

## Judges Comments: Group AAA

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### Black & White Images:

#### **3rd Place – Boy at Aquarium – Tom Mcmillin**

Background handled nicely. Like the fact that he isn't looking directly into the camera. Image seems a bit centered and a little flat. Would like a glint in the eyes.

#### **2nd Place – Bodie Buildings – Jeff Silvera**

Nice foreground element and really like the shadow. Good range of tone. The building on the right seems like it pulls me away from the main scene, I would probably crop it out.

#### **1st Place – Vintage Audi Racer – Jerry Heisel**

Love the way the car just looks like it is ready to pop off the screen. It carries the feel of metal. Great dark background to make the car really stand out.

### 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.

#### **Boy in a Temple Window – Bruce Mcinnis**

Interesting image and breaking up the pattern of the dark wall and light windows with the boy standing there adds a lot of interest. But, for me, I don't see where reality has been altered.

#### **1st Place – Tour Eiffel – Bruce Mcinnis**

Definitely the reality of the Eiffel Tower has been altered. Unique view and with some sort of filter or process added. Good lines and interest.

### Nature Images:

#### **Negella – Jerry Heisel**

Lovely flower and the flower is nice and sharp with good exposure. Background handled nicely. A little too centered for me.

#### **Escaping Buck – Jerry Heisel**

Yes, I can see that the Buck is escaping. The image is not sharp enough for me.

#### **2nd Place – Fly drinking nectar – Nicole Asselborn**

Nice image and the fly is doing something. Background handled well. Exposure on the white is very good. Fly nice and sharp.

**1st Place – Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) Duckling Swimming on El Estero – William Brown**  
Beautiful catch of the Mallard Duckling. Image is perfectly sharp, reflection good, nice catch light in the eye and the smooth water makes the duckling stand out really well.

#### **Pictorial Images:**

**Caught in the Waterfall – Elke Ikeda**

The leaf is at a good point in the image. Exposure looks pretty good but I would prefer it a little darker.

**Glacier Bay Alaska**

Very monochromatic image. Almost the same amount of the image is given to the sky and the water with the land running through the middle. I think I would prefer a little less water.

**Raindrops on Clover – Tom Mcmillin**

The raindrops on the main clover is really nice but the drops in the background have basically turned into white spots. I think I would have cropped in on the main clover and darkened down the background.

**Degas's Dancer – Jerry Heisel**

Exposure on the dancer is good and even the exposure on the background is good. It would have been nice if there had been more people interested in the dancer than just a background crowd.

**Sunrise in Pacific Grove – Jeff Silveira**

Beautiful sunrise with a nice glow on the water. Too bad there isn't a little more detail in the dark foreground. I think I would have cropped a lot of that dark foreground out.

**Tulips Bilbao – Jerry Heisel**

Very colorful image, good placement in the frame. I think the background could be a little darker.

**HM – Busted in Hollywood – David Clarkson**

Good graphics leading into the people, works well in black and white. Kinda wish I could see both faces.

**3rd Place – Shiny Red Car – William Brown**

Nice and tight in the red car. Good rich colors. Exposure is good and depth of field is good.

**2nd Place – Hot Rod Heaven – Cath Tender-Valencia**

Good point of view for this car shot. Title is very appropriate. I think I could have cropped out the little bits of dark at the bottom of the image.

**1st Place – Aquarium Fish – William Brown**

Good exposure and placement within the frame. Nice rich colors. I like the fact that you moved in and just showed part of the fish rather than the whole thing.

### **Photojournalism Images:**

#### **1st Place – First, Second, Third – Jerry Heisel**

This is a great PJ shot, caught right at the peak of action, super sharp and the exposure is spot on. I don't see how it could have been done any better.

### **Travel Images:**

#### **Schools Out, Bhutan – Betsy Collins**

Works well as a Travel image. Exposure is good on the inside of the bridge, the outside is on the bright side and could be toned down. This image shows similarities and differences that exist around the world.

#### **Surging Waters below Sahalle Falls, Oregon – Rod Heywood**

Nice rich greens and brown and the white in the water still has some detail. I think I would have used either a faster or slower shutter speed. At this shutter speed the foreground water appears out of focus.

#### **2nd Place – Venice Canal Los Angeles - William Brown**

Nice pleasant travel scene. Everything is nice and sharp and the image invites you into it. The sky doesn't have much texture but the color adds interest.

#### **1st Place – Old Woman Sapa Vietnam – Lillie Grossman**

Some would say that a close-up image of a person is no longer acceptable in Travel by PSA rules, but I don't agree with that. I think this is a great Travel image it comes across to me as the characteristic look of someone from Vietnam. Great image.