



01 - A Butte at Ghost Ranch, NM.jpeg

Duane Peterson

Image would benefit from more contrast. As it is presented, it seems to be diminished by the flat appearance. Contrast might make a big difference...darken the corners slightly and the subject will be more pronounced.

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02 - A Narrow Escape .jpg

Kent Van Vuren

Good action capture and focus is excellent



03 - Autumn color.jpg

Jared Ikeda

Image feels a little overly saturated and very dark in the upper corner. When I began in digital work I was advised that the one of the things to watch for was over saturation of the image. The other piece of advice was to be mindful and not over sharpen. I think if the saturation in this image were a little bit less, and the corner tight side shadows opened a little, it might work better.

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04 - Barnacled Whale.jpg

Chyrl Light

I think what is missing is either a front end, or a tail.

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05 - Bathing Bison in Yellowstone.jpg

Rick Verbanec

I think if you had focused successfully on the eye of the bison, the image would be stronger.



06 - Bison (Bison boson) Brawl in Yellowstone NP.jpg

Carol Fuessench

The bison in the upper part of this image is distracting from the battle of the two subjects. If you can blur it out it might work better.



07 - Brown pelican Pelicanus Occidentalis.jpg

Nicole Asselborn

Great placement of the pelican in the image.

Lots of room to fly. Maybe, a little tighter crop would make the pelican larger in the image and make a stronger presentation.

Your focus is right on



08 - California striped racer (Masticophis lateralis).jpg

Cliff Halverson

Good capture of the snake and more like a portrait than an action shot.



09 - Coastal Jelly Fish.jpg

Rick Thau

Jelly fish are difficult to capture. You did a good job with this keeping almost the entire movement in the image. I have shot a lot of jellyfish and thrown away a ton of images. Always feels so good to get one that works well.



10 - Crimson columbine (Aquilegia formosa).jpg

Cliff Halverson

Selective focus with the background blurred helps this image. Maybe even darkening it in the lower half would help the presentation of the subject. At first glance, the focus seems a little soft. However, after looking hard at it, it probably is in good focus. Conclusion is that maybe the image is just a bit too busy with background.

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11 - Florida Jelly (aurelia aurita) rests on beach.jpg

Shelley Nemeth

Interesting jelly fish. I have never seen this one before.



12 - Great blue heron fishing Ardea herodias.jpg

Nicole asselborn

Beautiful shot of the heron and nicely placed in the frame. Sharp all the way around the bird.



13 - Hummingbird (Selasphorus scintilla) Lands on a Branch During a Rain Storm.jpg

Carol Fuessench

A little movement in the wings might make the shot more dramatic and realistic as we hardly ever see a hummingbird with its wings in one position.



14 - Larus Livens, aka Yellow Footed Gull (1 of 1).jpg

Janet Azevedo

Someone is getting yelled at and this makes a very good action shot of the gulls. Nice lines in the image and it works well.



15 - Liquidambar seed not COVID.jpg

Jared Ikeda

Beautiful closeup of the seed. Maybe a little too bright on the right hand side....



16 -Monarchs in Daisy Tree.jpg

Elke Ikeda

Lovely image of the butterflies and the flowers. I like this image and by shooting it with the diagonal line, it makes the image work well.



17 - Mushroom in the forest.jpg

Florian Brennenstuhl

I guess my first thought is that you don't need the sky since it is white....so, you could crop down a good third of this image. Or, you could just crop all of the green out and just focus on the mushroom. Then, you could concentrate on the mushroom and make it a more powerful presentation. I would crop a little off the right side and make that entire image. The leaves are in focus and the little mushroom on the left would be ok. Give it a try.

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18 - Nature's Artwork (1 of 1).jpg

Janet Azevedo

This is a good idea, but, it needs to be worked a little differently. Maybe it could have been a vertical with a long leading line to the water.

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19 - Out for a swim_.jpg

Kent Van Vuren

This is a great catch of the subject and even though the raccoon is small in the image, it works well. Good focus on the face.



20 - Preening Pelican.jpg

Elke Ikeda

I would have loved to have seen the eye of this bird. Every other thing on the bird is in good focus and, maybe the eye is also. Hard to tell. Maybe punch up the image by more white (in RAW) for the fluff around the head and neck and open the shadow (in RAW) just enough to see the eye.



21 - Saguaro Cactus Skeleton.jpeg

Duane Peterson

Watch you edges....crop out the little bit on the left and try giving this image a bit more contrast to make it more dramatic.

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22 - Sunset among the cypress (Cupressus macrocarpa).jpg

Frank Penner

It appears that there might have been a gorgeous sky beyond the trees. I think if you had stepped back (if possible) and captured more of that sky and the maybe some of the tree the image might have worked better.

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23 - Tufa Towers of Mono Lake.jpg

Rick Verbanec

Nice capture of the tufa towers. Take the image back in RAW, if you shoot that way, and see if you can get a little more detail into the white portion of the sky. I tried idt with this image and using the highlight slider to the left was able to change the sky quite a lot and it helped to make the image much stronger.



24 - Wild teasel (Dipsacus fullonum).jpg

Frank Penner

Somehow, the teasel are lost with the background. Maybe shooting from a slightly different prospective might have helped. Move around the subject until you can find a position that gets what you are trying to achieve.

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25 - Yosemite Falls.jpg

Chryl Light

Crop out a lot of the blue sky. You don't need it to display the subject, which is the waterfall.: Next, go back to RAW and open the shadows a little and see if that and a little bit of contrast help the image. It is worth a try.

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26 - Young Deer Grazing at Pt. Cabrillo.jpg

Shelley Nemeth

A beautiful moment Nice placement in the image and the foreground leading up to the deer works very well.



27 - Young Penguin.jpg

Rick Thau

This works. It is a little weak but maybe a stronger crop would help. Making the subject larger would show it well and it is worth a try.

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Winning Images:

Honorable Mentions:

Out for a Swin
Kent Van Vuren



**Brown Pelican Pelicanus
occidentalis**
Nicole Asselborn



A Narrow Escape
Kent Van Vuren



Third Place:

Great blue heron fishing, *Ardea herodias*
Nicole Asselborn



2nd Place:

Monarch in Daisy Tree
Elke Ikeda



First Place:

Larus Livens, aka Yellow Footed Gull
Janet Azevedo

