

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>COLOR “A” JUDGE’S COMMENTS</b>
1) <b>YES</b>	Nicely done silhouette. High impact, excellent exposure, very good composition. Could improve composition by moving camera position or the couple to center them in the window more. Window should be straightened more too— there is a slight tilt to the left, easily corrected in Photoshop.
2) <b>FRESH SUMMER SHOWER</b>	Good impact, very good exposure, excellent sharpness on foremost petals and water drops. Left petal and droplets a bit too soft. Depth of field is a real issue at this angle. Raising the camera angle and a slight shift left would serve up three compositional improvements: Would show more of the flower interior, block the stems behind the flower, which are creating a busy background, and put the focal plane more parallel to the three front petals, making it easier to get all three in focus.
3) <b>DOUBLE STAREDOWN</b>	Good impact, excellent exposure. I would have moved to the right a bit to keep the rear end of the goat in the background from merging with the shoulder of the subject goat. The image also has the feel of leaning to the right a little. An interesting alternative would have been to frame the goat’s face squarely in one of the fence openings.
4) <b>UMBRELLA LADY</b>	Excellent travel photo. This really tells a story. Very good impact, very good exposure, excellent composition. Shadows may be blocked up a bit, but that’s hard to judge with the contrast in this image, which is otherwise well handled. I hope you had the opportunity to get some additional photos here showing more of the subject’s face.
5) <b>SHOW TIME</b>	Strong composition. Excellent technical quality. Good impact. The only suggestion I have for improvement is to try to eliminate some of the clutter in the lower right corner, the open access panel and strap hanging out of the cockpit, by some combination of cropping and/or cloning.
6) <b>POLYPHEMUS MOTH CATERPILLAR</b>	Very well done nature photo. The backlighting provides good rim lighting for the caterpillar, and an almost luminous quality to the body. Depth of field is excellent, with everything sharp that needs to be, but a nicely diffused background.
7) <b>PORTRAIT</b>	Nicely done portrait. Very good lighting, technical quality, and composition provide an above average impact.
8) <b>LEGS</b>	Very well done high key portrait. From this and the previous portrait, I can see the photographer has a good grasp of lighting and posing. (I am presuming they are done by the same photographer, since the model is the same.)
9) <b>PALOMINO IN BUTTERCUPS</b>	Nicely composed, and over all very good exposure. However, the horse does not seem to be optimally sharp. I would have cropped out the dark area at the top, perhaps even going for a square format. One last nit-pick, standing, four legged animals

	are usually best shown with all four legs visible. In this case, the horse appears to have three legs.
<b>10) THE 1850'S</b>	Intriguing still life, nicely set up and composed. Very good exposure, and the vignette helps to accentuate the lighting provided by the candle. The only improvement I can offer would be to raise the camera slightly, or rearrange the painting to allow a bit more separation between the eyes and the edge of the frame. This may require expanding the vignette in the lower left corner a bit as well.
<b>11) BUTTE</b>	Excellent landscape. Nicely composed, and great light. The only real criticism I can make is that the horizon appears to be tilted slightly to the left.
<b>12) LITTLE WOOD SATYR BUTTERFLY</b>	Very well done butterfly portrait. Excellent sharpness and lighting, plus nice soft background.
<b>13) SANDSTONE EROSIAN</b>	Good color, but lighting and contrast are a bit harsh. It also is a bit too busy, I think. In this light, it might have been better to zoom in tighter on some of the patterns in the rock for a more abstract image.
<b>14) BLUE RONDO</b>	A high impact still life, with an almost perfect composition for the subject matter. I would expect to see something like this in a magazine advertisement.
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>COLOR "B" JUDGE'S COMMENTS</b>
<b>1) SQUIRREL PROOF GUARANTEED</b>	Nicely done back yard wildlife photo. Very good exposure and composition. I don't even mind the slightly busy background, as it adds to the "sense of place" for the location. I enjoyed the humorous title, too:-)
<b>2) EGRET DANCE</b>	Nicely composed, high impact nature photo. I am not an expert on egret behavior, but I would say you did very well to capture it with the feather's extended as they are. The only criticisms that I will offer are there are some blown highlights on the bird's body (at least it appears that way on my calibrated monitor), and you cropped the feet off a bit too low down. It would be better to show the feet, or the foliage blocking the feet, if they were in the original un-cropped frame.
<b>3) WINGS OF A LUNA</b>	Well done, well exposed and sharp luna moth portrait. However, the relatively low contrast between the subject and background lessens the impact. The background is nicely out of focus, but I see some jpeg artifacts (sharp transitions of tonal values) that make me wonder if some of this was done with a blurring tool in your image editing software. If not, then you may need to do some editing of the background to overcome this.

<p><b>4) FOAL</b></p>	<p>Very nice “mother and child” photo. The light is harsh and contrasty, but we can’t always control such things in outdoor animal photos, other than choosing the time of day, trying to find a position where the animal will be backlit. Over all well exposed and sharp, though the blur in the mare’s foot that is off the ground is more noticeable because of this. A higher shutter speed would have helped here. You did well to keep all four legs of both animals visible.</p>
<p><b>5) COCKLEBURRS &amp; SHED</b></p>	<p>Very well done HDR (High Dynamic Range) image. The color and texture of the wood is very good, and the cockle burrs make a nice contrast. I would like to have seen it a bit brighter, though—I think that would have accentuated the wood even more.</p>
<p><b>6) WASHED ASHORE</b></p>	<p>Interesting nature photo, with excellent exposure, color and contrast. I am not sure what this is, an anemone of some kind? Nature photo titles should include an identification of the subject, if possible. It is a little too soft around the edges of the subject though. Cropping in tighter to make the central orange mass more prominent would have helped to offset this.</p>
<p><b>7) TREASURES OF THE SEA</b></p>	<p>Very creative, yet simple still life setup. Excellent lighting, sharpness and composition. The specular highlights on the shell may bother some, but not enough to keep this from winning first place. The only compositional element worth changing, if possible, that I will mention is the starburst on the coin at the far right. If that was artificially added, I think it would be better to place it on one of the coins in the lower right front area. If not, then bravo for capturing it as is—it definitely adds to the image.</p>
<p><b>8) PARMET DINGHIES</b></p>	<p>Exposure and sharpness are very good. Good, simple composition with the diagonals, but maybe a little too simple. “Parmet Dinghies” is the title, but there is only one dinghy clearly visible. Although I usually advocate the tight shot to focus on and clarify the subject, in this instance, I would pull back a little and look for repeating patterns in the diagonals of the neighboring dinghies.</p>
<p><b>9) GOOD TO THE LAST BITE</b></p>	<p>Interesting subject with a good deal of potential. While the image is sharp throughout, the background is too bright and busy, while the foreground is in shadow. While I do not know what was behind the photographer when this shot was taken, I would have tried a shot from the other side, to try to eliminate the bright background.</p>
<p><b>10) FLAMBE</b></p>	<p>I like this shot; It shows a good deal of creativity on the part of the photographer, especially if this was a spur of the moment shot as the dish was being prepared. Excellent color and exposure. Some improvements would be to ensure the front edge of the pan is sharp, and eliminate some of the dim reflections that can be seen to the left and right lower corners.</p>

<p><b>11) MR. HUMMER</b></p>	<p>This image is very well exposed and composed, and the colors are great. However, while I do like the texture that has been added, it is not appropriate for the hummingbird. Single hummingbirds should almost always be rendered as sharp as possible, and this case is no different. Wing blurs can be acceptable, but the head, beak, and as much of the body as possible should be sharp. The texture softens it too much. Assuming the bird is acceptably sharp to begin with, try adding the texture on a separate layer, then use a layer mask to remove or reduce the texture over the bird. I think this would create a much higher impact with this image.</p>
<p><b>12) MESSA ARCH</b></p>	<p>Nice color and exposure of the arch, and good depth of field, with good sharpness from the foreground to the background. Unfortunately, this is another one of those situations where the prevailing conditions were not with the photographer. The haze and direction of light are such that the sky is too bright and blown out. This may have been an ideal time to try for an HDR image, which hopefully would have rendered less of a white sky.</p>
<p><b>13) SOLITUDE</b></p>	<p>I really liked this shot. It reminded me of some of the photos I've taken at Sand Beach in Acadia National Park in Maine. It definitely evokes the title, "Solitude," as well as a sense of peace and quiet. The color, exposure, and depth of field are all very good. The only thing that kept me from scoring it three or four points higher, was that the sun and reflection below is too bright and blown out. If this was shot in RAW, and there is sufficient color and detail in the RAW file, it may be possible to recover most of the lost color and detail in this area by "double processing" the RAW file. If other images of this scene were taken at lower exposures, you may be able to combine them with this photo to make the final image. Note that I am not advocating an HDR photo here, as I really like the color and lighting overall. Even the little bit of lens flare in evidence does not hurt this image in any way.</p>
<p><b>14) SUNRISE BLUE ROCKS 2</b></p>	<p>Very nice sunrise silhouette. You did well to place the sun behind the building to avoid a blown out sun. You have a very good composition, despite the horizon splitting the screen, but I think you could improve it quite a bit by cropping in from the left, about halfway to the first building on the left. This would eliminate some of the empty blue sky and move the bright area around the sun further from the center, giving it a little better balance overall.</p>
<p><b>15) JELLIES</b></p>	<p>Colorful image, good exposure, moderately high impact. I'm not sure if some of the softness I am seeing is due to digital noise or a texture added to the image. It is sometimes hard to tell when you don't have access to the original photo.</p>

<b>16) WISH WE COULD GO FOR A RIDE</b>	<p>Beautiful image that tells a story of the interaction between the boys and the horse. Very good composition taken in very nice light. I would have cropped out about half of the empty space on the right, used a curves adjustment to increase the brightness and contrast a bit, and maybe made a small increase in the color temperature to warm it up a little.</p>
<b>17) STARFISH IN THE SURF</b>	<p>You've caught a humorous aspect in this photo, with the starfish almost looking like it is dancing. Accurate color and exposure, I think, but seems a bit flat overall. You might try some different adjustments with levels and curves to boost the brightness and contrast just a little. I would also clone out the bright reflection in the sand just to the left of the starfish. This might make an interesting image with a conversion to black &amp; white, plus a slightly tighter crop.</p>
<b>18) COMING FOR YOU</b>	<p>I am not quite sure what to make of this image. I couldn't say for sure if this was a "found" photo, captured by good fortune and skill, or a setup shot, as there seems to be some sort of man made object attached to the owl's foot. That said, I scored it high for impact and composition, as it does grab your attention.</p>
<b>19) FROM EGG TO OCEAN (LOGGERHEAD)</b>	<p>Very nice image that tells a good nature story. I like that you included some of the turtles tracks in the sand behind it, as that shows you didn't just place it there. Overall good exposure, contrast, color and sharpness, but still seems a bit flat. I will give my usual advice to experiment with curves and color adjustments to give it a little more "snap," and to crop in a bit tighter.</p>
<b>20) STARE DOWN WITH OSPREY</b>	<p>Nice and sharp osprey flight shot. You must have been using a fairly high shutter speed for this one. The eye contact with the bird establishes a sympathetic link between man and beast. You did what you could with exposure to avoid blowing out the sky, but the underside of the bird is technically under exposed. If you are going to photograph this type of subject often, I recommend you invest in a flash extender for your external flash (you do have an external flash, don't you?-) Arthur Morris at birdsasart.com sells the "Better Beamer" flash extender for \$40. One last comment, the inset white line framing the bird does not add to the presentation.</p>
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>MONO "A" JUDGES COMMENTS</b>
<b>1) GRAVEYARD OF THE ELKS</b>	
<b>2) MONUMENT VALLEY DUNES</b>	
<b>3) DOGWOOD IN SEPIA</b>	

4)	<b>RINGBILLED GULL</b>	
5)	<b>OVERHEAD</b>	
6)	<b>SHOWROOM CONDITION</b>	
7)	<b>DAYS OF WINE AND ROSES</b>	
8)	<b>ANDERSONVILLE ON A WINTER AFTERNOON</b>	
9)	<b>WELCOME</b>	
10)	<b>ABOUT TO BURST</b>	
11)	<b>BALD EAGLE</b>	
12)	<b>WHITE MIME</b>	
	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>MONO "B" JUDGES COMMENTS</b>
1)	<b>PRARIE</b>	
2)	<b>I DON'T WANNA HEAR IT</b>	
3)	<b>CHARLOE BARN B&amp;W</b>	
4)	<b>DRIVEN</b>	
5)	<b>I STILL FEEL FAT</b>	
6)	<b>CRISS CROSS</b>	
7)	<b>ALL 'BOARD</b>	
8)	<b>SNOWTRACKS</b>	
9)	<b>MUM A MIA</b>	
10)	<b>SERENITY</b>	
11)	<b>OSPREY ARRIVING HOME WITH DINNER</b>	
12)	<b>PLEASANT HARBOR DOCK</b>	
13)	<b>KIDS</b>	
	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>NOVICE - JUDGES COMMENTS</b>
1)	<b>A SMILE FOR MOM</b>	A touching family portrait of mother and son. Good exposure, contrast and composition. The sepia toning is OK, but I think this would look better as a straight black and white, or possibly a silver tone.
2)	<b>WHEN GOD TAKES A</b>	Good exposure and composition. If you could have done so safely, it would have been better to move the camera forward a

	<b>DEEP BREATH</b>	bit to eliminate that little projection of rock at the bottom center of the frame. Good placement of the horizon for what was probably an overcast sky. It does look like the horizon is tilted slightly to the left, so watch that in the future. Also, to compensate for the flat lighting, you may have been able to add some contrast in your image editing software.
3)	<b>IMPERFECT PETAL</b>	Nice butterfly close-up, great exposure, color and sharpness. The only real negative aspect of this is a background that is too bright and busy. Using a longer focal length and/or a larger aperture would have helped to improve this, but may have made it harder to keep all of the butterfly in sharp focus.
4)	<b>BUTTERFLY FINGERPRINTS</b>	
	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>CREATIVE - JUDGES COMMENTS</b>
		<b>Note that I am not offering very many suggestions for improvement in the Creative Category, since this is much more subjective than other genres of photography. I will concentrate, instead, on what I liked about each image. Also, I noticed that some of the images appear to be straight photographs, as opposed to images that were at least partially created on the computer or using creative camera techniques. Consequently, I scored these just a little lower than I might have, had they been entered in one of the other categories.</b>
1)	<b>ROAR</b>	Impressive image. Good use of texture and filtering. How close were you when you took the base photograph of the lion?
2)	<b>LIFE ON HUTCHINSON ISLAND</b>	Beautiful image of an almost idyllic location. It expresses a peaceful life style, and includes a connection with nature. The contrast and lighting were handled extremely well, as well as depth of field. I can't tell at this resolution if the pelican was added digitally, but if it was, you did an excellent job of it. If not, it was an excellent capture at just the right point. Well done.
3)	<b>I SPY</b>	Interesting collage of images evoking law enforcement in the 1950's (Yes, I'm old enough to recognize a vehicle from the '50s:-). I really liked the overall monochromatic presentation with a trace of color added for the door decal and the license plate.
4)	<b>CLOSE INSPECTION</b>	Cool image! If I am interpreting your method correctly, it looks like you combined one image that used the "zoom during exposure" technique with a normal still shot. Great idea!
5)	<b>INSIDE EDITION</b>	Well done montage of images for a magazine cover. Your use of layers to combine these photos was done very skillfully, and looks quite natural.

6)	<b>STICK'N MY NECK OUT</b>	Humorous, well composed, frame within a frame image.
7)	<b>CAUGHT IN THE MIRROR</b>	An almost unsettling, yet evocative photo. You used just right amount and type of texturing to create a very spooky and surreal image. I would like to see a version where you use layer masking to remove the texture over the frame, so it would look real, while the mirror surface would appear to be a window to another world.
8)	<b>SAVANNAH LIGHTHOUSE</b>	Nice reflection image. Good use of a vertical panorama. One critical comment I will make about the image, though, is the straight lines on the light house have a pixilated look to them, as though they were over sharpened, or possibly you attempted to increase the size from too small an image.
9)	<b>BALD EAGLE APPROACHING</b>	Excellent eagle flight shot, sharp, and good composition. The white on the eagle's head is a bit blown out, but other wise a very good exposure.
10)	<b>CADDY</b>	An interesting and creative view of an old Cadillac's grill. Good use of the technique of de-saturating part of the image while keeping the color on the subject. Looking at this made me think of cars lined up at a drive-in theatre. From the reflections on the bumper, I would say you shot this in the daytime, yet managed to create the appearance of a night time scene. Well done!
11)	<b>FANTASY FLIGHT ASPEN FOREST</b>	Very colorful, painterly image. There's a lot going on here— The more you look, the more you see. It kind of draws you in.
12)	<b>ARTIST PALLETTE</b>	Another creative collage of multiple images, combined with many color variations and textures. It makes me think of the opening title screens in some James Bond movies.
13)	<b>TOGETHER</b>	An evocative and sensual couple's portrait. Very well done lighting and composition. This would have scored very well in the "mono" categories.
14)	<b>COLOR CONFUSION</b>	A high impact image in the vein of advertising photography. Simple, yet effective combination of form, color and contrast.
15)	<b>ROOSTER</b>	A very colorful, sharp, and detailed image. I like the use of the monochromatic background to emphasize the colors of the rooster. You could experiment with some different colors in the background that would complement the warm colors of the bird.
16)	<b>ESCAPE</b>	It does look as if the horses are trying to escape from within the photo. Another frame within a frame image as was number six in this series, but sufficiently different subject matter to create even more interest. I could see a whole series of images in this format published as a series of greeting cards or in a small book, with similarly evocative titles.
17)	<b>CHIMPING</b>	A true photographer's photograph that would be an excellent



