

South Shore Camera Club

Monthly photo competition

Categories and definitions synopsis

Effective as of the 2008 – 2009 competition year

Eligibility

All members in good standing are eligible to enter. Members in good standing are those who have paid their dues in full by the **November** Competition Meeting night.

Categories

There are multiple categories that can be entered each month - six print categories and five digital projection categories. One different image can be entered in each category for the appropriate month's competition. The full definitions of each category are described at the end of these rules.

Print Categories

1. Color Nature – All levels combined.
2. Color Open – Beginner **or** Intermediate, **or** Advanced.
3. Color Assigned* - All levels combined.
4. Black & White Open – All levels combined.
5. Black & White Assigned* - All levels combined.
6. Creative – All levels combined.

Digital Projection Categories

1. Nature – All levels combined..
2. Open - Beginner **or** Intermediate **or** Advanced.
3. Open - Black & White – All levels combined.
4. Creative – All levels combined
5. Assigned* - Beginner, and Advanced are combined.

***Assigned Categories:** There are three Assigned Categories that change throughout the year.

1. Photojournalism [PJ] – October and November competitions
2. Portraits – December and January competitions
3. Architecture – February & March competitions
4. The April Competition is a Special Assigned Category that changes each year.

Digital Images Entered in All Categories

Digital images may be entered in all categories, but the extent of the alteration and manipulation for images entered in all categories **except Creative** must be limited to that which could be reasonably duplicated in a traditional “wet” darkroom. Stitching two or more images together to create a wide angle effect is permissible, as is removing minor elements, **AS LONG AS THEIR REMOVAL DOES NOT MATERIALLY AFFECT THE MAIN COMPOSITION OR REALITY OF THE RECORDED IMAGE.**

For example, images may be cropped, spotted, burned, dodged, contrast corrected, color enhanced [such as choosing different films would accomplish], sharpened, etc, **and elements such as telephone wires, small rocks, birds in the sky may be eliminated, BUT ELEMENTS MAY NOT BE CLONED OR MOVED, OR ADDED FROM OTHER IMAGES.**

Any type of manipulation or alteration is acceptable in the Creative Category.

Category Definitions

Open

This category can be interpreted liberally as that area of photography that shows the viewer a scenic vista, cityscape, pets, reflections, travel, nature, or any other image demonstrating impact, color, good composition and a valid point of interest. Portraits, photojournalism, and nature images may also be entered in this category, at the photographer's option, but will be judged as Open.

Nature

A Photograph depicting the wildlife of our planet, such as animals in the wild, birds in a natural environment, landscapes of natural beauty with no human impact included [such as fences, roads, structures, etc.], wild flowers, etc., are all in this category. Images showing cultivated flowers, domesticated animals, scenes showing cultivated fields, fences, houses, telephone lines, etc., will be disqualified. However, images in which a manmade object is part of the creature's natural habitat, such as a stork in a roof nest, a barn swallow in its nest in a barn, as well as tagged animals in the wild, are acceptable.

Creative

Creative image making is a challenge for the photographer. This is the category to use for those images that use unique and innovative approaches to photography. Montages, multiple exposures, or color manipulation would be examples of this category. Digitally created images may be entered as long as the member created all parts of the image and the manipulation is done by or directed by the member.

Assigned Categories

Photojournalism

A Photograph in which a single image tells a complete story in one image, so that a viewer can immediately get the answers to who, what, when, why and where. One interpretation of the category is that it shows humankind and its world. Titles must be included, as they are an integral part of the story telling.

Portrait

A photograph of another person, persons, or self-portrait that shows a viewer something of the character of that person. A good portrait is one in which the photographer was in control of the creation of the image. Animal pictures are not acceptable in the portrait classification, but they may be entered in the Open categories.

Architecture

Architecture is defined as any structure or group of structures designed for human habitation. Interiors, details, and exteriors where the structure is or structures are the dominant element[s] of the composition are included in this Category

April Category

This category changes every year and will be announced at the beginning of the fall meetings.

The complete revised Competition Rules will be available on the club website,

<http://www.photo-ne.com/sscc/> sometime this summer.