

**PTCC-2018 – BLACK & WHITE  
GROUP A**

*62 images from 24 members*

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**01 - A coneflower memory.jpg**

*Wonderful tonality. Great bokeh. Backlighting along edge of stem is very pleasing. Area to left of flower could be cropped down just a bit.*

**02 - A doll's favorite story.jpg**

*Wonderful facial expression on little girl. Great details. Overall could be just a bit brighter and a little more contrast.*

**03 - a graceful curve of the trumpeter swan's neck.JPG**

*Interesting composition. Nice blurred background. Overall would be more impactful if just a bit sharper.*

**04 - A Point in Time.jpg**

*Unusual, interesting composition. Just a little bit more contrast would give greater impact to the image.*

**05 - a sacred datura blossom.JPG**

*Excellent close-up focus. Water droplets are perfect. Stark black background is especially noteworthy.*

**06 - Australian Emu.jpg**

*Great photo—really captures the character of the bird. Excellent bokeh.*

**07 - Barn Owl (Tyto alba) in Black and White.jpg**

*Exquisite detail and tonality. Gorgeous bokeh.*

**08 - Barry ("The Fish") Melton, Country Joe and the Fish, 1968.JPG**

*The musicians facial expression says it all. More sharpness and contrast would make it more impactful. Blown-out highlights distract.*

**09 - BIG SUR COAST.jpg**

*The lighthouse adds a fitting touch to the "mood" of this image. If possible, just a bit more contrast would increase the drama.*

**10 - Black and White and Black and White.jpg**

*Unusual and interesting "structured abstract" composition. Evokes curiosity about this approach.*

**11 - Bottles on a Shelf.jpg**

*Chosen for 3rd Place in this group. Warm, inviting, wistful mood. Outstanding detail and tonality. Nicely balanced composition.*

**12 - Cape Buffalo in Chobe.jpg**

*Good composition that captures the essence of this animal.*

**13 - Days End.jpg**

*Excellent tonal range and well balanced composition.*

**14 - Descending Staircase.jpg**

*Unusual composition adds to the overall quality of this image. Great detail and excellent tonal range.*

**15 - Egret in a tree.jpg**

*Chosen for honorable mention in this group. Outstanding tonal range and well composed. Stunning level of detail throughout the image. Very effective use of shallow depth of field.*

**16 - Elephant Ear Plant - Alocasia amazonil.jpg**

*Well composed and strong use of contrast. Excellent detail.*

**17 - fire.jpg**

*Unique, skillful capture. Stunning detail!*

**18 - Firehole Falls.jpg**

*Beautiful soft water effect with excellent tonal range.*

**19 - Fireworks by the Bay.jpg**

*Well done, with surprising amount of tonal range considering the conditions.*

**20 - GHOST GOOSE.jpg**

*Interesting capture. Perhaps a bit more contrast would increase the impact.*

**21 - High Key Daisy.jpg**

*Chosen for 2nd Place in this group. Beautiful, subtle high-key capture. Wonderful lighting, fits the subject nicely.*

**22 - Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.jpg**

*Great sense of place and time. Excellent tonal ranges.*

**23 - Kingman mailboxes.jpg**

*Very "Ansel Adams" like in tonal range and overall feel. Excellent composition and stunning depth of field.*

**24 - leaves and cobbles.jpeg**

*Interesting composition with nice details.*

**25 - Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health.jpg**

*Unusual subject captured in a way that emphasizes its uniqueness. Well done.*

**26 - lunch with dad.jpg**

*Outstanding image with priceless expressions by both subjects. Excellent details and strong use of large depth of field.*

**27 - Masks.jpg**

*Great tonal range, interesting composition.*

**28 - Mommy Dearest.jpg**

*Dark and haunting image. Technically well done.*

**29 - New Kitten.jpg**

*Facial expressions like this tell the story. A bit more sharpness would make this a more compelling image. Nicely composed.*

**30 - Old Genoa house.jpg**

*Chosen for honorable mention in this group. Lot's of work on capturing the tonal range of this subject is evident—very well done.*

**31 - Old steam engine.jpg**

*Strong, well done image. Excellent tonal range. Out-of-focus area in lower right is a distraction.*

**32 - REAR VIEW .jpg**

*Interesting approach—sharper focus and perhaps just a bit more contrast would greatly add to overall impact.*

**33 - Red Tail Hawk, Merced Wildlife Refuge.jpeg**

*Stunning image with excellent detail and tonal range.*

**34 - Rock On.jpg**

*Excellent detail (sharpness). A bit more contrast might soften the overall effect.*

**35 - Sculpting Horse's Eye-.jpg**

*Very powerful image. Would have more impact if hand was also in focus.*

**36 - Shadows on the wall.jpg**

*Interesting image. Perhaps just a bit of darkening on the crows would add to the overall impact.*

**37 - Soledad Mission Bell.jpg**

*Chosen for honorable mention in this group. Very strong image with excellent detail, good composition and tonality.*

**38 - strausburg reflection.jpg**

*Beautiful image with wonderful tonal range. Perhaps seeing just a tiny bit of the actual buildings would add to the overall composition.*

**39 - Surfer with Curl.jpg**

*Spectacular image that captures the moment. Just a bit more contrast or perhaps a gradient mask to expand the tonality would make it stronger.*

**40 - The Game.jpg**

*Well composed image. Excellent lighting. Just a little less sepia would make it more pleasing to the eye.*

**41 - The real Santa?.jpg**

*The facial expressions of all three subjects are priceless. Fantastic detail and tonal range. Couldn't be better.*

**42 - They don't make horns the way they used to.jpg**

*Interesting photo with excellent detail and tonality. Just right on the depth of field.*

**43 - Tybee Island Lighthouse, Georgia.jpg**

*Very strong image. The composition might be better if the pole were off to one side.*

**44 - Uluru at Sunset.jpg**

*Very sharp image with excellent depth of field. It could be improved by having something in the foreground to anchor it, or perhaps showing less of the grass by lowering the rock.*

**45 - Venice Carnivale.jpg**

*This image has excellent composition and tonality.*

**46 - Vine Huts at Fort Baker.jpg**

*Interesting subject matter. Darkening the foreground and perhaps lightening the trees in the background would make the huts stand out a bit more.*

**47 - Volklingen Steel Factory.jpg**

*Great depth of field with excellent detail and tonality—very rich. Would like to have seen it shot straight on rather than at an angle.*

**48 - Windows in Gruene, Texas.jpg**

*Wonderful image with rich, inviting tonality. Excellent composition.*

**49 - Wine Glasses on Display under Fluorescent Lights .jpg**

*Interesting image. The reflections in each wine glass tell a different story. Very nice tonality and depth of field.*

**50 - Winter Lily.jpg**

*Very good capture of a subject that has endless possibilities. Nicely anchored by the dark leaves. Wonderful tonality.*

**51 - Young Cowboy.jpg**

*Outstanding portrait. Very strong around the eyes. Even though the subject is looking at the camera, the image still has the feel of a candid shot. Great use of narrow depth of field.*

**52 - Yucca Plant, Joshua Tree National Park.jpg**

*Chosen as #1 for the group. Intriguing approach with outstanding tonality and sharpness.*

**53 - Yum.jpg**

*Wonderful portrait. Beautifully captures the eyes. Could benefit from just a bit more tonal range—perhaps lighten the face a tad.*

**54 - Empty Raspberry Hoop Houses.jpeg**

*Excellent depth of field—sharp focus from foreground to the clouds in the background. Good tonality. Composition might be more interesting if shot straight on rather than at an angle.*

**55 - Salinas Farm Fields Watered at Dawn.jpeg**

*Excellent tonality. The light on the hills in the background blends nicely into the clouds.*

**56 - Tree Fingers.jpeg**

*Nice pairing of the title and the subject. Wonderful capture of the tree's textures.*

**57 - After The Break.jpg**

*Very effective use of long exposure to soften the waves. Well composed with good tonality.*

**58 - Dania.jpg**

*Well done portrait with outstanding tonality. Strong capture of the subject's eyes.*

**59 - Mesquite Dune at Dawn.jpg**

*Unusual depiction of the dunes. Strong tonal range. Composition might be improved by having less of the background mountains (crop from the top and from the left?)*

**60 - Sanded Fender and Headlight.jpg**

*Excellent tonal range; strong details (sharpness); good depth of field. Might be more impactful if taken straight on rather than at an angle.*

**61 - Stair and Shadows.jpg**

*Wonderful use of opposing patterns. Well composed. Tonal range could be improved by lightening the mortar between the bricks.*

**62 - The Path.jpg**

*Stunning capture with outstanding tonal range. The only area for improvement*

*might be to lighten the sand on the path. Well done overall.*

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## **Winning Images:**

*1st Place: #52—Yucca plant*

*2nd Place: #21—High key daisy*

*3rd Place: #11—Bottle on Shelf*

*Honorable Mention: #15—Egret*

*Honorable Mention: #30—Old Genoa House*

*Honorable Mention: #37—Soledad Mission Bell*