

Group A - Nature #1
Judges Comments

Group A Images

1. Lenticular Cloud at Sunset

That is a fantastic cloud formation, I do think the image is a little past the magic light and misses some spark in presentation.

2. Male Wood Duck

Very nice image and placement, great detail throughout.

3. Big Laughing Gym (*Gymnopilus spectabilis*)

The "hero" is lost in the image. 50% of the frame (from top of Mushroom to top of frame) has no value on its own. The Mushroom itself has so many details that are lost due to its size in the photo.

4. Mother And Baby Gorilla

Mom looks deep in thought, Your shot was well worth the effort. Well done.

5. Orca Family Outing

Nice image of family pod.

6. Pair of Sandhill Cranes

The image itself is a little soft, but the composition of the pair is nice.

7. Red necked phalarope chasing a bug

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This maybe a shot of a lifetime. I can't image trying to duplicate it.

8. Sea Star and Anemones

Nice grouping, the image is a little pale, from the refrection of water.

9. Trentepohlia Lichen Point Lobos

Good image with strong composition. The main subject is well balanced with similar shaped wood in background.

10. Silverback And Young Gorilla

Wonderful interaction of adult and child, the brush in front of Gorilla pulls your attention away briefly due to its lighter tones, most likely eaten for lunch.

11. Slugs Feasting on Rotting Fung

Nice image placement of feasting slugs, the main subject is complemented by the damp and darker surroundings.

12. Trentepohlia

The image is almost lost in all the details. The larger branch is a good foundation for the lighter branches on top. The moss may stand out better if a portion is presented larger, still an interesting image.

13. Unhappy Lion

Must be lonely at the top of the food chain. Powerful retro image in black and white, details and contrast carry it very well.

14. Waterfall in Yosemite National Park

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Peaceful image, very nice placement.

15. White Flower Trio Olympic National Park

The plant and leafs look as they are presenting the flowers to the viewer. Well balanced and position of flowers, hard to find flaws with this image.

16. Garter Snake (Thamnophis atratus) in Defense Display

The large leaf just in front of snake is a little distracting but a good choice not to remove it.

17. Ghost Mantis nymph (Phyllocrania paradoxa)

Very well balanced shot. Main subject and leafs are placed just right to show off this Mantis, the background while dark has lighter areas that work well in separation. Very nice image.

18. Rhododendron (Rhododendron macrophyllum) Olympic National Park

The purple flowers flowing across the solid vertical trees is a powerful combination. The buds yet to bloom hold the image together nicely, without them the shot would be too dark.

19. Golden Fairy Lantern (Calochortus amabilis) and Lady Bugs.

The leafs flowing right and left is a lovely balance for the yellow flowers. The little Lady Bug is just the detail to put this image over the top.

20. Alert California Ground Squirrel.

Nice environment, details are good holding in both shadow and sunlight.

21. Anna's Hummingbird Feeding.

Even with the color of Hummingbird and background being similar the separation is great and image balance works well.

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22. Bison Brawl, Yellowstone National Park.

Your image fits the frame nicely, the older Bison in background looking on is well placed, everything works nicely keeping viewers focused on the main subjects.

23. Brown Pelican being attacked by Sea Lion.

The surface of the water is really nice, the Sea Lion form is a bit lost, leaving the viewer to assume the attacker is a Sea Lion.

24. Crab Spider with Prey.

All parts of this image work well, Spider, Web, Leaf and the prey. Would help if the Spider's head had more a little more light.

25. Gray Whale Migration

Great image, your presentation is a lovely visual of a long journey. Your horizon falls off to the left, with no objects to break it up its very important to keep it level.

26. Great Blue Heron with Gopher

It's nice to see an image up close. Nice background, the Gopher and Heron all separate nicely.

27. Great Egret being attacked by Sea Lion.

Well if a nature image needs to tell a story this is it. Even the water tells a story, Excellent !

28. Great Egret searching the Kelp.

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Love this on several levels, the only thing that I see, is if both wings were out stretched. All the reflections are great.

29. Great Egret with Sardine.

It's amazing to see that both the Egret and Sardine have the same eye. The similar shape of the beak and Sardine tail add an interesting visual.

30. Grizzly Fishing.

Great timing , I like the waterfall wrapping around the bear.

31. Grizzly Sow and Cub.

Good image of cub staying close to mom, the surroundings could use a spark.

32. Gull with Sea Star.

Nice complimentary colors, the background is nice with the darker section at top. All elements work nicely. Very nice.

33. Humpback Whale and Brown Pelicans Feeding.

Lots of action, Whale placement is just right to give the viewer a sense of motion.

34. Juvenile Green Heron Stalking Prey.

Great placement, even the colors of the leaves under water compliment the colors of the Heron. The motion of the Heron fits just right in the frame. A clear step above.

HM # 15 White Flower Trio Olympic National Park