

PADRE TRAILS CAMERA CLUB
Group AA

Pictorial Competition #3 "Portrait"
March 31, 2013

1. A Tender Moment

The title says it all. The photo appears to be just a little dark, but hard to tell on monitor. I would crop it closer and vertically as the tree branch on the top of the door pulls the viewer's eye away. This is really not a portrait.

2. Bite Me

I like the pose and the color of the tattoos with the color of the background. The moisture on the forehead is washed out and pulls you away from his eyes. Could easily be cloned in Photo Shop.

3. Farley

A well-done Black and White portrait with good exposure. The nose is nice and sharp.

4. Gretchen's Easter Haircut - 2007

A very nice outdoor portrait; if possible I would have moved the chair further away from the background, so it is more out of focus. The background is very colorful, but is distracting. A diffuser here would have worked miracles. I do like how you did not get reflections in her glasses.

5. Happy Cub Scout

Very nice side lighting, I like the pose. I might crop just a little more on the right. A reflector would have brought a little more light on the right side of his face.

6. Heather

The cropping and composition is very good, but the left eye is a little out of focus. The cup on the right distracts me so I would crop it out or clone it out. The highlights on her hair distract me also.

7. In Another World

Love the lighting and the Black and White portrait. On my monitor the right side of the face is just slightly washed out. I would have stopped down a little bit more and increase the depth of field and bring the right eye into focus.

8. Japanese Kingfisher

A very colorful bird picture, I like to color in the background. Looks like you had to enlarge it to get the right crop that gives the picture too much grain and it appears overexposed.

9. Look Me in the Eyes

Very nice studio portrait, I like the soft lighting. The red contrasts nicely with the dark background. I like how you cropped it.

10. Mina Emerging

Very well done portrait of Mina. The focus is sharp and I like the back lighting. The veil partly covering the face gives a mystique to the picture. I think you could improve your image significantly by toning down the highlights on her forehead. This can be done with the spot healing brush in Photoshop, NIK's Viveza or Portrait Professional.

11. Mina Unveiled

Another nice portrait of Mina, the exposure is good with nice highlights on the hair. Your lighting here is beautiful. I might have left a little more of the top of the head in the crop.

12. Officer Grasmuck, CHP

I really like the idea and composition of the picture. If possible I would have tried to change the position of the car, or angle of the camera, so the blue of the sky is gone. It pulls your eye away. I might have tried to use a reflector or fill flash to decrease the shadows of the door.

13. Portrait of a Pelican

A great pelican shot, I like how you cropped it. Very good exposure, the pelican's feathers have a wide range of color and contrast that you captured well. A catch light in the eye would have been a nice touch.

14. Quadruplet Flower Girls

Very nice group portrait, I really like the lighting and the saturation of the colors. It is very difficult working with a group of children to get them to all stand still and straight and not blink. If possible I would have moved the children closer to the middle so the yellow and orange flowers are not showing. It pulls your eyes away from the faces. But I still like it - well done.

15. R.J. and Zach

Great idea for a portrait, a little humor is great and tells a nice story. Good exposure but I wish you had all of the little boys hand in the image..

16. Ray Magsalay, Artist

A nicely lit and well-composed portrait; I would clone out the white reflection on the nose and with Viveza brought a little more light to the area above his nose. But very well done.

17. Reflections of a Cowboy

This portrait reminds me of a 1930's western painting. I would like to see a little more of his hands as it appears he might be holding a rope. Great idea, nicely done as it tells a story.

18. Rolleiflex

Boy, this picture sure brings back memories. The focus is sharp with a great background that contrasts nicely with the black camera. It would be interesting to see this done in black and white. But I don't think this qualifies as a portrait.

19. Rufous Hummingbird Immature Male

Humming birds are very hard to capture. Very good exposure and it has nice background color. The picture appears a little soft and you need a catch light in its' eye.

20. Sam's Watching Me

I like how the picture is cropped and the side lighting is very nice. The left side appears slightly out of focus, as you have lost detail of the dogs fur. Your depth of field is a little shallow a different f stop would have helped.

21. Stella

A very nice Black & White animal portrait, I like how it is cropped. The contrast is a little flat and the eyes are just slightly out of focus.

22. Steve

Very nice studio portrait. It is well lit and nicely cropped. The black contrasts well with background. Excellent job. Good Rembrandt lighting.

23. Tatianna 1

I like the pose, but the hair in the photo appears a little dark, as I can't see the detail. The sheen on her forehead should be removed.

24. Tatianna 2

This portrait is well lit and nicely composed. You can see the texture of the hair in this one.

25. Tatianna 3

I like the idea of the orchid in the hair, but the angle of the picture makes the orchid appear to be growing out of the head. Either change the camera angle or move the head more to her left. Again watch the sheen on her forehead.

26. The Leaner

Nicely done outdoor portrait, it appears to be just a little dark. I would crop out the right side so he is not in the middle of the picture.

27. The Parade

A nice group portrait, but you have a lot going on in this picture. I would crop it on the right up to the first umbrella, as the front four women are your strongest subjects. The lady on the left has half her face covered by the other's umbrella.

28. What do you Mean, "Say cheese"

A very pleasing dog portrait, I like how you cropped it, excellent exposure.

29. Wilder Ranch Cat

This cat portrait is nicely composed; I like how it is cropped. You have a wide exposure range in this picture that is hard to completely capture. The far right of the cat appears to be slightly washed out. Fill flash would have helped here.

HM #16 Ray Magsalay, Artist

Jim Lambert

HM #05 Happy Cub Scout

Joni Zabala

HM #24 Tatianna 2

Jeff Hobbs

3 rd Place	#9 Look Me in the Eyes	Chris Johnson
2 nd Place	#22 Steve	Jeff Hobbs
1 st Place	#10 Mina Emerging	Brooks Leffler