

## **Judges Comments:**

### **Group AA**

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#### **Black & White Images:**

##### **2nd Place – Voelkingen steel mill – Jared Ikeda**

Nice use of the archway to lead you into the buildings in the background. There is a lot of dark without much detail, would like to see more of the detail.

##### **1st Place – Witness Of Time - Elke Ikeda**

Nice use of space with the tree in the left third and branches filling in the space on the right. Good range of tones.

#### **Creative Images:**

Creative can mean many different things to many different people. To be a creative image you do not have to use Photoshop or some other program to add filters or alter the image, you can create creative images in the camera. But, to me there has to be some sort of alteration of reality.

##### **1st Place – The Stary eyes – Sylvia Gardner**

Great photograph. Nice sharp face and hand and that contracts well with the softness of the material. To my definition this barely qualifies for creative, but the way the model is surrounded by the material is a creative approach.

#### **Nature Images:**

##### **Looking for a Safe Place to Hide - Joel Gambord**

Good underwater image. Nice to have the colorful fish with a background that he can't really hide in, makes him stand out.

##### **Gaseous water droplets from geyser – Elke Ikeda**

Very different, for me, nature image, not something that I have ever seen before. The image is nice and sharp and the exposure handled well.

##### **2nd Place – Leporidae or Bunny – Sylvia Gardner**

The bunny is nice and sharp and stands out from the background well. I think I would have cropped in some to make him fill more of the frame, you would still have enough of the habitat.

##### **1st Place – Pelecanus occidentalis 'Outta my Way' – Carmay Knowles**

Image is nice and sharp, I was trying to figure out if it was oversharpened in Photoshop but believe that you just did a great job focusing. Caught at a great peak of action.

## **Pictorial Images:**

### **Reflections – Carmay Knowles**

This is a good idea but the image is really hard to read. I think there is just too much there and would be better with moving in on a set of leaves.

### **Rex – Sylvia Gardner**

Nice image of the cat, good light in the eyes, the black has some detail but is also losing some detail. I think I would have included a little more to the right and left a little off the left.

### **UCSF sunscreen – Elke Ikeda**

Interesting graphic image. It seems a little static to me, think I would have had the heavy piece go up at more of a diagonal.

### **Bridal dress twirl – Sylvia Gardner**

Good exposure of the white of the dress, you kept a lot of detail there. The background works well with the image. I would have liked to see both her face and feet.

### **Emergency Stairs, Queensway Station – Jennifer Berntsen**

Good graphic design. I like the play of the red against the white. It would have been nice to have a little more depth of field to get it all sharp.

### **Following History in a New Orleans Cemetery – Shelly Nemeth**

Good exposure and depth of field is also good. The inclusion of the person works well with the concept and gives it scale. Wish the red car wasn't there.

### **Playful Rocks in Arches NP – Rick Verbanec**

The person is nice to give scale to the image. Exposure in the shady areas look good, but the bright sunlit areas look overexposed to me.

### **Pipes – Jared Ikeda**

I like your crop, you have isolated the subject down to just what is important. Exposure looks just a little under to me giving the image a somewhat flat look.

### **HM – Roses are Red – Sylvia Gardner**

Nice and tight on the rose, good detail in the petals. I think I might have come in a little tighter ever, to take out the little pieces that don't belong to the rose.

### **HM – Evening Showers in California Desert – Rick Verbanec**

Nice crop on the image and I like that you have the horizon just a little lower than right in the middle. Good clouds and color in the sky.

### **3rd Place – Eye exam – Jared Ikeda**

Very good detail on this piece of equipment. You also have complete range from a good black to a good white. Symmetry is good.

### **2nd Place - Völklingen Steel Mill Exhibit – Elke Ikeda**

Really nice lines leading to the image in the background. I am curious as to if that was there, or you added it later. Good exposure and the depth of field is good. Minor thing I would do is to clone out the light at the top of the image, it calls for my attention.

**1st Place – Above Greenland – Elke Ikeda**

You have really conveyed the vastness and coldness of this place. The shadows really gives the image great texture and three dimensionality.

**Photojournalism Images:**

**1st Place – March on City Hall – Mayor Trying to Explain What Went Wrong – Joel Gambord**

The image is exposed well and there is good depth of field. The action is easy to spot and I think the background supports the subject.

**Travel Images:**

**2nd Place – New Zealand – 12 Pounds of New Virgin Wool – Coming Up – Joel Gambord**

I know there are only two images in this group but I feel they are both worthy of an award. Image shows the culture that is in New Zealand. This is something that is a big part of their livelihood. Great exposure and placement within the frame.

**1st Place - Basilica Side Isle of Cistercian Monastery Eberbach Germany – Elke Ikeda**

This is typical architecture in Europe and certainly qualifies for Travel. The lighting is beautiful and the point of view is great. I like what you have included and most likely you cropped out things that wasn't part of the story.