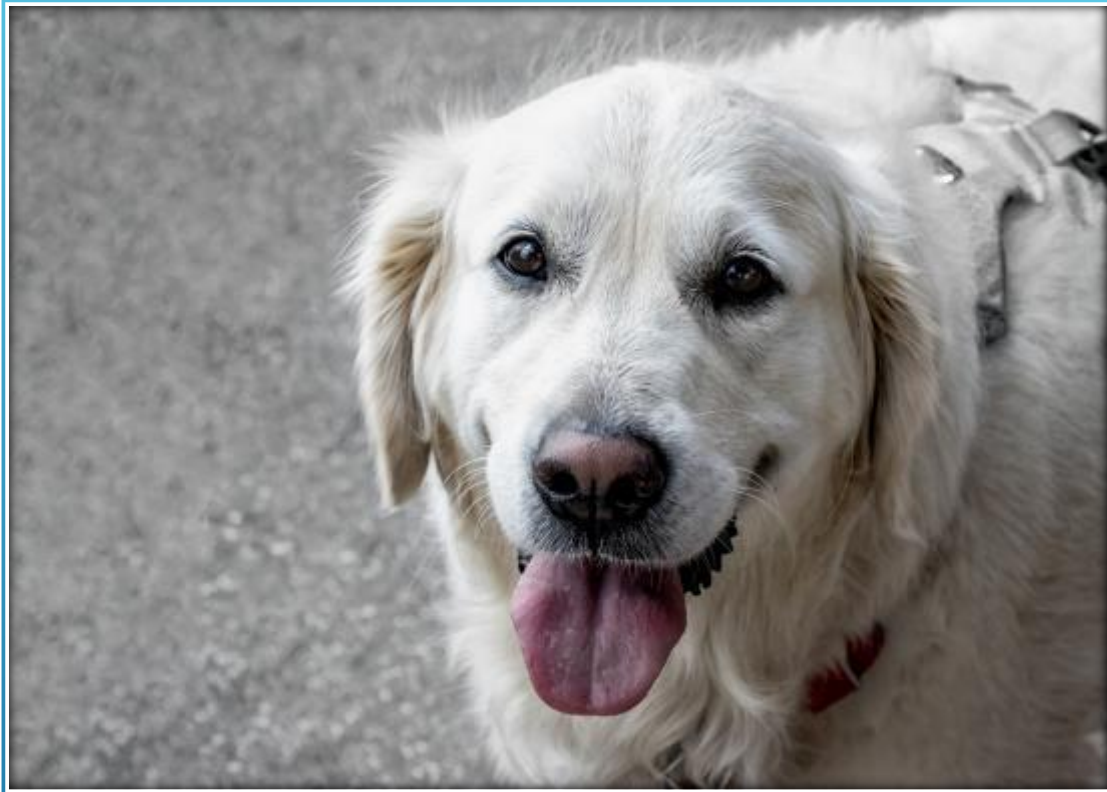
Tidelands Photography Club

MAR/APR 2022

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

Advanced
“Portraits”

**Advanced
"Happy Golden"
8**



I think the photo would be improved by using a square crop. As it is, the vacant space on the left doesn't add value to the portrait. It appears that the sharpest focus is the dog's nose. The image would be improved, in my opinion, if the eyes were the sharpest.

**Advanced
“Viking Woman”
11**



It appears that this photo was made outside on a cloudy or overcast day. That is excellent for eliminating unwanted shadows but I think it can make a portrait a bit flat. You might try some post processing such as increasing the exposure, adding a catchlight to the eyes and brightening her teeth.



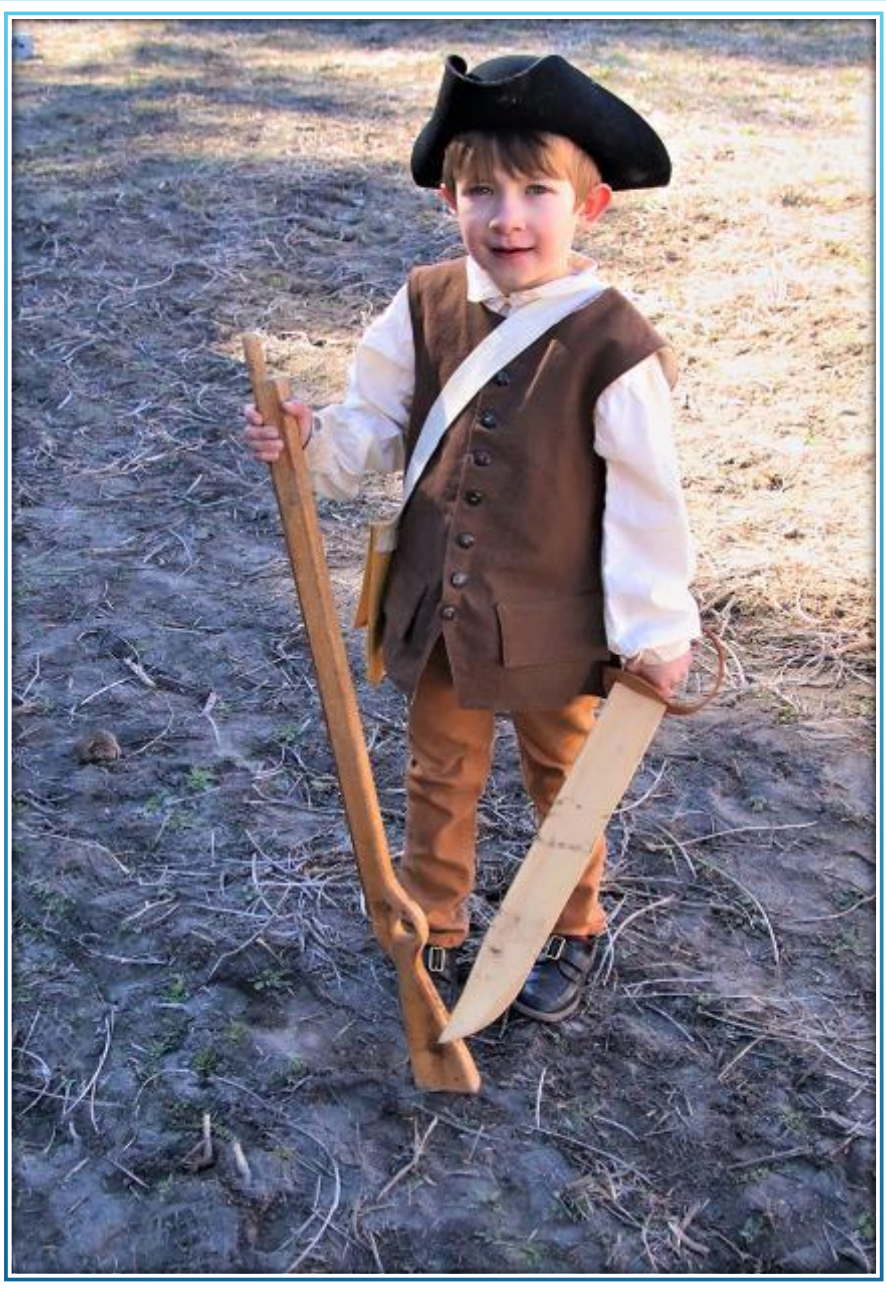
**Advanced
"Seductive"
11**

In this image the photographer has done a really great job of keeping the sharpest focal point on the eye of the subject. This isn't easily done with such a narrow depth of field.

**Advanced
"Shady Lady"
12**



The issue here (as acknowledged by the title) is the shadow over the girl's face. This can be dealt with in processing. Maybe add a catchlight in her eyes. The positioning in the frame seems very pleasing. I would brighten the whole image.



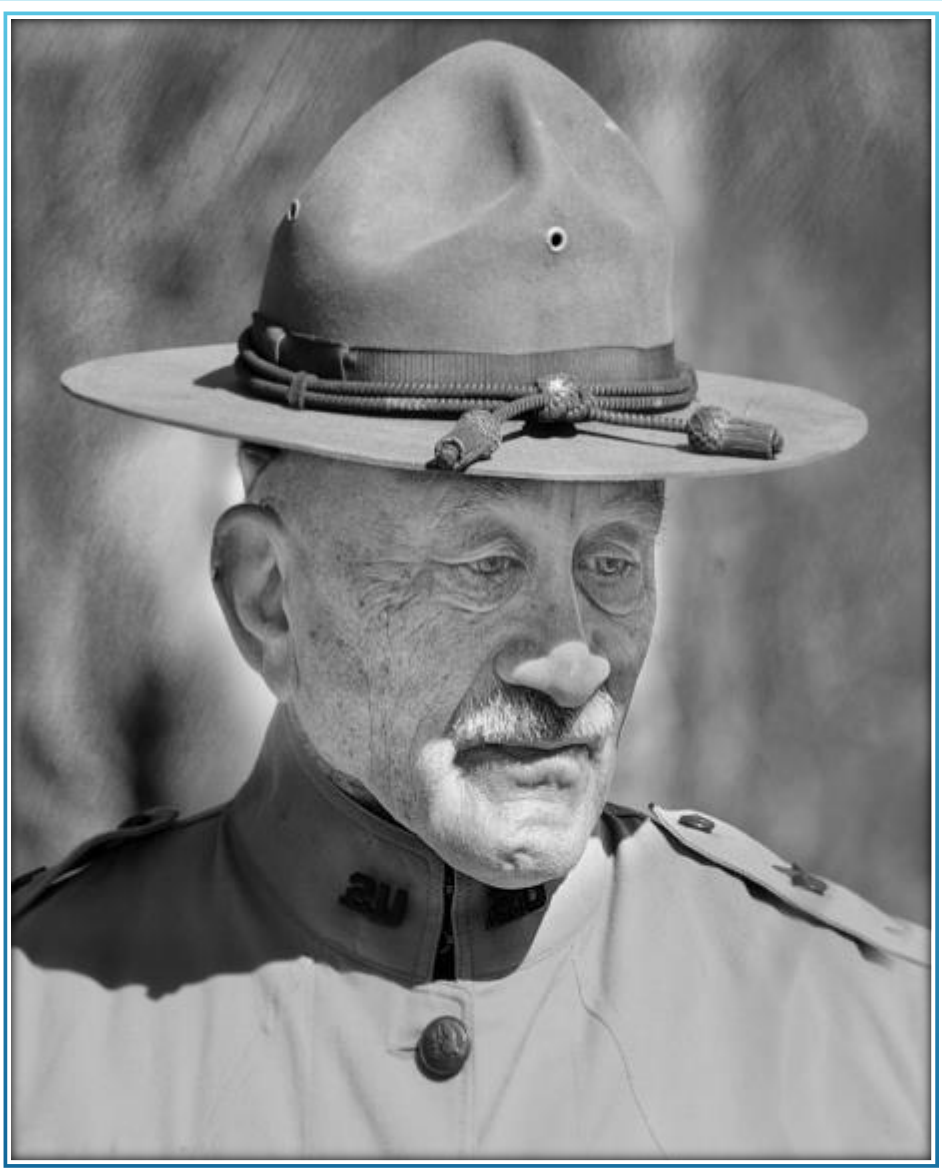
**Advanced
"Colonial Lad"
12**

A really subtle trick was done here. While the lad is standing in shadow, the photographer positioned him such that the sun softly lights the left (rifle side) of the boy's face.



Advanced
“Celebrating Our History”
12

Nice composition. But what is REALLY nice is the exposure. The histogram would be well balanced. The whites are not blown out and there is adequate detail in the blacks.



**Advanced
“An Old Soldier”
13**

Here is an example where the mid-day sun caused a deep shadow but the creator handled it nicely in post processing. I like the downward gaze and pensive look of the model.

**Advanced
"Studio"
14**



A nice, warm portrait of the performer. The lighting has a very natural look -- no on-camera flash used. I like the positioning of the man who is looking "into the frame".



**Advanced
“Crystal”
14**

In my opinion, the posing is excellent and the photographer did a very good job of dealing with the mid-day sun. The horizon is a tiny bit off but enough to be seen.

Tidelands Photography Club

MAR/APR 2022

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

Open



Open
"Rustic Tranquility"
8

The rustic building contrasts favorably with the more modern structures on the right. I would crop differently if this were my photo. I would move the left crop out to allow some space between the edge and the building and I would investigate removing the modern buildings or, at least moving the right edge to a point just to the right of the evergreen tree. The tree that partially covers the rustic building gives a good feeling to the photo.



Open
"Chickadee"
9

You have positioned the bird at one of the high-interest points -- and it is effective. I wish the focus had been a little sharper.

Open
"Crystal Dragonfly"
9



The insect, in fact, does look like he/she is made of crystal. If this were my photo I would try a square crop with the dragonfly slightly to the left as it is shown here. You have successfully eliminated the busy background with a wide aperture.



Open
"Fade to Black"
12

Proof positive that three (rather than 2 or 4) characters sharing the screen make a balanced canvas. I would have cropped more off the top border -- or less at the bottom.

**Open
"Panda"
13**



The photographer can't go wrong with kitties, puppies, or pandas when it comes to the "cute" category. I like how you accommodated the mottled light -- highlighting the whites of the panda. If this were my photo I would crop differently to bring the panda's face higher.

Open
"Driftwood Swirls"
13



**Mother nature is a fine artist.
I like how you placed the all
important "eye" in this photo
close to the intersection of the
1/3 points.**

Open
"Floating by the Strand"
13



The apparent purpose of this photo is to puzzle the viewer -- and the photographer has done that. The ship, the submerged truck and the word "Strand", all contribute to the puzzle. Nicely done.



**Open
“Lighthouse”
13**

Lighthouses and clear days usually produce nothing better than a snapshot. This lighthouse, however, is against a troubled sky and, therefore, has meaning. The dinged up surface of the building adds to the feeling. You might try converting this image to black and white for added impact.

**Open
“Whistlers”
13**



Two birds caught in the same landing dance. The photographer wisely left space on the right so that the birds were not up against the edge. Nice job in getting crisp details of moving subjects.

**Open
"Tiny Dancers"
13**



This rather unorthodox view of butterflies kept my attention (and that's what we strive for in our viewers) because you titled it "...dancers" and I had to look hard for the second one. Nice color palette. I would crop a little more off from the left.

**Open
“On the Lookout”
14**



My first reaction to this photo was to Google foxes and trees. Yes, they can climb trees. You made a nice composition with the fox looking into the frame. I also like that you placed his face at the 1/3 point and used an f-stop that blurred the background.

**Open
"Spider Lily"
14**



This photo ranks high on the "Wow Factor" scale. At first I thought it was just another fireworks photo. Nice work in rendering the background dark to isolate the flower.

Open
"Dali in White Sands"
14



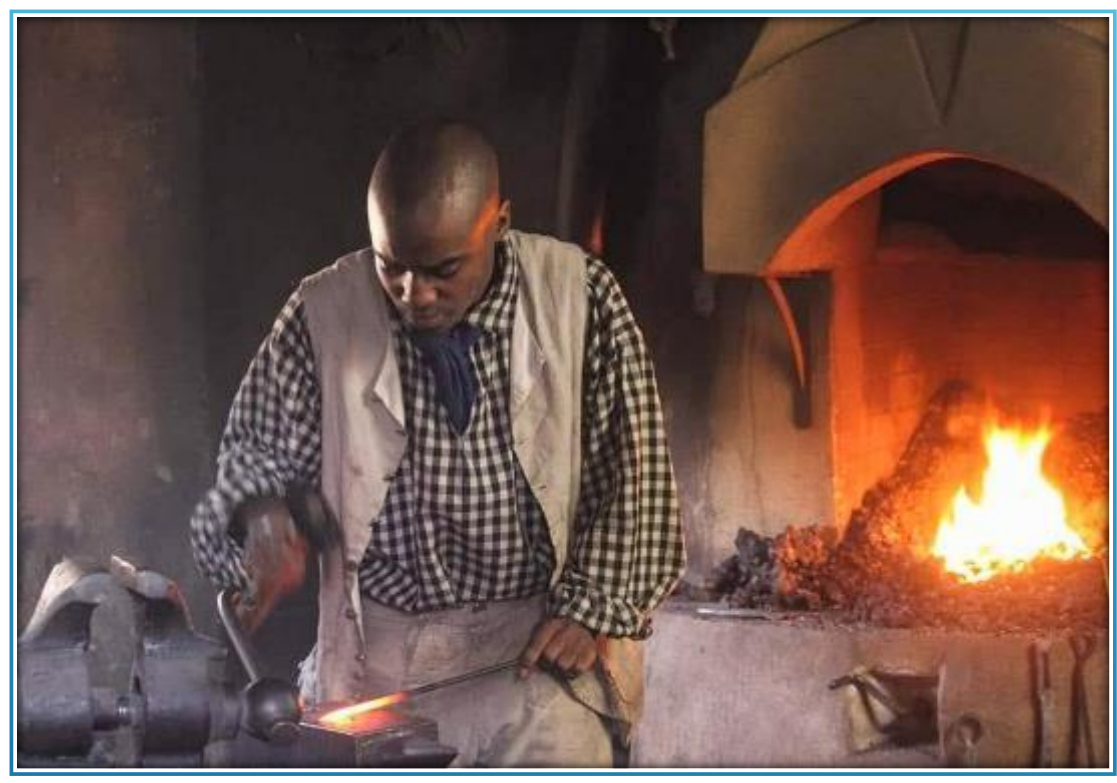
I have no idea what this is -- but that doesn't matter. This is a really nice composition that pulls the eye into and around the canvas. I also like that the curves of the whatever-it-is mimic the shapes of the dunes. Nice photo.

**Open
"Day Break"
14**

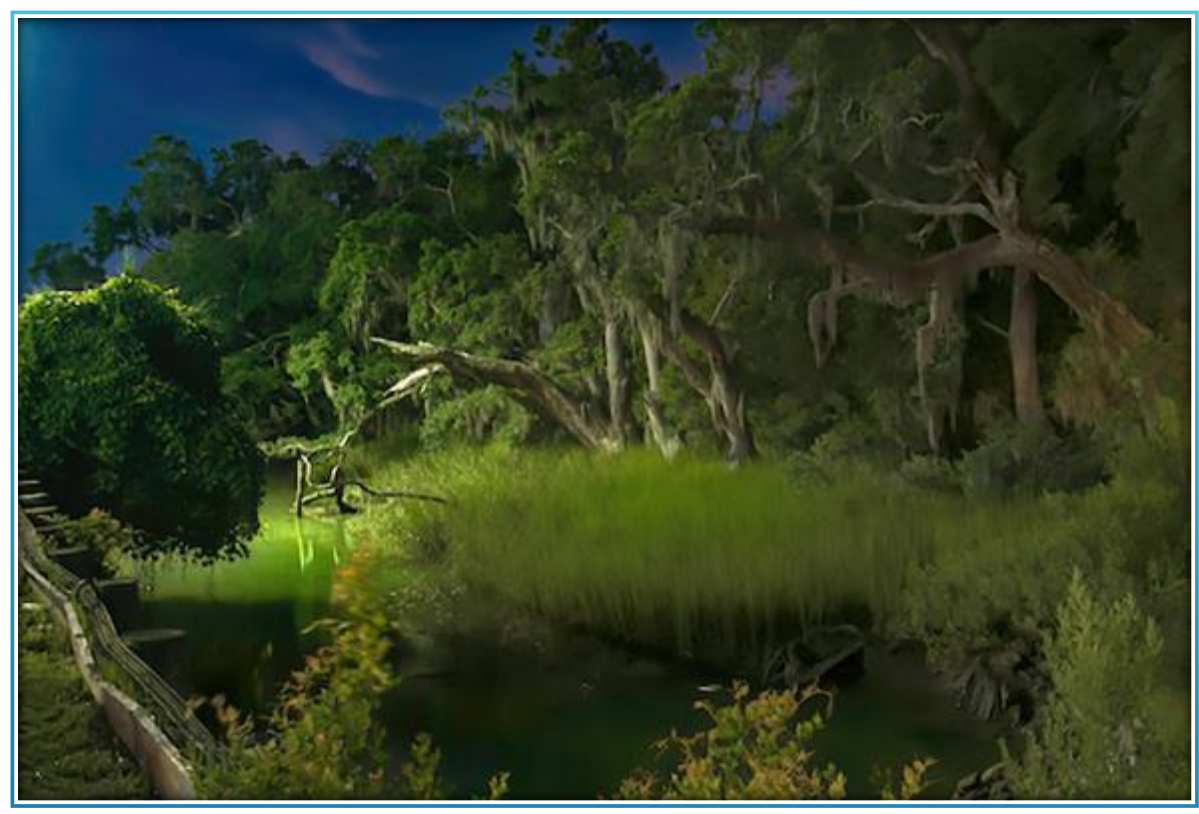


Not just another sunrise-at-the-beach photo. The stream entering from the lower right makes a strong diagonal line -- always a plus for a seascape. And, of course, that line leads the eye into the frame. The vertical composition is completed by the sun's lighting of the underside of the clouds.

Open
"Ironwork"
14



This is a nice, warm composition. The photographer included the fire and enough tools and equipment to reinforce the environment. And I particularly like that the smithy's hammer is blurred as it descends to the work piece.



Open
“Light Painting in the Marsh”
14

When I open a photo, I try to note what it does to my eye movement. In this case I started on the bright spot on the left and my eyes drifted toward the right and then retraced my steps back to the bright area. Successful photos do that. Nice photo.



**Open
“Anhinga in
Breeding Colors”
15**

This photographer is very lucky or very skillful. Maybe both. The bird turned to profile and the framing of the head against the lighter colored mangrove leaves -- what a great combination. Perfect focus. Great photo.

**Open
"Marble Cluster"
15**



Not a single straight line in this photo -- and that is consistent to the subject matter. You've arranged the marbles to pull the viewer's eyes in an "S" shaped pattern starting with the large bowl on the left and ending in the smaller bowl on the right. Nice composition.

**Open
"High Key Grebe"
15**



The grebe is not a particularly pretty species of bird. By converting to black and white and processing for high-key, you have created a very nice photo. You have even captured the water drops on the back of this diving bird. A very nice photo.



Open
"Doodle Sunset"
15

A lot to like in this photo. The pup a little off center is balanced nicely by the brighter background on the right. But the real highpoint is the backlighting that presents the pup to the viewer.



**Open
"Brown Pelican"
15**

It's the crispness of the white/black contrasts that make this photo. Glad you converted to black and white. If you had left it in color, the wonderful detail (that makes this photo) would have been lost.