

2024 Club Contest Themes

February- The Eyes Have It. This month we are looking for images of eyes- human eyes, animal eyes, even a needle's eye. Looking for eyes that demand our attention and compel us to feel something (that will be tough with the needle's eye). The image can include more of the face, but EYE/EYES need to be the focus of the image.

April- One Word and the Picture Says It All. This is hard to explain, but we are looking for images that perfectly illustrate 1 word. For example:

- 1) A mother looking lovingly into a baby's eyes – the 1 word = LOVE
- 2) A car speeding past – the 1 word = FAST
- 3) A run-down house – the 1 word = FORGOTTEN
- 4) Two old men playing chess- the 1 word = FRIENDS

We will try to give you even more examples or answer any questions that you have about this competition -it is intended to be very open. Be creative BUT the picture MUST exemplify your chosen 1 word. (Yes, you chose the word). Also the title of your image must be that 1 word only when you submit.

June- Lines, Patterns and Shapes. We get caught up in the literals. This month we are encouraging you to "see" as if it were the first time. The subject may be the same but how we see it is different. Experiment with different angles, tilt and turn your camera, stretch your imagination. Examples: Skylines, geometric designs and architecture. Cracks in the sidewalk, rungs on your kitchen chairs, items in your toolbox. The possibilities are endless to create a photograph from a new perspective. Keep in mind patterns, lines and shapes.

August- Close-up and Extreme Close-up Photography. Sometimes thinking we don't have the "right" camera, lens or other equipment makes us believe we can't take good photos. Any camera with a lens, including your phone camera, will be just fine to get started in this category. Use natural light, if at all possible. You may even amaze yourself. For experienced photographers, show us your best work. Some potential subjects are flowers, faces, soap suds, insects, textiles, ornaments, woodgrain, stacks of paper, or a tiny still life. The options are boundless.

October- Old and Forgotten in Black and White or Sepia. Check your attic for an old suitcase with treasures from days gone by. Look for faces that show the emotion of being forgotten. Or capture that derelict house (stay safe now) or abandoned old vehicle. Take us back to times that tell a story of a past we have forgotten about. Strive for emotion in your photographs.

Club Contest Guidelines

- Please use the Month + Club Competition as the subject for your email.
- Everyone can submit two photos.
- Please submit images at 300 dpi with 1920 pixels on the longest edge.
- Please give your images titles.
- Use image titles as the file name.
- Send images as attachments (not in the body of the email).
- Please list your name, titles of each image, and which competition level you are competing in:
 - Novice-** little to no experience
 - Amateur-** some photography experience
 - Advanced Amateur-** A significant amount of experience but not making a living at photography (or having won too many competitions and been bumped up)
 - Experienced/PRO-** Making a living selling your photography or having had a significant amount of experience (many years – or won too many competitions).
- Do not include a watermark on your image
- Please email submissions by 9:00 pm Friday the weekend before each contest to competition@blackhillsp photographyclub.com.

We look forward to seeing everyone's submissions.

Thank you,

Deb Zimmerman and Carol Valentine
BHPC Club Competition Chairs

All information is subject to change. An email with the final details will be sent out to club membership before each competition.