

2010-2011 Images of the Year - Group AA - Judged by Sandra Parker

Group	Title	Score	Comments
AA Pictorial			
	Yellow Grasses		Yes, yellow grasses take up half the image but I'm left wondering what the story is...
	Sycamore Leaves		Leaves are a challenge to photograph because they don't stand still! Again I would like something in the image that provides additional interest
	Death Valley Sand Dunes		Nice composition, a little more light would have helped this image
	Sobranes-point		Foreground rocks provide nice leading lines. I would prefer that something in the image be sharp such as the foreground rocks.
	Sardines....		Nice silhouette
	Koi frenzy		Title tells the story. One fish with the sharp eye is a nice touch.
	Fall at Daigoji Temple		Would like to see more of the Temple here
	Dupage River in Spring		To me Spring means color - this looks more like winter
	Rhyolite		Bringing a flashlight to light up the bones of the building would make this a more dramatic image
	4 mile trail Yosemite		This is a nice misty shot but could have been anywhere
	Bottlenose in Kelp		Bottlenose nicely positioned with brighter light on the subject. Nice seeing
	Dining Room wall	3rd HM	Lighting is tough in this mission but you captured it just right so that shadows also play on the walls. Nice seeing.
	Fort Point Shadow	2nd HM	Not easy to do. Nice light, nice angle
	Gathering Storm	1st HM	Nice composition, title, lighting
	Rainy Day at Fort Point	3rd Place	Another location with a lighting challenge. Perfectly captured on this day. Taking advantage of the rain paid off here, nice reflection leading into the image.
	Mediation in Circles	2nd Place	Excellent Seeing, positioning of subject. Very well done.
	Golden Gate Bridge ...	1st Place	Not an easy shot in the fog. Fortuitous Paddler. Excellent
			General note: Again, some great photographers in this group. It must be a challenge to select 'A' vs 'AA' members.

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AA Nature			
	A common European honeybee		Nice nature story.
	A mother & baby gray whale		Nicely positioned.
	Buttercups....		Lovely idea
	Snowy Egret		Sharp, well positioned
	Butterfly....		Nice depth of field, nice catch light
	Marmot ...		Nicely positionwed with rock opening curving around the Marmot. Wish for a little more catch light....
	A Pair of CA Condors...		Amazing moment
	Put your left foot...	3rd HM	Titles must be serious in Nature competition. Very well done
	Sunning Painted Turtle	2nd HM	Nice light, position, leading lines Very well done.
	Desert Paintbrush	1st HM	Depth of field, lighting, just lovely
	American Alligator	3rd Place	Good seeing, lighting, just great
	Snowy Egret ...	2nd Place	Lovely soft light, nicely positioned
	Cloaked Owl	1st Place	Tilt of the head, even the pinecone nicely positioned to tell sense of place and perfectly matches the title...Congratulations!
			General Note: These images reflect some experienced photographers ...hope you can move to 'A' soon... Good luck!

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AA Travel			
	Trail of Fog Yosemite		Nice idea, but Yosemite is hard because so many people shoot it that any shot from there must have just the right light and be sharp. Perhaps 5 minutes earlier or later would have added some light to the rocks.
	Mt. Shasta & Lavender...		Shooting Mt. Shasta is always tricky because of the high contrast differences. Lowering the tripod/camera would sharpen the front lavender bushes giving a more dramatic image.
	Nubble Lighthouse...	3rd Place	High contrast is a challenge here but nicely positioned.
	Gordes Provence	2nd Place	Interesting village.
	Place Stanislas Nancy	1st Place	Composition is everything and moving to the left or right might provide lamposts that are not so centered.
			General note: In all honesty, all these shots are 'record' shots. They all need more thought, just lowering the camera or moving left or right or just thinking about what story you want to tell would help. I'm glad you took these images, but now it's time to expand your skills, so that's next years challenge!

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Group	Title	Score	Comments
AA Creative			
	Koi Pond Fanatasy		Nice position of the water lilies. Would prefer the Koi to be further from center. Nice idea
	Summer Fawn in Wildflowers		Nice effect of the fawn blending into the field. Would prefer the fawn in a powerpoint rather than dead center. Lovely soft results.
	Glow of Sunset on the Rocks		Nice painterly idea.
	Liquid Sunlight	3rd Place	Interesting and successful idea.
	Day Dreams	2nd Place	Fun and creative idea. Next time, back off so there is more open space... just a smidge....
	The Window	1st Place	Nice positioning of everything. Red makes all the difference here. Congratulations!

Note: Small submissions were not awarded HMs.