



Creative Image of the Year:

Lightning x 3

Steve Perkins

The choice between two images that both stood out was difficult. I chose this image because of the difficulty in capture. Not an easy shot ever. Well done. I like the way it is presented showing three different views of a scene with the lightning in several places. Just getting one capture of the lightning in itself is difficult and, getting three strikes is amazing. To acquire this this image deserves a lot of recognition. Excellent work..



Human Hand in Nature Image of the Year:

Redwing Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*)

John Drum

The colors of red and black are wonderful. Lucky in your capture you have a slight diagonal line with the fence enough to give it some sense of movement. The man-made post is a bit blown out, but that can be corrected in Photoshop. The bird is perfectly focused and the colors are brilliant.



**Nature Image of the Year:
Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*).**

John Drum

Great nature shot. A great Blue Heron with a fish that he has just captured..... It is always better to find animals or birds doing something rather than just posing. Not always easy and frankly, I would be happy to come home with whatever I could find. Much more difficult to find them in action, but, always worth the time and effort if you can do that.



**Pictorial Image of the Year:
The Viola Maker**

Andrea Madsen

This image captured all of my attention because of the absolute clutter of the entire workspace. So messy and full of things. And, we all know that these instruments can make the most beautiful music. Hard to believe it can be done with all of the chaos in the workplace. The dichotomy of the workspace and the delicate instrument being created makes this image a winner.



**Travel Image of the Year:
Visitors Enjoy Spring Blossoms in Huntington
Gardens, Pasadena, CA.**

Joni Zabala

Again, this category had two outright winners. This one won because it is stunning to look at. The people are looking out from a viewing platform. They are surrounded by trees of several colors perfectly embracing the scene. In viewing this print, you can begin at the platform and go up on the left side and all around the image and then, you come to the blossoming tree and down to the perfectly placed couple looking at something. The white coat and hat are the perfect ending place.