Project

Photography

POST-SECONDARY

Post-Secondary Project

Orientation Information:

- **Competitor Orientation Date:** Wednesday, May 29 (Exact time still to be announced).
- **Hand In Pre-Assignment:** Submit your finished pre-assignment project to any member of the National Technical Committee. Ensure it's saved on a correctly labelled thumb drive, following the guidelines in Part 1.
- **Essential Equipment:**
  - Bring your camera and lighting gear.
  - Carry a pen and paper to take notes during orientation. Also, have these ready for information briefings just before the start of the competition on both days.
- **Documentation:**
  - Print copies of all competition documents or ensure easy access to electronic versions.
- **Technical Readiness:**
  - Ensure your computer is fully updated and functioning well. Verify that its technical specifications can efficiently handle large files in photo editing software.
  - **Recommended:** Ensure that your editing software is updated to its latest version for optimal performance.
- **Camera Settings Verification:**
  - Double-check that the date and time settings on your camera are accurate.

Part 1 (Pre-assignment):
Strobe Magic: Illuminating Contrasts - Due at the beginning of orientation
(2 photographs)

- Your task is to use the power of artificial lighting to transform an ordinary scene into an extraordinary visual narrative.
- **The theme for the contest is "The Human Connection".** You will explore the complexities and nuances of human relationships, emotions, expressions, and interactions in diverse settings.
- Competitors are required to capture their chosen subject(s) or scene in two contrasting ways. The first exposure should rely solely on the available ambient light in the surroundings during the time of capture. For the second exposure, competitors are required to replace the available ambient light entirely or partially with strobes or flashes.
- There should be a noticeable difference in the atmosphere, mood, and visual impact between the image taken with strobe(s)/flash(es) and the one without.
- The unlimited use of photo editing software is permitted.

- You are required to submit both photographs during the orientation session scheduled for May 29, 2024. Please ensure that you bring them on a thumb drive provided by you, which should bear the abbreviation for your province (e.g., "AB-PS" for Alberta (AB) and Post-Secondary (PS)).
- Each final photograph must have the same aspect ratio and orientation, meaning they should both be either horizontal or vertical, with identical pixel dimensions in both width and height.
- Each final photograph must be submitted in JPEG format with a precise dimension of 1920 pixels on its longest edge.
- Each final photograph must be in colour (no black and white, sepia, or any other creative tint effect).
- Keywords should not be applied to this assignment.
- Ensure that both final photographs are named in the following format:
  ProvincialAbreviation_LastName_part1_01.jpg
  ProvincialAbreviation_LastName_part1_02.jpg

Part 2:
Expose to The Right (in camera, no editing) – Due End of Day 1 (1 photograph)
- Competitors will be evaluated on their proficiency in using their camera equipment and settings.
- The photograph must be taken within the designated competition area (as defined during orientation) and during competition hours (8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Thursday, May 30).
- The use of any editing software is not permitted.
- Competitors are free to choose any subject they prefer for their photograph.
- Competitors must utilize one of the following camera modes: aperture priority, shutter priority, or manual mode.
- Keywords should not be applied to this assignment.
- The final photograph must be submitted in RAW format.
- It's important to be aware that the file extension for your submission will vary according to the brand and model of the camera you use. For instance, it may be *.CR2 for Canon, *.NEF for Nikon, or *.ARW for Sony.
- Ensure that the final photograph is named in the following format:
  ProvinceAbbreviation_Lastname_part2_01.RAW (your RAW postfix)

Part 3:
Mystery Object 1 - Due End of Day 1 (1 photograph)
- Competitors will be challenged to create a photograph with no preparation or foreknowledge of the subject.
- The mystery object will be revealed at the start of competition day one.
- The unlimited use of photo editing software is permitted.
- Competitors must use the mystery object as the main subject, or as a major contributing element to the main subject.

- The photograph must be taken within the designated competition area (as defined during orientation) and during competition hours (8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Thursday, May 30).
- For this assignment, use the following keywords: your last name, your province, post-secondary, part3, and mystery1.
- The final photograph must be submitted in JPEG format, with a precise dimension of 1920 pixels on its longest edge, and in the Adobe RGB 1998 colour space.
- Ensure that the final photograph is named in the following format: **ProvinceAbbreviation_Lastname_part3_01.jpg**

Part 4:
Photojournalistic Triptych – Due End of Day 1 (3 photographs)
- Competitors will create three distinct photographs, each featuring a different competitor, all captured in three separate competition areas.
- The photograph must be taken within the designated competition area (as defined during orientation) and during competition hours (8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Thursday, May 30).
- The unlimited use of photo editing software is permitted.
- All photographs must be captured with available light only.
- Keep in mind that the evaluation of this photographic triptych will primarily focus on its impact, originality, creativity, and adept utilization of available lighting.
- Competitors must request permission from a National Technical Committee member responsible for each designated competition area they choose to photograph.
- Before accessing any other competition areas, competitors must acquire the necessary safety equipment from the Safety Office.
- Each final photograph must have the same aspect ratio and orientation, meaning they must all be either horizontal or vertical, with identical pixel dimensions in both width and height.
- The 3-photograph series will be assessed as a unified collection, presented from left to right in the order of their respective numbers, for viewing, judging, and scoring.
- A single mark will be awarded for the entire set of three (3) photographs.
- For this assignment, use the following keywords: your last name, your province, post-secondary, photojournalism, and part4.
- All final photographs must be submitted in JPEG format, with a precise dimension of 1920 pixels on its longest edge, and in the Adobe RGB 1998 colour space.
- Ensure that all final photographs are named in the following format:
  ProvinceAbbreviation_Lastname_part4_01.jpg
  ProvinceAbbreviation_Lastname_part4_02.jpg
  ProvinceAbbreviation_Lastname_part4_03.jpg

Part 5:
Composite Shot – Due Day 1 (1 photograph)
- Competitors will create a single studio portrait featuring a model provided by the National Technical Committee.
- At the start of the competition on day one, competitors will be provided with one or more reference images to use as a guide. Your objective is to faithfully recreate one of these reference images.
- The sequence in which competitors gain access to the model will be determined through a random draw during the orientation session.
- Competitors will be allocated time for studio setup, a dedicated session with the model (approximately 20 minutes), followed by an opportunity to disassemble the studio, and time to post-process their final image.
- It's important to note that the specific allocated time for each segment may vary depending on the final number of competitors in the competition.
- The available studio space and equipment will include the following:
    - A seamless paper backdrop.
    - Three studio strobes equipped with a transmitter.
    - A range of light modifiers, such as softboxes and umbrellas.
    - Three light stands.
- Your photograph is to be captured in RAW format rather than JPEG. Following this, competitors will blend their original studio portrait with one or more images provided by the National Technical Committee to create a captivating and realistic composite photograph.
- The unlimited use of photo editing software is permitted.
- The final composite must be submitted in JPEG format, with a precise dimension of 1920 pixels on its longest edge, and in the Adobe RGB 1998 colour space.
- For this assignment, use the following keywords: your last name, your province, post-secondary, studio, and composite.
- Both the original RAW file and the final composite (JPEG) must be submitted.
- Please note that the file extension for the RAW file in this submission will depend on the brand and model of the camera you use (i.e., *.CR2/CR3 for Canon, *.NEF for Nikon, *.ARW for Sony).
- Ensure that both final photographs are named in the following format:
    ProvinceAbbreviation_Lastname_part5_01.jpg
    ProvinceAbbreviation_Lastname_part5_02.RAW (your RAW postfix)

Part 6:
Environmental Portrait of Model – Due Day 2 (2 photographs)

- Competitors will create a single environmental portrait featuring a model provided by the National Technical Committee.

- The use of mixed lighting, combining ambient and strobe lighting, is mandatory for this assignment, and competitors must provide their portable lighting equipment (required). While using modifiers for your lights, such as softboxes and umbrellas, is optional, it is strongly recommended.
- This photograph must be shot in RAW (not JPEG).
- The unlimited use of photo editing software is permitted.
- The sequence in which competitors gain access to the model will be determined through a random draw during the orientation session.
- Competitors will be allocated time for preparation (without a model), a dedicated session with the model lasting approximately 30 minutes, and a specific time allocation for post-processing their final images.
- It's important to note that the specific allocated time for each segment may vary depending on the final number of competitors in the competition, but the total time from start to finish will be approximately 90 minutes.
- Additional elements, such as props, can be incorporated into the photograph, as long as they are sourced from items available on-site during the competition.
- All photographs must be taken within the designated competition area (as defined during orientation) and during competition hours (8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Friday, May 31).
- The final retouched photograph must be submitted in JPEG format, with a precise dimension of 1920 pixels on its longest edge, and in the Adobe RGB 1998 colour space.
- For this assignment, use the following keywords: your last name, your province, post-secondary, environmental, and part6.
- Both the original RAW file and the final retouched file (JPEG) must be submitted.
- Please note that the file extension for the RAW file in this submission will depend on the brand and model of the camera you use (i.e., *.CR2/CR3 for Canon, *.NEF for Nikon, *.ARW for Sony).
- Ensure that both final photographs are named in the following format:
  ProvinceAbbreviation_Lastname_part6_01.jpg
  ProvinceAbbreviation_Lastname_part6_02.RAW (your RAW postfix)

Part 7:
Personal Project Triptych – Due End of Day 2 (3 photographs)
- Competitors must create a series of 3 thematically related photographs.
- The theme for this project will be revealed during orientation.
- All photographs must be taken within the designated competition area (as defined during orientation) and during competition hours (8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Friday, May 31).
- The unlimited use of photo editing software is permitted.
- Each final photograph must have the same aspect ratio and orientation, meaning they must all be either horizontal or vertical, with identical pixel dimensions in both width and height.

- The 3-photograph series will be assessed as a unified collection, presented from left to right in the order of their respective numbers, for viewing, judging, and scoring.
- A single mark will be awarded for the entire set of three (3) photographs.
- All final photographs must be submitted in JPEG format with a precise dimension of 1920 pixels on their longest edge.
- For this assignment, use the following keywords: your last name, your province, post-secondary, personal project, and part7.
- Ensure that all final photographs are named in the following format:
  ProvinceAbbreviation_Lastname_part7_01.jpg
  ProvinceAbbreviation_Lastname_part7_02.jpg
  ProvinceAbbreviation_Lastname_part7_03.jpg

Part 8:
Mystery Object 2 – Due End of Day 2 (1 Image)
- Competitors will be challenged to create a photograph with no preparation or foreknowledge of the subject.
- The mystery object will be revealed at the start of competition day two.
- The unlimited use of photo editing software is permitted.
- Competitors must use the mystery object as the main subject, or as a major contributing element to the main subject.
- The photograph must be taken within the designated competition area (as defined during orientation) and during competition hours (8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Friday, May 31).
- For this assignment, use the following keywords: your last name, your province, post-secondary, part8, and mystery2.
- The final photograph must be submitted in JPEG format, with a precise dimension of 1920 pixels on its longest edge, and in the Adobe RGB 1998 colour space.
- Ensure that the final photograph is named in the following format:
  ProvinceAbbreviation_Lastname_part8_01.jpg

Part 9:
Portrait Editing – Due end of Day 2 (1 photograph)
- Competitors will be tasked with enhancing a portrait photograph provided by the NTC, transforming it into a well-edited image, all starting from a common base.
- All competitors will use the same original photograph.
- The final version must remain in full colour (no sepia, duotone, B&W, etc.).
- The unlimited use of photo editing software is permitted.
- The final photograph must be submitted in JPEG format, with a precise dimension of 1920 pixels on its longest edge, adhering to an 8 by 10 aspect ratio, and in the Adobe RGB 1998 colour space.
- Keywords should not be applied to this assignment.

- Ensure that the final photograph is named in the following format:
  ProvinceAbbreviation_Lastname_part9_01.jpg

Part 10:
Entire Portfolio
- THERE IS NO NEED TO SUBMIT ANYTHING HERE. We already have all the necessary photographs from the previous nine parts.
- The entire body of work will be reviewed for quality, style, and consistency.
- Each competitor's images (16 total) will be displayed on a screen at 1 time and judged as a collective.

OVERALL BREAKDOWN

Assignment	Due
Part 1: Part 1: Strobe Magic: Illuminating Contrasts - 2 Photographs	Orientation
Part 2: Expose to the Right - 1 photograph	End of Day 1
Part 3: Mystery Object 1 - 1 photograph	End of Day 1
Part 4: Photojournalistic Triptych - 3 photographs	End of Day 1
Part 5: Composite Image - 2 photograph	Day 1 - Specific Time TBD
Part 6: Environmental Portrait - 2 photographs	Day 2 - Specific Time TBD
Part 7: Personal Project Triptych - 3 photographs	End of Day 2
Part 8: Mystery Object 2 - 1 photograph	End of Day 2
Part 9: Portrait Editing - 1 photograph	End of Day 2
Part 10: Entire Portfolio (No submission required)	End of Day 2

Total Submissions:
Submissions - Orientation: 2 photographs
Submissions - Day 1: 7 photographs
Submissions - Day 2: 7 photographs

Total Submissions Entire Competition: 16 photographs

Note: The competition area is set as the physical building that the competition is held in or the competition grounds, including eating areas, foyers, etc.

CREATIVITY & INNOVATION

DIGITAL