



01 - A Tear for You.jpg

Bill Brown

Excellent in technical and artistic merit. Excellent framing
Wonderful emotion. DOF creates a strong visual focus
The soft light creates a mood and really works with the emotion
of the subject. There story telling is wonderful



02 - Arlington National Cemetery.jpg

Bill Shewchuk

Very good in technical and artistic merit. Well balanced framing
with great movement into the frame. The light adds to the power
and mood of the location. A slight improvement with cropping
from the bottom and leveling the horizon uses the frame more
effectively.

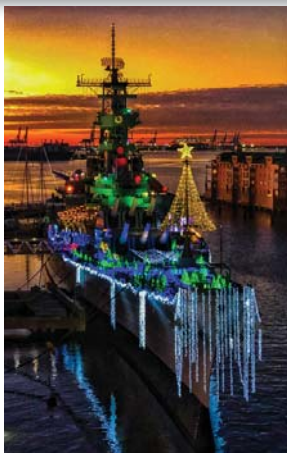


03 - Awaiting Christmas in Pacific Grove.jpg

David Thon

Acceptable in technical and artist merit. The lights have good
visual energy as a subject but they need some balance of tone
in the sky to add some depth to draw the viewer into the frame.
Neutralizing the White Balance creates a Cobalt sky which adds
depth to the image and the frame is not weighted so much to the
left side.

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04 - Battleship USS Wisconsin.jpg

Bill Shewchuk

Acceptable in technical and artist merit. This subject has many
visual and lighting conflicts. The color palette of the sunset is com-
peting with the lights on the battleship. Because both areas have
so much visual energy it is difficult for the viewer to settle in the
frame. A lower angle on the battleship possibly might have created
more separation from the sky.

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05 - Christmas In Central Park.jpg

Lillie Grossman

Acceptable in technical and artist merit. The frame has a lot going on and is difficult for the viewer's eye to settle down. A little darkening of the background in post could lessen the busyness of the trees. The white balance could be more neutral. The image does look over processed - there are 'greenish' artifacts in the white areas near the horse's legs. This comes from pushing the limit of the file. Hopefully this was shot in RAW you would have another 'bite' at the apple' to rework the image. **



06 - Christmas Ribbons.jpg

Mary Ann Avera

Acceptable in technical and artist merit. An artistic abstract like this is well designed but would benefit from richer color and would benefit from a boost in contrast. The viewer needs some energy to hold their interest. A 'Dehaze' adjustment in LR will accomplish that. Texture is good as well as the exposure. **



07 - Douglas Archers First Christmas.jpg

Jeff Hobbs

Very good in technical and artistic merit. Douglas Archer needs to be the focal point so the viewer goes directly to that great face. Cropping in tighter will take the viewer right to the eyes. The light works with the expression and really sets the mood.



08 - Gibson Beach.jpg

Jerry Loomis

Very good in technical and artistic merit. The body language creates the feeling of a dance. I might re-title this 'Gibson Beach Tango'. The area for improvement is in the color - the white balance needs to be neutralized to correct for the greenish cast most noticeable in the water.



09 - Holiday Windows in Pacific Grove.jpg

David Thon

Acceptable in technical and artist merit. The image would benefit from a more central visual focus. The points of interest are at the extreme left and right. A bit of burning and dodge in LR might bring out the windows at the sides and lessen the visual focus on the dark center door. Including some of the cropped out content could help. **



10 - Holidays At Home.jpg

Mary Ann Avera

Excellent in technical and artistic merit. This is a very well done studio style image. The colors and the contrast is excellent. The choice of the flowers in contrast to the greenery creates impact. The lighting shows the attributes of the flowers and holds the fine detail. Framing is well balanced.



11 - Kids in river.jpg

Jerry Loomis

Acceptable in technical and artist merit. The story of these 2 children is very subtle and thoughtful and the subject interaction is very good. The branch across the frame makes the viewer work to get to the subjects- it is too distracting - it breaks the viewers concentration.

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12 - Maybe This Wasn't Such A Good Idea After All.jpg

Chris Johnson

Acceptable in technical and artist merit. The color is good and has a rich feeling and the action is well frozen. The expressions on the faces is the story of this image. Unfortunately the POV doesn't drive the viewer to the faces. The viewer has to work too hard to get there.

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13 - Merry Covid Christmas.jpg

John Avera

Very good in technical and artistic merit. The framing, composition and center of interest is very strong and balanced in the frame. Just need an exposure adjustment - image is just a bit dark. The color gets livelier when opened up. Highlight detail will still hold



14 - On Dasher!.jpg

Lillie Grossman

Very good in technical and artistic merit. Great family portrait - very natural expressions. The lighting is soft and works well with the subjects. A little cropping from the right brings us back to the subjects - losing some of the props doesn't hurt the story. The brightness and size of the white area of background is competing for our attention - cropping will help there.



15 - Portrait of Six year old Scarlett in Denim and White Eyelet Dress .jpg

Judi H Clayton

Very good in technical and artistic merit. Subject looks very natural and has a natural expression. The lighting works with the subject - but also creates a sense of 'flare' and makes the image look less in focus than it should. A bit of 'Dehaze or Vibrance' adjustment in LR will bring back a sense of sharpness so the DOF of f/2.8 can work.



16 - Portrait of Six year old Scarlett in Leather Jacket.jpg

Judi H Clayton

Acceptable in technical and artist merit. This portrait is about the eyes. How can we get there? Cropping is one way - shooting tighter in the original is the better option. Lighting is soft but makes the first impression that the image is not sharp enough. A bit less fill light will bring out the dimension and make the image look sharper. Camera angle is a bit high - less of the forehead brings us into the eyes more.

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17 - Raylynn At Her Aunts Wedding.jpg

Jeff Hobbs

Very good in technical and artistic merit. The concept is great - blending color and B&W can be very exciting when done well. The exposure can be improved - it is a bit dark - there is still a lot of highlight detail to bring out. The color area will benefit from some increased brightness, also. The balance of color and B&W should work together - one should not be more dominant. Tonal range of the B&W is very good.



18 - Seaside Holiday Tree Mystery.jpg

Bill Brown

Acceptable in technical and artist merit. This is a difficult lighting/brightness situation. The lights need a visual balance to create depth in the frame. Opening up the shadows in post processing gives the image more dimension. The green of the tree gives the magenta in the lights a counterpoint as they are opposites on the color wheel. **



19 - Tiny Cowgirl.jpg

Chris Johnson

Very good in technical and artistic merit. Very good story telling. You can see the sense of wonder in the expression. The lighting compliments the subject. Tightening up the crop a bit from the left makes the frame more efficient and keeps the viewer's eye on the cowgirl.

Winning Images:

Honorable Mentions:

Tiny Cowgirl

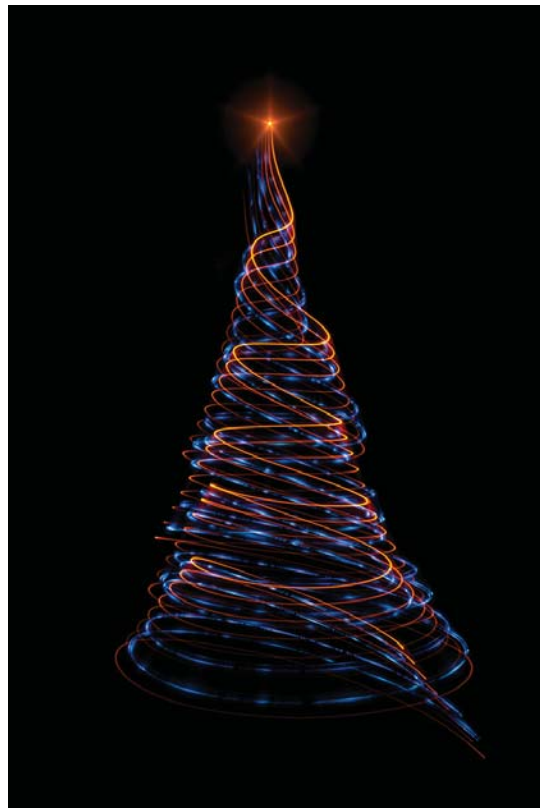
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Third Place:

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2nd Place:

Holidays At Home
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First Place:

A Tear for You
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