Open Nature - 11/20/2024

Judged by: Ray Hennessy





Meet Ray Hennessy

Ray Hennessy's fascination with nature photography began in 2007. Wildlife photography, with a focus on birds, has gone from a hobby to an equally passionate career. Ray spends much of his free time in natural areas searching for birds and any other wildlife that comes along. He concentrates on using creative natural lighting and interesting compositions to capture unique images of common and rare wildlife.

His favorite style is a more scenic photo that includes some of the habitat wildlife lives in. He also enjoys passing along the knowledge and experience that he has gathered over the years to other photographers who are eager to learn. Ray has had the privilege of working with students both in person and remotely from all over the world to help guide them and accelerate the techniques and refinement of their wildlife photography.

Shown here are the images submitted for this competition from all three groups, Blue, Green, and Red followed by Ray's selection for 1^{st} , 2^{nd} , 3^{rd} , and Honorable Mentions in each group.

Open Nature - 11/20/2024 - Group Blue Submissions





01 - Brandt's Cormorant (Phalacrocorax penicillatus)

Sara A Courtneidge

STAR RATING: 4



02 - Common Raven (Corvus corvax)

Sara A Courtneidge

STAR RATING: 4



03 - Great Egret in Flight

Julie Chen



04 - Half dome

Lillie Grossman

STAR RATING: 3



05 - Japanese White-eye in Plum flowers.

Julie Chen

STAR RATING: 4



06 - Long-billed curlew (Numenius americanus)

Ken Jones



07 - Male and Female Golden-browed Chlorophonia

John Drum

STAR RATING: 3



08 - $Mom\ and\ Baby\ White-faced\ Capuchin$

John Drum

STAR RATING: 3



09 - Mono Lake in May

Bill Brown



10 - Mt Whitney from Alabama HillsLillie GrossmanSTAR RATING: 4



11 - Nowhere, CaliforniaBill BrownSTAR RATING: 3



12 - Portrait of a Raven (Corvas corax)Carol SilveiraSTAR RATING: 4



13 - Resting Marbled Godwit (Limosa fedoa)

Chris Johnson

STAR RATING: 3



14 - Sandhill Crane Colt Stretching Its Wings Chris Johnson

STAR RATING: 3



15 - Sleeping Sea Lions (Zalophus Family Otariidae)

Carol Silveira



16 - Western Sandpiper Grouping (Calidris mauri)

Ken Jones

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Top Three Winners - Blue Group



First Place - Sleeping Sealions

Carol Silveira



Second Place - Common Raven Sara A Courtneidge



Third Place - Great Egret in Flight Julie Chen

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Winning Images Group Blue Honorable Mentions





Brandt's Cormorant Sara A Courtneidge

Japanese White-eye in Plum flower
Julie Chen



Mt Whitney from Alabama Hills Lillie Grossman

Open Nature - 11/20/2024 - Green Group Submissions

Judged by: Ray Hennessy





01-Baboon (Papio ursinus) Grooms Juvenile

Joni Zabala

STAR RATING: 3



02-Colors of Asilomar
Carol Fuessenich

STAR RATING: 3



03-Comet Suchinshan, Atlas A3

Jeff Hobbs



04-Coyote (Canis latrans) in Yosemite
Sandie McCafferty
STAR RATING: 4



05-Gull Feather in Gut Weed
Sandie McCafferty
STAR RATING: 4



06-Honey Bee Gathers Pollen from Prolific Sunflower

Joni Zabala



07-Lizard of Carizzo Plains

Carol Fuessenich

STAR RATING: 2



08-Pelican Dive Bomber

Jared Ikeda

STAR RATING: 1



09-Porodisculus pendulus Mushrooms

Bill Shewchuk



10-Ragweed at Fort OrdJared Ikeda

STAR RATING: 5



11-Red and Orange Sunset

Brian Spiegel

STAR RATING:4



12-Red Maple, Acer rubrum

Charlie Gibson



13-Red-billed Hornbill (Tockus erthrorhynchus) Takes Flight

Karen Schofield

STAR RATING: 4



14-South African small-spotted Genet (Genetta felina) inside Tree Burrow

Karen Schofield

STAR RATING: 4



15-Tasmanian Devil Bill Shewchuk



16-Western Grebes Rushing

Jeff Hobbs

STAR RATING: 3



17-Wooded Scene

Brian Spiegel

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Top Three Winners - Green Group



First Place - 10-Ragweed at Fort Ord Jared Ikeda



Second Place - 12-Red Maple, Acer rubrum Charlie Gibson



Third Place - 14-South African small-spotted Genet (Genetta felina) inside Tree Burrow Karen Schofield

Judged by: Ray Hennessy



Honorable Mention - Green Group



05-Gull Feather in Gut Weed Sandie McCafferty



04-Coyote (Canis latrans) in Yosemite Sandie McCafferty

Open Nature - 11/20/2024 - Red Group Submissions

Judged by: Ray Hennessy





01-Alium Globemaster

Dick Light

STAR RATING: 3







03-Baby Leopard in a tree in Kruger South Africa Sept 2024

Rick Thau



04-Bambi Closeup

Don Eastman

STAR RATING: 2



05-Bittersweet
Andrea Madsen
STAR RATING: 1



06-Coyote at rest - Canis latrans

Brooks Leffler



07-Erigeron in Field of Golden Grasses

Elke Ikeda

STAR RATING: 2



08-Fall Splendor at the Pinnacles

Elke Ikeda

STAR RATING: 3



09-Giraffe in Kruger South Africa Sept 2024

Rick Thau



10-Grizzley in Denali Natl. Park

Don Eastman

STAR RATING: 3



11-Pelicans

Fernando Ibanez

STAR RATING: 3



12-River Slalom to Little Qualicum Falls

Rick Verbanec



13-Sacred Lotus in South Korea

Andrea Madsen

STAR RATING: 3



14-Sleepy Seal - Phoca vitulina

Brooks Leffler

STAR RATING: 3

15-St Mary Lake Spring

R D Verbanec





16-White Tailed Kite

Dick Light

STAR RATING: 4



17-Woodie the Wood Duck

Jerry Loomis

STAR RATING: 3



18-Young Kite

Jerry Loomis

Open Nature - 11/20/2024

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Top Three Winners - Red Group



First Place - St Mary Lake Spring Rick Verbanec



Second Place - White Tailed Kite Dick Light



Third Place - River Slalom to Little Qualicum Falls Rick Verbanec



Honorable Mention - Red Group



Sacred Lotus in South Korea Andrea Madsen



Alium Globemaster Dick Light