

Description of Competition Subjects as used in Plano Photography Club competitions

Action

Fast or slow shutter speed techniques.

Black & White

Create a monochrome image or a predominately monochrome image with selective color. Hint: Removing color information from an image is often used to focus attention on subjects with interesting line, shape and texture elements.

Diagonals

Diagonal lines, shapes, and arrangements create a more dynamic composition by conveying a sense of visual movement or direction in an image. Diagonals can be found everywhere, or merely tilt the camera, or use a wide angle lens to exaggerate perspective.

Events

1. Something that happens or is regarded as happening; an occurrence, especially one of some importance.
2. Something that occurs in a certain place during a particular interval of time.
3. Sports: Any of the contests in a program made up of one sport or of a number of sports. Example: The broad jump event followed the pole vault.

Framing

A compositional technique whereby any object at the edges of your image surrounds or directs the viewer's eye to the main subject.

Low Light

An image taken either indoors or outdoors, in light low enough that the camera, if in fully automatic mode, would attempt to fire the flash. Example situations might include an indoor scene illuminated only by a candle or an outdoor daytime image shot in a dark cave. For the May 2012 competition, "Night or Low Light," the lighting, in contrast to the environment, should contribute significantly to overall interest and impact of the image.

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Night

Night photographs are defined to be those taken outdoors between dusk (30 minutes after sundown) and dawn (30 minutes before sunrise). For the May 2012 competition, "Night or Low Light," the lighting, in contrast to the environment, should contribute significantly to overall interest and impact of the image.

Opposites

A composition depicting obviously contrary or contrasting subjects. One example of an opposite could be size, but this subject is an opportunity to use your imagination.

Photojournalism

The Plano Photography Club adheres to the definition of Photojournalism (PJ) set by the Photographic Society of America (PSA). While PSA's definition is copied below for convenience, the definition as found on PSA's website, <http://psa-pjd.org/overview.html>, will take precedence.

Photojournalism entries shall consist of images with informative content and emotional impact, including human interest, documentary, sports and spot news. The storytelling value of the image shall receive priority over pictorial quality. In the interest of credibility, PJ images must not misrepresent the truth. No situations shall be set up for the purpose of photography and no alteration of the subject matter is allowed, including any techniques that add, combine, relocate, replace or remove any element of the original image. No unnatural sharpening or special effect filters can be applied. Only cropping, resizing, lightening or darkening, and restoration of original color are permitted. Color images can be converted to monochrome.

Repetition

Create an image where an orderly pattern of shapes, lines or colors contributes significantly to the overall interest and impact of the photo. Interest can be created because of the pattern or by a break in the pattern. Hint: It is challenging to create interest with just a repeating pattern because the pattern itself becomes the subject. Consider using repetition to enhance or strengthen the main subject of the image.

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Selective Focus

A technique using a shallow depth of field to isolate or emphasize the main subject of the image. "Selective focus" is the control of the zone of sharpness (depth of field). The center of interest is in sharp focus, while other elements are out of focus.

Special Effects

Special effects may be created either in camera or through digital manipulation of the image.

Texture

Create an image where surface detail of objects in the scene contributes significantly to overall interest and impact of the photo. Hint: Surface detail may be enhanced by using side lighting or by increasing local contrast in software. It is challenging to create interest with just texture alone because texture then becomes the subject. Consider using texture to enhance or strengthen the main subject of the image.

Wide-angle Perspective

An exaggerated perspective resulting in the appearance of expanded distance between objects. (Objects seem farther apart than they really are.) This perspective is typically produced by a wide-angle lens, which captures a broader field of view than a normal lens. The increased depth of field provided by a wide-angle lens further supports the perception of a wide-angle perspective.